


Protect your home from many risks Visit **qic.online** **QIC** \*Regulated by QCB

**GULF TIMES**  **MONDAY Vol. XXXXV No. 13149** **September 30, 2024** **Rabia 127, 1446 AH** **www.gulf-times.com** 2 Riyals

**Vodafone Instant SIM** Activate your smart SIM anywhere anytime 

**CHOOSE YOUR DREAM SPACE WITH US**  
 WORKERS/STAFF ACCOMMODATIONS  
 WAREHOUSES VILLAS APARTMENTS  
 RETAIL SPACES OPEN YARDS

**HABARI REAL ESTATE**  
 +974 3030 0880  
 +974 3341 9475

**Al Meera Anniversary Festival**  
 TODAY ONLY GET BACK 25%  
 BUTCHERY

**Sky Vision Real Estate Offer**  
**Labor Room For Rent**  
 1,150/- Per Room  
 Industrial Area Street # 38,43,44 & 47  
**Warehouse /Store 300sqm**  
 In Industrial Area Street # 38  
 Monthly Rent - 11,000/- QR  
 Call: 33598672, 50576993

**TAP to school with talabat up to 60% off**

**Amwaj**  
 Pure water Refined taste  
 Extra Minerals Added  
 LOW SODIUM  
 مصنوعة الدوحة للعصائر والأغذية  
 DOHA JUICE & FOOD FACTORY  
 Mob: 70614776 : 77949967

**Over 400 events to be held during QSW 2024**

**QNA**  
 Doha

Earthna Center, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), revealed the details of the 9th edition of Qatar Sustainability Week which began yesterday and will continue until October 5.

During a press conference held on this occasion, Executive Director of Earthna Center Dr Gonzalo Castro de la Mata, explained that this edition builds on the great success achieved in the past years, which made Qatar Sustainability Week 2024 the best ever, adding that he expects this year's events to reach

more than 400 and initiatives by more than 200 participating entities, and that this number will grow further throughout the week.

He noted that this is the third edition of the programme under his leadership, which has seen over 600,000 participants in more than 2,200 activities. This reflects a strong commitment to sustainability goals and environmental protection for future generations. He credited these achievements to the dedication of participants from schools, universities, government, and private sectors in promoting environmental awareness and striving for a cleaner, more sustainable future, aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030. **To Page 6**



Dr Gonzalo Castro de la Mata and Eng Ahmed Mohammed al-Sada addressing the media yesterday.

**Israel keeps up Lebanon assault, hits Yemen port**

**Reuters**  
 Jerusalem/Beirut

Israel said it bombed Houthi targets in Yemen yesterday, expanding its confrontation with Iran's allies in the region two days after killing the Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an escalating conflict in Lebanon.



An image grab taken from a video yesterday, shows smoke billowing above Hodeidah port city following Israeli strikes.

The air strikes on Yemen's port of Hodeidah were in response to Houthi missile attacks on Israel in recent days, Israel said, amid fears that Middle East fighting could spin out of control and draw in Iran and Israel's main ally the US.

The Houthi-run health ministry said at least four people were killed and 29 wounded.

The strikes took place as Israel attacked more targets in Lebanon, where its intensifying bombardment over two weeks has killed a string of top Hezbollah leaders and driven hundreds of thousands of people from their homes.

Israel vowed to keep up its assault.

Lebanon's Health Ministry said Israeli strikes yesterday had killed 32 people in Ain Deleb in the south and 21 people in Baal-

bek-Hermel in the east and that 14 medics had been killed in air strikes over the past two days.

Israeli drones hovered over Beirut overnight and for much of Sunday, with the loud blasts of new air strikes echoing around the Lebanese capital.

Hezbollah and Israel have been trading fire across the border since the start of the war in Gaza on Oct. 7. Yemen's Houthis have launched sporadic attacks on Israel throughout that time and disrupted Red Sea shipping.

Israel rapidly ramped up its attacks on Hezbollah two weeks ago with the declared goal of making northern areas safe for residents to return to their homes, killing much of the group's leadership. Israel's defence minister is now discussing widening the offensive.

Nasrallah's death dealt a particularly significant blow to the group which he led for 32 years, and it was followed by new Hezbollah rocket fire on Israel, while Iran said his death would be avenged.

The US has urged a diplomatic resolution to the conflict in Lebanon, but has also authorised its military to reinforce in the region in a sign of the growing unease.

US President Joe Biden, asked if an all-out war in the Middle East could be avoided, said "It has to be." He said he will be talking to Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu but did not elaborate.

US Senator Mark Kelly, who leads a Senate Armed Services subcommittee, said the bomb that Israel used to kill Nasrallah was an American-made 900-kg guided weapon.

**Amir issues decree inviting Shura for 4th ordinary session**

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani issued yesterday Decree No. 71 of 2024, inviting the Shura Council to convene for the fourth ordinary session of the first legislative term - corresponding to the 53rd annual session - on Tuesday (Rabi' Al-Ahkar 12, 1446 AH, corresponding to Oct. 15, 2024 AD). The Decree is effective from the date of issue and is to be published in the official gazette. **(QNA)**

**Use OTP to enhance online security: QCB**

Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has urged general public to safeguard passwords for their online transactions and not to share one-time password (OTP) with anyone. In an advisory yesterday, QCB urged public to use OTP to enhance security of their online transactions. "OTP, QCB said is a security code that is used only once to verify the user's identity. It is randomly generated and only valid for a short period of time or for a single login. "OTPs help protect accounts from unauthorised access, even when passwords are compromised, by being sent in different ways." These ways, QCB noted, are text messages (SMS), special authentication applications and e-mails. **Page 2**

**2nd Qatar Real Estate Forum to be held from Oct 13-15**

**By Tawfik Lamari**  
 Staff Reporter

The second edition of the Qatar Real Estate Forum will be held under the patronage of HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, from October 13-15, at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center.

During a press conference held yesterday to announce the forum, Engineer Khalid bin Ahmed al-Obaidli, President of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Aqarat), said that this exceptional edition, held in partnership with Cityscape under the theme "Aqarat's Future" marks a milestone in the development of Qatar's real estate sector. "It represents a collective ambition to

promote growth, innovation, and transparency in this vital industry."

Several sponsorship agreements were signed yesterday with leading companies that will support the Qatar Real Estate Forum 2024. These sponsors included Al Rayan Bank, Platinum Sponsor; Barwa Real Estate Group, Platinum Sponsor; Qatari Diar, Platinum Sponsor; GMG Holding, Gold Sponsor; United Development Company, Gold Sponsor; Al Waab City, Gold Sponsor; Msheireb Properties, Gold Sponsor; Qatar Financial Center, Academic Sponsor; Qatar Finance and Business Academy, Academic Sponsor; Ooredoo, Official Telecommunications Partner; and Qetaifan Projects, Hospitality Sponsor.

Fahad bin Abdullah al-Khalifa, CEO of Al Rayan Bank, said: "Our support for this initiative stems



Engineer Khalid bin Ahmed al-Obaidli, President of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Aqarat) is flanked by officials at the press conference.

from our deep belief in the role of the real estate sector in achieving Qatar's National Vision 2030, which aims to build a diversified and sustainable economy."

Addressing the forum's importance,

Msheireb Properties CEO Eng Ali al-Kuwari said: "This event brings together the visionaries and decision-makers who are shaping the future of Qatar's cities, much like we've done with

Msheireb Downtown Doha. Our development exemplifies how we can create smart, sustainable urban spaces that honour our rich cultural heritage while embracing cutting-edge innovation. We're eager to share our insights, learn from our peers, and explore new opportunities that support Qatar's ambitious national vision."

Engineer Ali bin Mohammed al-Ali, CEO of Qatari Diar, said: "The Qatar Real Estate Forum, is an exceptional edition, we aim to reinforce strategic collaboration and support the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Aqarat), while also capitalising on the rapid developments in the infrastructure sector witnessed by the country. This will help drive growth in this vital sector, especially considering the pivotal role that Qatari Diar plays in shaping the country's real estate landscape." **To Page 6**

Today's **GULF TIMES** includes a 24-page supplement on **CHINA**  
 The 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China  


Today's **GULF TIMES** includes a 48-page supplement on **Education**  
  
 Scan here To Read ONLINE

# QCB appeals to public to protect online passwords

By Pratap John  
Business Editor

**Q**atar Central Bank (QCB) has urged the general public to safeguard passwords for their online transactions and not to share one-time password (OTP) with anyone.

In an advisory yesterday, QCB urged public to use OTP to enhance security of their online transactions.

"OTP, QCB said is a security code that is used only once to verify the user's identity. It is randomly generated and only valid for a short period of time or for a single login.

"OTPs help protect accounts from unauthorised access, even when passwords are compromised, by being sent in different ways."

These ways, QCB noted, are text messages (SMS), special authentication applications and e-mails. On ways to protect the OTP, Qatar Central Bank noted, "Be cautious and do not share your OTP with anyone. Public should ensure that all applications and programs used to generate or receive OTPs are up to date. Change your password immediately if you notice any unusual activity in accounts that use OTPs. Enhance the security of your online transactions with one-time passwords."

Meanwhile, in line with Qatar's efforts to enhance awareness of cybersecurity risks and its vision towards building a cyber-resilient society, Qatar Central Bank has already launched a large-scale national campaign to raise awareness of information security under the slogan "Stay Aware" in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior, National Cyber Security Agency, and Qatar Financial Center



In an advisory yesterday, Qatar Central Bank has urged public to use OTP to enhance security of their online transactions.

Regulatory Authority. The campaign aims to build an information security culture within the society that can face challenges that accompany the accelerating technological revolution.

Mainly, the campaign seeks to spread awareness amongst the public on the importance of data privacy and dangers of financial fraud, highlighting cyber threats that may arise in light of the rapid technological and digital development.

By identifying emerging and critical risks in the digital landscape, the campaign identifies the main channels of cyber fraud, which include phone calls, social media, emails, SMS messages and URL links. The campaign also provides the public with best practices and practical strategies to avoid falling victim to such threats.

Qatar Central Bank, along with its partners in this campaign, has emphasised the vital role of the ongoing awareness efforts in building a safer electronic society capable of responding to such threats.

As such, the campaign aims to empower and protect individuals and institutions, establish a culture of electronic vigilance, and protect citizens from ever changing cyber threats.

## Top experts for Qatar sustainable development conference from Wednesday

Organised by the Qatar Association of Certified Public Accountants (QCPA) in strategic partnership with the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), Qatar sustainable development and economic diversification conference will kick off on Wednesday. During the conference, speakers from international institutions and organisations, in addition to speakers from Qatar and the Middle

East, will discuss topics including the reality of sustainable development in Qatar through Qatar National Vision 2030, opportunities for economic diversification in Qatar, the role of the knowledge-based economy in economic diversification, the role of governance in achieving sustainable development, the importance of sustainable development and economic diversification in facing economic crises, among others.

## Qatar attends debate on int'l peace and security



Qatar has participated in a high-level open debate of the Security Council on maintaining international peace and security entitled "Leadership for Peace", on the sidelines of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. Qatar's delegation at the session was headed by HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Muraikhi. (QNA)

## Doha Forum delegation wraps up strategic engagement week in US



QNA  
New York

**A** delegation from Doha Forum, Qatar's flagship platform promoting diplomacy, dialogue and diversity, has completed a week of strategic engagement in Washington, DC and New York City, on the sidelines of the General Assembly High-Level Week 2024.

Led by Doha Forum General Manager, Maha al-Kuwari, the week-long programme of events focused on global discussions around key issues related to global governance, and helped shape the agenda for Doha Forum's annual flagship event held on Dec 7-8.

Al-Kuwari said: "The UN General Assembly is one of the most important weeks of the year for diplomacy and dialogue around

shared visions of the most pressing issues of our time. I am proud that the work of Doha Forum continues to drive conversations and policy at a time the world needs unity and understanding rather than conflict and division."

Highlights of the trip included the Launch of the Future of International Co-operation Report 2024 in Washington, DC. The Doha Forum delegation attended the launch of the annual report that addressed critical issues of AI governance as it relates to development and security.

The event, co-sponsored by the Qatari embassy in the US, also brought together officials from the State Department, Microsoft, and global governance experts at Stimson Center.

Al-Kuwari also participated in a workshop discussion about harnessing artificial intelligence

(AI) and other cyber-technologies for a safe, just and sustainable future.

Following the intense week of panel discussions and stakeholder engagement, al-Kuwari, added: "This week underlined the contribution that Doha Forum makes to the critical conversations held by global leaders and policymakers who influence diplomacy and dialogue.

"I was proud to contribute to the discussions around the UN General Assembly and highlight what we have accomplished with our key partners over the last twelve months. Crucially, it was an opportunity to prepare for the discussion we will have at Doha Forum 2024."

The Doha Forum 2023 brought together 3,500 participants from over 120 countries, including 270 key speakers across 45 sessions.



## WWRC creates awareness during Neonatal Therapy Week

**A**bout 300 healthcare professionals comprising nurses, doctors, allied health professionals, neonatal physiotherapists, occupational therapists and parents took part in the International Neonatal Therapy Week at Women's Wellness and Research Center (WWRC).

The aim was to create public awareness about the roles of neonatal occupational therapy and physiotherapists in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) as well as in the neurodevelopmental follow-up clinics.

Part of activities marking the awareness campaign held last week, and ongoing until the end of October, included setting up a booth at the WWRC's Outpatient Department lobby to create awareness among hospital visitors and staff.

Neonatal therapists interacted with parents to enlighten them about how their preterm babies in the NICU and attending the neurodevelopmental follow-up clinics are cared for. To enhance the knowledge of healthcare professionals, CPD-approved educational sessions were conducted on topics such as developmentally appropriate positioning for preterm neonates, oral feeding techniques for high-risk infants, and enriching early sensory experiences.

Dr Hilal Amin al-Rifai, CEO and medical director of WWRC, said: "In the NICU, physiotherapists and occupational therapists play

crucial roles in supporting the development of preterm neonates through integrated, individualised, and neuroprotective therapeutic interventions. Our neonatal therapists use their specialised education and training to promote these babies' optimal short and long-term development.

"The team follows these infants in the Neurodevelopmental and Baby Therapy Clinic to ensure early intervention and better neurodevelopmental outcomes. We aim to bridge the developmental gap between the protective environment of the womb and the often-unpredictable setting of the NICU," he added.

Dr Mai Abdulla al-Qubaisi, director of Neonatal and Perinatal Medicine at WWRC, emphasised the role of physiotherapy and occupational therapy in integrating a neonate's developmental care in the NICU via family involvement. "Increased parental visits to provide therapeutic care by moving, handling and feeding their infant are linked to reduced stress for both mother and baby, stronger mother-child bonding, less separation anxiety, improved milk supply leading to better weight gain, and greater parental confidence in caring for their preterm infant."

Noora Rashid Essa al-Mudahka, acting executive director of Clinical Services (Physiotherapy), explained that physiotherapists assess infants' movements and recommend strategies to promote

optimal neuromotor development.

Sultan Salim Hammam al-Abdulla, acting executive director of Clinical Services (Occupational Therapy) at HMC, stressed the key role of occupational therapists in the NICU.

"Occupational therapists guide parents and nurses in interpreting their babies' cues, ensuring safe feeding both in the NICU and at home as well parenting co-occupation. These methods support the babies' neurobehavioural development, nurture their immature sensory systems, and strengthen family bonding," he said.

Under the lead of Dr Nuha Abdelghafar M A Nimeri, NICU consultant and OT-PT Team Lead, alongside Alaa al-Sheikh Hussein, director of Rehabilitation, Occupational Therapy, and Irfana Shah, PT supervisor at WWRC, the roles of physiotherapists and occupational therapists in the NICU and neurodevelopmental follow-up clinics were highlighted through posters and interactions with parents, showcasing the vital role of neonatal therapists.

Key contributors included NICU physiotherapists Shihab, Omayma, and Pranay, along with NICU occupational therapists Jisha (OT Team Lead), Parvathy, Ma Lorena Igna, Raneem Jafar Yasin Houssein, and Raneem Mamoun Yousef Alshughair, who led the sessions and developed awareness materials.

**POWERFUL, EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE** for any kind of delivery.



DRY BOX | CHILLER | FREEZER



6.1 m  
28 cbm

**Mighty EX8**  
Extra-Long Wheel Base  
• GVW: 9.8 Tons  
• Payload up to 7.5 tons

HD72  
Extra-Long Wheel Base

• GVW: 7.2 Tons  
• Payload up to 4.8 Tons

Starting from  
**QR 82,900** (Chassis only)



5.3 m  
22 cbm

Hyundai Truck & Bus Showroom

**NOW OPEN @**

No. 37, Safwa Building  
Barwa Commercial Complex

66987331

www.trucknbushyundai-qatar.com

شركة السيارات الوطنية  
National Car Company

T: 44315951  
E: hcv@ncc-qatar.com

HYUNDAI  
TRUCK & BUS



# Katara event offers a leap in space sciences

The fourth edition of the Katara Space Science Programme (KSSP), which kicked off last Tuesday in collaboration with MAPS International, concluded at the Al Thuraya Planetarium in Cultural Village Foundation - Katara, marking a significant gathering of science and space enthusiasts. The programme offered a unique opportunity for participants to engage with experts in the field, deepening their understanding of space sciences.

This year's edition has drawn considerable attention, with 551 participants from 84 schools and 37 nationalities, including a notable representation of over 39 Qatari students.

Complementing the scientific discussions, the KSSP also features the 'Cosmic Canvas - Space Art' exhibition, which runs until October 18. This exhibition showcases a blend of original printed artworks from Nasa, innovative holographic art, and visual art pieces by renowned artists such as Mariam Hashemi Brian. The fusion of art and science in this exhibition highlights the creative ways in which space exploration can inspire and

be interpreted through various artistic mediums.

A key highlight of the programme was a presentation by Dr Essam Heggy, a prominent space scientist from the University of Southern California and Nasa's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Dr Heggy shared insights from his illustrious career, emphasizing his significant contributions to space research. Notably, he discussed his involvement in projects focused on Mars, particularly his role in imaging the internal composition of the Martian ice layers, which provided compelling evidence of an ancient oasis, dating back over 3,600 years, covering an area of 2 to 3km. This discovery not only underscores the regions rich environmental history but also its potential relevance to future space research.

He also shed light on his research interests closer to home, particularly in the Gulf region. He spoke about a study conducted in southern Qatar, where scientists have discovered strong evidence of an ancient oasis, dating back over 3,600 years, covering an area of 2 to 3km. This discovery not only underscores the regions rich environmental history but also its potential relevance to future space research.

Adding to the depth of the programme, Lalitha Ramachandran, former director and scientist for the Cryogenic Upper Stage Project at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), delivered a historical overview of India's space exploration journey.

Further enriching the event, Dr K Ramachandran, former director and scientist of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle at ISRO, engaged the participants with the lecture on the history of space exploration.

He discussed key figures and missions that have shaped the field, including a detailed examination of important space vehicles and telescopes, such as the Hubble and James Webb telescopes.

The fourth edition of the KSSP has not only continued its tradition of excellence but has also seen a significant increase in participation and interest, particularly from Qatari students. This growing enthusiasm among local youth underscores the programme's success in nurturing a deep-rooted passion for space sciences, making it a cornerstone event in Qatar's cultural and educational calendar. (QNA)

## Dental care with advanced facilities

We provide expert dental solutions for you

### Our Services

- ◆ Teeth alignment
- ◆ Pediatric dentistry
- ◆ Teeth whitening
- ◆ Gum treatment & surgery
- ◆ Root canal therapy & surgery
- ◆ Fixing cavities & broken tooth
- ◆ Dental braces (orthodontics)
- ◆ Crowns & bridges
- ◆ Bleaching & whitening
- ◆ Veneers

### Our Departments

Endodontics | General Dentistry  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery | Orthodontics Department  
Pedodontics | Prosthodontics Department



### Our Insurance Partners:













**Azeezia**  
22891 Osama Bin Zaid St, Doha, Qatar  
3 038 2974  
www.naseemdental.com



# Qvision crowned #1 in Eventex's Top 100 Agencies and Event Organizers for 2024

Qatar Vision Production Company (QVision) has achieved a major milestone in the global events and experience marketing industry by securing the number one spot in Eventex's prestigious "Top 100 Agencies and Event Organizers for 2024". This remarkable achievement places QVision at the forefront of excellence, innovation, and creativity, solidifying its status as the leading event organizer in the world.

### Global recognition across 31 countries

The "Top 100" index, unveiled by Eventex Awards, highlights agencies and event organizers from 31 countries, representing the highest level of excellence in the field. QVision's rise to the top is a result of its unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional events and experiences, a trait that has propelled it beyond fierce global competition.

### QVision's impressive achievement: Leading the top 3

QVision ranked first with an impressive score of 2,390 points, achieved through a remarkable haul of 74 awards won across the 2022, 2023, and 2024 event seasons. This accolade positions QVision ahead of the second and third place agencies, WINK Creative Experiential Agency (1,975 points, 44 awards), and Leap Creative Studio (1,780 points, 23 awards). The comprehensive scoring reflects not only the quantity of awards won but also the exceptional quality and impact of QVision's event productions.

### Eventex index: Measuring consistent excellence

The Eventex Awards are known for setting the gold standard in the events and experience marketing industry. The annual index is compiled based on the cumulative performance of agencies and organizers over a three-year period, with rankings determined by the number of Eventex Awards won. Each award serves as a testament to the innovation, creativity, and flawless execution that distinguish QVision from its peers.

Over the past three years, QVision has continued to demonstrate these values, earning global recognition for consistently delivering memorable and

QVision ranked first with an impressive score of 2,390 points, achieved through a remarkable haul of 74 awards won across the 2022, 2023, and 2024 event seasons.

high-impact events.

### A commitment to creativity and innovation

Ovanes Ovanessian, Co-founder of Eventex Awards, expressed his admiration for QVision's achievements, saying: "Being recognized as the top-ranked agency and event organizer reflects QVision's unwavering commitment to delivering outstanding events and experiences, driven by creativity and innovation year after year. I'm incredibly pleased to congratulate QVision on this remarkable achievement."

QVision's top ranking is a clear reflection of the company's dedication to pushing the boundaries of what is possible in event production. Its ability to blend cutting-edge technology, bold

creative ideas, and flawless execution has enabled it to consistently deliver world-class events, from large-scale international sporting ceremonies to high-profile corporate and entertainment events. The company's impressive portfolio of work includes landmark projects that have set new standards in the industry, both in Qatar and globally.

### QVision's global impact and contribution

This recognition is not only a testament to QVision's leadership but also highlights Qatar's growing influence in the global events industry. By consistently raising the bar for event

production and experiential marketing, QVision has played a pivotal role in positioning Qatar as a hub for world-class events.

The company's innovative approach has earned it numerous accolades across diverse event categories, including sporting events, live entertainment, corporate functions, and public ceremonies.

### Continued dedication to excellence

This latest accomplishment reinforces QVision's reputation as an industry leader. With a focus on excellence, performance, and innovation, the company has consistently upheld its

core values, delivering high-caliber experiences that captivate audiences and leave a lasting impression. The dedication of QVision's talented team and their passion for pushing creative boundaries have been instrumental in achieving this global recognition.

### About Eventex Awards

Founded in 2009, Eventex Awards is the most prestigious international awards program celebrating excellence in the events and experiential marketing industry. Over the years, Eventex Awards has become a benchmark for the most creative, innovative, and effective event solutions globally. Each year, the awards recognize the very best in events, brand experiences, technology, suppliers, and venues from across the globe.

With thousands of participants from over 85 countries, Eventex is the ultimate

accolade for event professionals, providing global recognition and validation for the most outstanding event productions.

### Looking ahead

QVision's ranking as the top event organizer in 2024 is a significant achievement that marks another chapter in the company's legacy of success. As the world continues to evolve, QVision remains dedicated to leading the industry with creativity, innovation, and a commitment to delivering unforgettable experiences. With their eyes set on future challenges and opportunities, the QVision team will undoubtedly continue to shape the future of events and experiential marketing on the global stage.

For more information and to view the full "Eventex Index of Top 100 Agencies and Event Organizers for 2024", visit: <https://eventex.co/index2024>

# Govt support ensuring bright prospects for agriculture investment

By Ayman Adly  
Staff Reporter

The Ministry of Municipality has organised a workshop on the agriculture innovations and their role in the sustainability of natural resources.

Conducted in co-operation with the Hassad Food Company, the event attended by a number of officials and specialists was aimed at enhancing the use of smart agriculture solutions to achieve food security and sustain the natural resources of Qatar.

The workshop was part of marking the Arab Agriculture Day.

The ministry also co-operates with the Mahaseel Company for Marketing and Agricultural Services, providing a platform for local farms to market their products.

There are also five yards that operate during the agriculture season, with participating farms selling their products di-

rectly to the consumers without having to bear extra marketing charges.

The ministry has introduced various initiatives and projects to support local farmers and encourage investment in agriculture.

The ministry helps farm-owners to use sophisticated systems engaging the latest technology, such as using treated sewage water to produce animal fodder and reducing the use of underground water.

The ministry's Agriculture Affairs Department has also distributed a number of regular and cooled greenhouses to many registered farms as part of the efforts to reduce the consumption of irrigation water and enhance agriculture productivity throughout the different seasons of the year.

The department also maintained another project to distribute sophisticated irrigation networks in the open fields, which started in August 2022 to increase

the planted land space using drip irrigation systems.

The project targeted 400 farms throughout three years until this year.

This irrigation method would reduce the consumption of water by up to 70%.

Accordingly, modern irrigation networks have been introduced to the largest percentage of open fields, amounting to more than 89%.

The ministry has so far distributed 4,260 greenhouses at various local farms across the country, including 1,666 cooled greenhouses, 100 for hydroponics, and 2,484 regular greenhouses, according to the recent statistics.

This has considerably contributed towards increasing the local production of vegetables by almost 12%, in addition to improving the quality and efficiency of the production processes.

The ministry also continues to give farmers technical support and expert ad-



A workshop on the agriculture innovations in progress.

vice to help them upgrade their farms and improve their productivity while reducing costs, as part of a strategy to increase their income and encourage them expand their investment.

The ministry regularly provides local registered farms with subsidised seeds, fertilisers, insecticides, and other necessities of production.

In addition, farmers are offered serv-

ices around the year at nominal charges, including the preparation of the fields for agriculture and renting of agriculture equipment.

Due to the strong government support and encouragement for agriculture and local farmers, investment in this area has increased over the recent years and expected to hit \$622mn this year, with the recent number of local farms exceeding 600.

## Qatari Forum for Authors honours promising writers

The Qatari Forum for Authors organised on Saturday a ceremony at the Ministry of Culture's House of Wisdom Hall to honour promising writers who won its competitions.

The event was aimed at shedding light on young talent and encourage creativity.

Winners honoured were Shaden Mohammed al-Jaouni in first place, followed by Ashraf Ab-

del Hamid Aql in second place, and Fatima Ha-

gras in third place. Other winners honoured in different categories include Ghalia al-Hail, Hamad al-Mohannadi, and Moza Abdullah al-Fakhro.

In her speech during the celebration, the director-general of the forum, Dr Aisha Jassim al-Kuwari, said that the event is not only an occasion to honour the winners of the competitions

but also a celebration of literature and writing, expressing her thanks to all partners and supporters of these competitions.

She praised the level of the winners, who demonstrated creativity and passion for writing in an era dominated by technology and social media, and noted that books remain an inexhaustible source of knowledge and inspiration.

- QNA



# Alfardan Hospitality unveils FAUCHON Paris at Marsa Malaz Kempinski, The Pearl - Doha and The St. Regis Doha

Alfardan Hospitality is delighted to announce the grand opening of FAUCHON Paris at two of Doha's premier luxury destinations: Marsa Malaz Kempinski, The Pearl - Doha, and The St. Regis Doha. This esteemed Parisian brand, renowned for its exceptional French pastries, desserts, and savory dishes, now brings its hallmark elegance and sophistication to the heart of Qatar. Established in 1886, FAUCHON is celebrated for its culinary excellence and refined ambiance. The introduction of this prestigious brand to Doha promises an unparalleled dining experience. Both locations - at Marsa Malaz Kempinski, The Pearl - Doha, and The St. Regis Doha - boast interiors designed by the acclaimed Bishop Design firm. These meticulously crafted spaces are designed to transport guests to Paris, offering an authentic Parisian experience amidst Doha's vibrant hospitality landscape. Guests will be welcomed into a warm and inviting setting where they can savor a selection of



From left to right: Mr Omar Hussain Alfardan - President & CEO of Alfardan Group; Ms Zohour Omar Alfardan - Wellness & Lifestyle General Manager at Alfardan Hospitality; Nicolas Jambert - COO Middle East & Asia Pacific Region FAUCHON; Jérôme Tacquard, - CEO & Owner, of FAUCHON; Marc Matar - Multi-property General Manager The St. Regis Doha and The St. Regis Marsa Arabia Island, The Pearl - Doha.

exquisitely crafted pastries, including delicate macarons and rich éclairs, alongside an array of savory dishes. The curated selection of teas and coffees has been thoughtfully chosen to complement the refined offerings.

Mr Omar Hussain Alfardan, President and CEO of Alfardan Group, emphasized the strategic significance of the openings: "Through our expansions, we are keen to include prestigious international brands with a world-class standard of quality and luxury to enhance our effective role in contributing to the growth witnessed by the hospitality sector in the State of Qatar."

Ms Zohour Omar Alfardan, General Manager of Wellness and Lifestyle at Alfardan Hospitality added: "We are delighted to open the Fauchon Paris branches in our hotels. This launch highlights our commitment to delivering exceptional service to enthusiasts of exquisite and

distinctive French cuisine." FAUCHON Paris is dedicated to providing extraordinary service and culinary artistry. Guests also have the opportunity to take a piece of Paris home with them, as the brand offers an array of iconic treats presented in elegant gift boxes. Jérôme Tacquard, CEO & Owner of FAUCHON, commented: "FAUCHON is crafting transformative gourmet, gifting and lifestyle experiences in a bold renaissance plan, making this new FAUCHON Paris in Doha a vibrant destination, redefining a new art de vivre à la française. As FAUCHON approaches its 140th anniversary, it looks to the future. A future that holds some of the most exciting opportunities ever seen to keep this Maison at the forefront for the next generations driving us to change the game." For further information or to make reservations, please visit the respective hotel websites or contact the FAUCHON Paris locations directly.



FAUCHON at Marsa Malaz Kempinski, The Pearl - Doha.



FAUCHON at The St. Regis Doha

## Safari's '10, 20, 30' promotion starts today

Leading hypermarket chain Safari's "10, 20, 30" promotion will start today in all outlets, a statement said.

Fruits, vegetables, fish, meat, bakery items, hot food, and other food products, cosmetics, household goods, ready-made garments, footwear, electronics, computer accessories, daily-use items, food grains, textiles, and thousands of other products are available for QR10, QR20, or QR30.

Some of the main attractions include Dove beauty cream 150ml (twin pack) for QR10, Oscar 2-slice bread toaster for QR20, Rotpunkt assorted flasks for QR30, 500g jar of Puck organic cheese (twin pack) for QR30, Sadia frozen chicken for QR10, 4.5kg bag of Kohinoor everyday basmati rice for QR20, Pantene shampoo 400ml (twin pack) for QR20, 1.5kg Tide detergent powder for QR10, 3-litre Mr Light Pressure cooker for QR20, Men's T-shirt (twin pack) and cap (twin pack) for QR10, and 3-litre Santro electric kettle for QR30.

Safari's bakery and hot food section also offers a range of dishes such as Western, South Indian, North Indian, Arabic, Chinese, and other cuisines, with great combo offers like chicken majboos, burgers, cakes, fried chicken, vegetarian/chicken curries, fried rice, bread, and more.

Fresh jams, as well as cheese products including Romy cheese, feta plain cheese, butter blocks, olives and salads, are also available in this "10, 20, 30" promotion.



Various types of juices, drinking water, chicken parts, chicken nuggets, ice creams, milk, and other dairy products are available in the frozen section for QR10, QR20, or QR30.

The grocery section offers a wide range of snacks and other food products, while the household section features a wide selection of multi-purpose items. The cosmetics section showcases leading brands such as Enchanteur, Dove, SebaMed, Pantene, Lux, Olay, Dettol, and others.

Perfumes, body sprays, makeup sets, various soaps, face washes, body lotions, and other health and beauty products are available for Safari customers.

The stationery section offers a wide variety of school and office supplies, including Faber Castell, Mapped school kits, and various stationery sets.

A vast range of products are available at QR10, QR20, or QR30 in the toys and sports categories.

In the garments and readymade category, Safari offers a large, high-quality collection of men's wear, ladies' churidars and churidar materials, ladies' denim jackets, kids' wear, footwear, ladies' bags, and newborn baby items, all for QR10, QR20, or QR30.



In the electronics category, this promotion brings variety and huge discounts on products such as emergency lights, trimmers, torches, IT products, headsets, smartwatches, Bluetooth speakers, and more.

Customers also have the chance to win one of 25 MG cars with purchases of QR50 or more, through the newest mega promotion, the Safari Shop and Drive Promotion.

This includes six Morris Garages RX8 (2024 models) and 19 MG Five (2024 models) through an e-rafle coupon draw.

As part of Safari's "Priceless" promotion, customers can also get a Safari Gift Card worth QR100 for QR95, the statement added.



## Sheraton Grand Doha to support breast cancer awareness

Sheraton Grand Doha is partnering with Rose De Desert and the Qatar Cancer Society (QCS) in October to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with a special event and a month-long Pinktober Blossom Afternoon Tea experience.

On October 7, Sheraton Grand Doha will host the awareness event.

Led by the QCS, the event will feature an educational talk emphasising the critical role of early detection in the fight against breast cancer. Attendees will receive information that highlights the significance of regular screenings and self-examinations in saving lives and have the opportunity to learn practical steps to safeguard their health.

As part of the Pinktober campaign, Sheraton Grand Doha is unveiling an exclusive Pinktober Blossom Afternoon Tea in collaboration with Rose De Desert.

Available from October 1-31 at Atrium Lounge, this specially curated afternoon tea experience will be available daily from 3pm-7pm.

# Ashghal exceeds its targets in drainage complaint resolution

By Shafeeq Alingal  
Staff Reporter

The Assets Affairs at the Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has exceeded the target rate of response and resolving time for drainage complaints.

Ashghal achieved a total average rate of 99.5% in drainage complaints resolution, from June 2023 to June 2024, a post on X said.

The target rate was 98%. The average resolution rate was at 99.5% in the north, 99.9% in the west, and 99.2% in the south of Qatar.

With regard to drainage complaints response rate, the total average response time touched

99.9%, again exceeding the target rate of 98%.

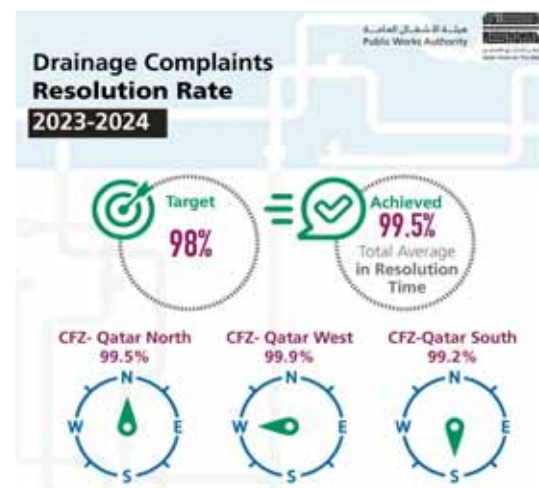
The rate stood at 100% in the north, 99.9% in the south and 99.8% in the west of Qatar.

The authority attributed the success to the continuous monitoring of the wastewater system.

"Ashghal is also committed to aligning urban development with population growth," the post said.

Ashghal also marked a decrease in drainage complaints during the same period.

A 68% decrease was recorded in fog (fats, oils and grease) blockage complaints, 23% decrease in flooding complaints, and 32% decline in complaints related to solid organic waste blocks.



## Recall order for Genesis models

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in co-operation with Skyline Automotive, has announced the recall of Genesis GV80, G90, GV70, and G80, 2021-2023 models, over a possible poor starting due to insufficient fuel pressure.

The MoCI urged all customers to report any violations to its Consumer Protection and Anti-Commercial Fraud Department through the following channels: Call Centre: 16001, e-mail: info@moci.gov.qa, social media channels @mociqatar, and mobile application MO-CIQatar available on iPhone and Android devices.

## HBKU Core Labs launch summer programme targeting undergrads in Qatar

Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU)'s Core Labs has launched its inaugural Summer Programme, offering undergraduate students across Qatar an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in cutting-edge research.

Participants worked directly within the state-of-the-art Materials Characterisation Lab, Proteomics Core Lab, and Genomics Core Lab, a statement said.

The Materials Characterisation Lab internship provided theoretical and hands-on training on a diverse array of characterisation techniques, including optical and electron microscopy, spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, and nuclear magnetic resonance.

The participants conducted various laboratory activities and analyses alongside the Core Labs' scientists, acquiring insight into diverse aspects of the material sciences.

The Proteomics core Lab programme provided participants with theoretical and hands-on training on advanced protein and autoantibody biomarker research using the latest proteomics technologies, while the Genomics Lab internship gave interns the opportunity to utilise generation sequencing technology.

The participants also contributed to lectures and group meetings, which helped them to immerse themselves in the research environment and explore careers as researchers.



**QatarEnergy**  
The General, Limited Tenders Committees and Supply Chain Department announces the following Tenders:

**Important Notice:**  
Suppliers and Contractors who are already registered with QatarEnergy via Mushtaryat Portal can "Buy Tender Online and download Tender Document" from QatarEnergy website (Mushtaryat Portal).  
Effective from 1st July 2023, Bids from Local Suppliers and Contractors (companies established under the Laws of State of Qatar) who are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal (https://icv.qa/en-US) by Tender Closing Date (or commercial bid submission date if separately mentioned/notified) will not be accepted. Local Companies that have been established for less than 2 years are exempt from this requirement.

Sl. No	Tender Number	Tender Sale Period	Tender	Tender Bond	Bond Curr.	Tender Fee	Fee Curr.
1	LT24106700	30.09.2024 to 06.10.2024	28.10.2024	223,000.00	QAR	200.00	QAR
Title of Tender: EPIC FOR MODIFICATION OF SECURITY GATE HOUSES TO SHELTER IN PLACE AT MIC							
Mid-Tender Meeting Location : <b>To be advised if required</b>							
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time : <b>To be advised if required</b>							
2	GT24MT0010	30.09.2024 to 06.10.2024	17.11.2024	2,000.00	QAR	0.00	
Title of Tender: SALE & REMOVAL OF LOR BARGE							
Mid-Tender Meeting Location : <b>To be advised if required</b>							
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time : <b>To be advised if required</b>							

\* Tender documents can be purchased and downloaded from QatarEnergy Website-> Supply Management -> Tenders page during the Tender Sale Period mentioned above against each Tender. Request for issuance of Tender after the specified Tender Sale Period will not be entertained.  
\* Always refer to QatarEnergy Website (www.qatarenery.qa) -> Supply Management -> Tenders page for up to date information on QatarEnergy Tenders. Subscribe to Tender Alert to receive notification in your email on new Tenders.  
\* Changes to Tender Sale Period and Bid Closing Date will be updated in QatarEnergy website/Mushtaryat Portal only.  
\* Brief Scopes of Work for the above tenders are posted on the QatarEnergy website/Mushtaryat Portal.  
\* Suppliers and Contractors who are in possession of a valid SAP ID issued by QatarEnergy are instructed to maintain their Company Registration and Communication details upto date and valid via QatarEnergy Mushtaryat Portal on urgent basis.  
\* No queries will be entertained, or bids received, from entities who have not purchased tender documents in compliance with the above provisions.  
\* QatarEnergy invites all prospective Suppliers and Contractors interested to participate in QatarEnergy Tenders to register online and obtain a QatarEnergy SAP Vendor Code, a mandatory requirement for the issue of Tender Documents by QatarEnergy.  
\* Prospective Qatar based Suppliers and Contractors interested to participate in future QatarEnergy Tenders shall obtain an ICV score. Relevant information pertaining to ICV, ICV Scorecard, ICV Certification, and ICV Guidelines are available on the ICV Digital Portal - https://icv.qa/en-US

**QatarEnergy LNG**

## QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	SUP/C/OTS/6689/24 HYDRAULIC BOLT TORQUING TRAINING	29/09/2024 to 06/10/2024	0	0	14/10/2024

**Scope of Work:**  
Hydraulic Bolt Torquing training. The training contents are based on the combination of ASME and Industry best practices to tighten a flange joint without any leak.

**Bid Validity:** Bid 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:** Effective from 1st July 2023, bids received from Local Companies (established under the Laws of State of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) who are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal by Bid Closing Date (or commercial bid submission date if separately mentioned/notified) will not be accepted. Local Company that has been established for less than 2 years and insurance companies are exempted from this requirement. For further details please visit ICV Digital Portal:- <https://icv.qa/en-US/>

**QatarEnergy LNG**

## QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	SUP/C/WPM/6632/24 MAINTENANCE OF WELLHEADS & X-MAS TREES FOR ONSHORE WELLS	29/09/2024 to 10/10/2024	0	0	28/10/2024

**Scope of Work:**  
Contractor shall provide equipment, engineering support and personnel on call-off basis to perform preventive maintenance of wellheads and x-mas trees for onshore wells located in Ras Laffan. The primary contract duration shall be for a period of five (5) years, with an optional extension provision of additional ten (10) x one (1) years, at Company's sole discretion.

**Bid Validity:** Bid 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:** Effective from 1st July 2023, bids received from Local Companies (established under the Laws of State of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) who are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal by Bid Closing Date (or commercial bid submission date if separately mentioned/notified) will not be accepted. Local Company that has been established for less than 2 years and insurance companies are exempted from this requirement. For further details please visit ICV Digital Portal:- <https://icv.qa/US>

## Ministry of Labour releases statistical bulletin for second quarter of 2024

The Ministry of Labour's statistical bulletin for the second quarter of 2024 showed that the Labour Licensing Department received 99,458 applications, including 15,969 for new recruitment, 66,898 for general work permits (personal number extension), and 2,804 applications for special work permits (family sponsorship/GCC nationals/investors/beneficiaries of property ownership).

The total number of requests for professional modification was 13,787.

Regarding labour complaints, the statistical bulletin showed that the Labour Dispute Department received 6,849 com-

plaints, of which 2,228 were settled.

The Labour Dispute Department also received 345 public reports, all of which were resolved.

Regarding the Labour Dispute Settlement Committees, the number of cases referred to the committees during the second quarter of the current year was 1,831, with a total of 1,229 decisions issued by the committees.

With regard to employment contracts, the statistical bulletin indicated that the Labour Relations Department processed 220,877 applications for contract authentication, with 21,078 requests submitted for labour secondment.

On the supervisory role of the Ministry of Labour over establishments subject to the labour market, inspection visits conducted by the ministry's teams revealed the level of compliance of companies and establishments with the labour law and the regulatory decisions of the labour market, noting an increase in the percentage of inspection visits that concluded without registering any remarks.

The statistical bulletin showed that the ministry carried out 705 inspection tours of recruitment offices during the second quarter, 683 of which concluded without any remarks, with four warnings issued for violations, and 12 companies being fully or

partially shut down, and one violation report being registered.

The Labour Inspection Department also conducted intensive inspection campaigns during the second quarter to monitor the compliance of establishments with the laws and ministerial decisions regulating the labour market in the country, with a total of 12,816 inspection visits across various areas.

These resulted in 1,564 warnings issued to companies to rectify violations, while the number of violation reports against companies was 1,646.

Additionally, the Occupational Safety and Health Department conducted 5,539

inspection visits to work sites and workers' accommodations.

The ministry urges business owners, companies, and institutions subject to the provisions of the labour law to comply with the legislation and the regulatory ministerial decisions to contribute to enhancing the work environment in Qatar.

The digital transformation journey implemented by the Ministry of Labour has contributed to streamlining procedures and speeding up the completion of transactions, which positively reflected on the performance of the service departments within the ministry during the second quarter of 2024. - QNA

### Minister meets Malawi envoy



HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Smaikh al-Marri held a meeting yesterday with Malawi's ambassador to Qatar, Roy Akajuwe Kachale. The meeting discussed bilateral co-operation in the labour sector. - QNA

### QMC chairman meets Philippine ambassador



Qatar Media Corporation chairman Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer al-Thani held a meeting yesterday with Philippine ambassador to Qatar Lilibeth Velasco Pono, where they discussed media relations between the two countries. - QNA

### Qatar attends joint ministerial meeting of GCC and China



Qatar participated on Friday in the joint ministerial meeting of foreign ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) and China on the sidelines of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Murakhhi chaired Qatar's delegation at the meeting. - QNA

# 10th Qatar Patient Safety Week activities conclude

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has concluded the activities of the 10th Qatar Patient Safety Week, held under the theme *Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety*.

The event saw extensive participation from local and international experts, as well as representatives from various healthcare organisations and institutions in the country, such as the Ministry of Defence and Qatar Airways.

The Qatar Patient Safety Week (QPSW) featured a series of events and activities.

These included workshops on the fundamentals of quality improvement, communication skills for disclosing medical errors if and when they occur, and strategies to prevent future errors, alongside patient-centred care, and included the involvement of 288 healthcare practitioners.

At scientific conference sessions, which were attended by more than 1,900 healthcare professionals, the latest developments in diagnosis and patient safety were reviewed, and expertise was shared among the participating experts.

The experts unanimously agreed on the importance of accurate diagnosis, which forms the foundation of safe and effective healthcare.

They also highlighted the role of modern technology in improving diagnostic accuracy and reducing medical errors.

Best global practices in patient safety were presented, and the participants exchanged experiences with both international and local speakers, emphasising the importance of collaboration between different healthcare sectors to continuously improve healthcare quality.

As part of the awareness campaign during the Qatar Patient Safety Week, an awareness



booth was set up in a shopping mall, which saw significant public engagement.

More than 171 participants had their vital signs, weight, body mass index (BMI), and blood sugar levels measured, with some being referred for medical follow-up.

Members of the public were also introduced to the concept of strengthening patient safety and encouraged to take part in achieving it.

Additionally, they were educated about diagnostic safety and its impact on patient safety.

Members of the public were engaged and encouraged to share their personal experiences and contribute ideas and suggestions to enhance diagnostic safety, leading to improved communication between patients and healthcare providers.

Staff at the booth also provided guidance on the correct use of home diagnostic devices such as blood sugar and blood pressure monitors.

Additionally, there was a children's clinic where they learned about important symp-

toms through play, positive reinforcement, and rewards.

As part of the Qatar Patient Safety Week activities, many key institutions in the country illuminated their buildings in orange in celebration of World Patient Safety Day, highlighting the importance of focusing on diagnostic safety.

A total of 20 institutions participated in this initiative.

Moreover, healthcare institutions organised celebrations, events and activities, including lectures and competitions to raise awareness among healthcare workers and motivate them to continue efforts to protect patient safety and improve the quality of healthcare.

The Qatar Patient Safety Week is an annual national event that has been organised by the MoPH since 2014.

This event encourages sustainable collaboration between the ministry, healthcare providers, community members, and all stakeholders to ensure safer healthcare in Qatar. - QNA

## 2nd Qatar Real Estate Forum to be held on October 13-15

From Page 1

Barwa Real Estate Group chief executive Ahmad Mohammed al-Tayeb said: "Our participation reflects our commitment to supporting national real estate events that create an exceptional platform for dialogue between government entities, developers, and investors to shape the future of this vital sector."

GMG Holding chairman Sheikh Jabr bin Mansour bin Jabr al-Thani highlighted the partnership.

"Our commitment aligns with Qatar National Vision 2030 to build partnerships that drive growth and elevate standards of living," he said.

"We are proud to be one of the principal supporters of this significant event," said Al Waab City executive vice-president Sheikh Jassim bin Nawaf bin Nasser al-Thani. "Our participation reaffirms our commitment to enhancing Qatar's real estate sector and contributing to the development of an innovative and sustainable investment environment."

"Al Waab City, as a multi-use private real estate development project, includes retail spaces, a shopping mall, offices, commercial showrooms, as well as a variety of residential units such as villas and apartments," he said. "As we move into the next phase of the project, we look forward to announcing the opening of this important section and welcoming the public by 2025, which will further strengthen Al Waab City's position as a leading destination for living, working, and leisure in Qatar."

"Our sponsorship of the second edition of the Qatar Real Estate Forum reflects our understanding

of the critical importance of this sector in attracting investment and supporting economic growth," said Yousef Fakhro, the chief marketing and corporate communications officer at the Qatar Financial Centre. "We have introduced new real estate ownership regulations for companies registered with us to align with Qatar's property ownership laws, creating a clear framework for real estate investments."

"This partnership reflects our commitment to supporting the country's efforts to develop and enhance the real estate sector and to encourage young national talents to engage in this vital industry," said Qatar Finance and Business Academy chief executive Dr Khalifa al-Salahi al-Yafei. "This, in turn, contributes to enhancing the competitiveness and diversification of the national economy, in line with the objectives of the Third National Development Strategy and Qatar National Vision 2030."

Al-Obaidli emphasised that the real estate sector is one of the pillars of Qatar's comprehensive economic development, actively supporting infrastructure development, offering diverse investment opportunities, and promoting sustainable economic growth.

The sector plays a vital role in achieving the goals of economic diversification and reducing reliance on natural resources, in line with the objectives of the National Development Strategy 2024-2030 and Qatar National Vision 2030.

The forum will feature specialised workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities with influential figures in the real estate sector.



### QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	LTC/C/MNT/6615/24 MAINTENANCE OF STORAGE TANKS ON CALL-OFF BASIS	30/09/2024 to 15/10/2024	0	700,000	10/11/2024

**Scope of Work:**  
Contractor shall execute tank maintenance works primarily on hydrocarbon storage tanks of varying capacities & services as per the industry standards which are identified for periodic inspection and maintenance. The work includes Heel Transfer, cleaning, mechanical repairs, seal repairs/replacement, painting, scaffolding etc and supporting operations for purging. Contractor shall be responsible to provide all manpower, lifting and other construction equipment with operator's/driver's, fuel, tools & tackles etc. The contract shall be on call-off basis for a period of 5 years with 2 years optional extension tentatively effective from Q2 2025.

**Bid Validity:** Bid 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:** Effective from 1st July 2023, bids received from Local Companies (established under the Laws of State of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) who are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal by Bid Closing Date (or commercial bid submission date if separately mentioned/notified) will not be accepted. Local Company that has been established for less than 2 years and insurance companies are exempted from this requirement. For further details please visit ICV Digital Portal:- <https://icv.qa/en-US/>

## Over 400 events to be held during QSW 2024


From Page 1

The Earthna Centre official said that the current edition of Qatar Sustainability Week includes a wide range of activities, the most important of which is the Qatar National Dialogue on Climate Change (QNDDCC), which is being held for the first time as part of the week's activities.

It will be organised in co-operation with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) and with the support of the German embassy and many other entities, where participants will explore various innovations and opportunities related to confronting climate change.

Assistant Undersecretary for Climate Change Affairs Eng Ahmed Mohammed al-Sada highlighted that prioritising environmental development will significantly promote environmental awareness across all segments of society, helping to cultivate a population that values the preservation of Qatar's environmental heritage.

He said that this year's edition of the QNDDCC will witness a diverse package of sessions aimed at exchanging visions and experiences, which will play a major role in serious discussions between national institutions, and contribute to addressing climate challenges.



### QATAR FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT صندوق قطر للتنمية

**QFFD announces the following Public Tender:**

SN	TENDER NO.	TENDER NAME	TENDER FEE (USD)	TENDER BOND (USD)	CLOSING DATE
1	QFFD/PPP-O/PDS/0071/08-2024	Provision of Consultancy Services for the Construction of Qatar Square in Albania	\$ 1,600	\$ 18,000	13 November 2024

- ❖ Tender Document of the above Tender is available for collection via email from 29 September 2024 until Bid closing date.
- ❖ Interested parties shall first deposit the appropriate Tender Fee (non-refundable) as mentioned above; payable to:
 

**Bank Name:** Masraf Al-Rayan Bank  
**Account Name:** Qatar Fund for Development  
**Account Number:** 0003-102031-202  
**IBAN:** QA14MAFR000000000003102031202

 (Company Name, Tender Name & Tender Number must be mentioned in the deposit slip)
- ❖ The Tender document will be issued upon receiving a copy of the Commercial Registration, Classification Certificate (if any) and proof of payment via email: [overseas.tender@qatarfund.org.qa](mailto:overseas.tender@qatarfund.org.qa).
- ❖ Tender document submitted should be accompanied with a Tender Bond in accordance with the tender document shall be issued by a local Qatari Bank or by an international Bank confirmed and endorsed by any local Qatari Banks valid for 180 days from date of closing date.
- ❖ The Closing time will be no later than 12:00 noon, on the closing date mentioned above; any offer arriving thereafter will not be considered.
- ❖ Tender document to be submitted at:
 

**SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE**  
 Qatar Fund for Development  
 L9 Floor, Laffan Tower  
 P.O. Box 23366  
 Doha, Qatar

# Vodafone Qatar launches new Unlimited+ plans

Vodafone Qatar has launched a new portfolio of postpaid plans comprising a suite of features offering customers' greater connectivity, along with the ability to have enhanced control over their individual mobile experience. "In a world driven by social media, Vodafone Qatar is proud to be the first provider in Qatar to introduce dedicated social media apps data for postpaid customers," a statement said yesterday. This allows customers to enjoy popular platforms, such as Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, and TikTok without restriction on its all-new Unlimited+ postpaid plans. The second addition is the introduction of unlimited local calls for all new postpaid plan customers. Another first in Qatar is the addition of an all-new multi-SIM capability, which allows up to four additional SIMs to be linked to a customer's main plan. 'multi-SIM' enables one number to be used across multiple



devices, including smartphones, tablets, and laptops along with the ability to share data seamlessly, offering unrivalled

convenience. Vodafone Qatar also introduced for the first time in Qatar the 'Mute Service' making

it easy to manage unwanted calls. Once enabled, those trying to reach a customer will be notified of their unavailability, whilst customers will still be able to make and receive calls. Vodafone Qatar's new International Call Block feature allows users to screen unwanted foreign calls. In addition, Vodafone Qatar is offering exclusive lifestyle benefits with Vodafone's iPass Memberships ('Pass') and retaining the extremely popular My Book and Valet Parking. The Pass offer incredible deals across a variety of lifestyle areas - Entertainment Pass: Customers can enjoy offers on family dining, entertainment, and outings; Fitness Pass which offers great discounts on a range of fitness activities. Laha (Ladies) Pass, tailored specifically for women, this pass includes exclusive offers on dining, wellness, and entertainment;

Wellness Pass: Focusing on health with access to spa treatments and wellness experiences; and Black Pass: Customers can indulge in premium offers and luxury experiences across dining, wellness, fitness, and high-end retail. All new postpaid plans are also available through Vodafone Qatar's world's first 'Instant SIM'. Simon O'Rourke, Consumer Business Unit director, Vodafone Qatar, said: "We aim to enhance every aspect of our customers' lives through innovative technology and services. Our New Postpaid plan and iPass memberships are designed to provide seamless connectivity and exclusive benefits, making it easier than ever for Vodafone customers to stay connected and enjoy what matters most to them." To learn more about the plans and features offered by Vodafone Qatar, visit <https://www.vodafone.qa/en/>

## Qatar named guest country at Marrakech Short Film Festival

Doha Film Institute (DFI) announced that Qatar has been named the guest country at this year's Marrakech Short Film Festival, a significant recognition of the nation's growing influence in the world of cinema.

As part of the cultural exchange to mark the Qatar-Morocco 2024 Year of Culture, DFI is partnering with the festival to present a special programme of 10 'Made in Qatar' films, which began on September 27 and runs until October 2.

DFI will also screen four contemporary Moroccan films by renowned and emerging Moroccan directors at the Museum of Islamic Art from October 10 to 12 in a programme titled 'Mosaics from Morocco', and this year's edition of Ajyal Film Festival will include a specially curated programme of 'Made in Morocco' short films between November 16 to 23.

In a press statement, DFI CEO Fatma Hassan Alremaihi said: "Being named a guest country at the festival is a proud moment for Qatar and we are honoured to share our stories, voices and



DFI will also screen four contemporary Moroccan films at the Museum of Islamic Art from October 10 to 12.

unique perspectives through the 'Made in Qatar' films, and in return showcase Morocco's auteurs and emerging directors in Doha."

The screenings yesterday included *Sanad* by Noor al-Nasr and *When It's Time* by Awad Hashim Karrar.

Today, *A Proposal* by Nadia al-Khater, and *Emsahar* by Hassan al-Jahni will be screened. *Kinship* by Ali al-Hajri; and

*Olayan* by Khalifa al-Marri will be screened tomorrow. The final screening on October 2 is of *Sh'hab* by Amal al-Muftah.

The 'Mosaics of Morocco' screenings at the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha include *House in the Fields* (2017) by Tala Hadid; *Mica* (2020) by Ismaël Ferroukhi; *Fragments from Heaven* (2022) by Adnane Baraka and *Indivision* (2023) by Leila Kilani.

## QC provides relief aid to 18,000 flood victims in Bangladesh

Qatar Charity (QC) has provided urgent food aid to 18,000 flood-affected individuals in Bangladesh.

This effort is part of the QC's ongoing campaign, 'Rescue Flood Victims,' which supports flood-affected communities in 18 countries, including Bangladesh.

The distribution of relief aid was carried out in co-ordination with local authorities to ensure that it reached those most in need efficiently.

Food packages were distributed in strategic locations throughout the Noakhali district, with special attention to vulnerable groups such as families with children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

The aid, which included essential food items, was critical in addressing the urgent nutritional needs of the affected population, many of whom lost their homes and livelihoods due to the floods.

The QC launched in September the 'Rescue Flood Victims' campaign for 18 flood-affected countries. The campaign aims to provide essential aid to flood victims in the areas of food, shelter, healthcare, education, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). (QNA)



## QM to participate in Jeddah Islamic Arts Biennale

Qatar Museums (QM) will participate in the second edition of the Islamic Arts Biennale in Jeddah from January 25 to May 25, 2025, it was announced yesterday.

QM will exhibit eight objects from The Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) at the biennale, a statement said.

Organised by the Diriyah Biennale Foundation, the upcoming Jeddah event is the first and only biennale dedicated to the arts of Islamic civilisation, presenting a harmonious blend of historical artifacts and contemporary works.

**"Our participation in the Islamic Arts Biennale 2025 reflects our ongoing commitment to cultural exchange and the promotion of Islamic art on the global stage"**

The eight objects from QM's collections will have a thematic focus on 'Numbers,' offering a unique exploration of mathematical and numerical significance in Islamic art. The objects which will be on display in the AlMadar section of the biennale not only highlight the depth and diversity of Islamic art but also symbolise the long-term collaboration between QM and the Diriyah Biennale Foundation.

MIA director Shaika Nasser al-Nassar said: "Our participation in the Islamic Arts Biennale 2025 reflects our ongoing commitment to cultural exchange and the promotion of Islamic art on the global stage".

The Islamic Arts Biennale will be held at the iconic Aga



The Islamic Arts Biennale will be held at the iconic Aga Khan Award-winning Western Hajj Terminal at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah.



The MIA in Doha.

Khan Award-winning Western Hajj Terminal at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah.

The 2025 edition is titled 'And all that is in between' and will

feature seven unique components, combining historical objects with contemporary artworks and extending into a vast outdoor exhibition space, the statement added.

## Elite Paper Recycling and Teyseer Group Announce Partnership During Qatar Sustainability Week



Elite Paper Recycling and Teyseer Group are thrilled to announce a new partnership aimed at advancing recycling and sustainability efforts in Qatar. This collaboration was officially marked with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during Qatar Sustainability Week, highlighting the commitment of both organizations to environmental stewardship.

As part of this partnership, Teyseer Group will begin recycling all of their paper through Elite Paper Recycling. This move is a significant step in enhancing recycling practices and demonstrates Teyseer Group's commitment to sustainable operations.

Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Mannai, Teyseer Group Board Member stated, "As part of our commitment to supporting Qatar's vision for sustainability and contributing to environmental protection, we at Teyseer Group are working to accelerate the shift towards digital operations and significantly reduce reliance on paper. We believe that the future lies in innovation and sustainable technology, and by taking serious steps to reduce

paper waste and move to digital working methods." He added, "We are working to create a more efficient and sustainable work environment, so we are very pleased to cooperate with Elite Paper Recycling and look forward to enhancing efforts to facilitate daily operations and increase transparency and operational efficiency."

Abdulla Al Suwaidi, Chairman of Elite Paper Recycling, expressed his excitement about the collaboration: "We are delighted to team up with Teyseer Group during Qatar Sustainability Week. Our shared goal is to improve recycling programs and promote environmental awareness throughout the country. By integrating our efforts, we aim to upgrade and expand recycling services, educate the public on the importance of recycling, and implement sustainable practices within both organizations."

This MOU signifies a major advance in Qatar's sustainability journey. The partnership will enable the implementation of innovative recycling technologies, drive impactful community programs, and set a new standard for eco-friendly practices.

## Application open for lease of fishing boats parking lots

The Ministry of Municipality Fisheries Department has announced that it will receive applications for renting parking lots for private fishing boats and vessels and Al Ruwais storehouse during October 1-31.



## Anti-Israel protests spread



Protesters demonstrate against Israel following the killing of Lebanon's Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli air strike in Beirut, near the Israeli consulate in Istanbul, Turkiye, yesterday.



Demonstrators shout slogans as they march against Israeli strikes in Gaza and Lebanon at a protest rally in the central business district of Sydney, Australia, yesterday.



Protesters wave Lebanese flags during a demonstration in support of Lebanese people as intense Israeli attacks across Lebanon's east, south and on southern Beirut have killed hundreds of people and forced many to flee their homes, on Place de la Republique, in Paris, France, yesterday.

# Iran's president slams Israeli attacks on regional allies

Reuters  
Dubai

Israel should not be allowed to attack countries in the "Axis of Resistance" one after the other, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said yesterday.

Israel said it had bombed Houthi targets in Yemen yesterday, expanding its confrontation with Iran's allies in the region after killing the Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah on Friday in an escalating conflict in Lebanon.

Pezeshkian, in comments carried by state media, said Lebanon

should be supported. "Lebanese fighters should not be left alone in this battle so that the Zionist regime (Israel) does not attack Axis of Resistance countries one after the other," he said.

An Iranian Revolutionary Guards deputy commander, Abbas Nilforoushan, was also killed in the attack that killed the Hezbollah leader in Beirut.

"We cannot accept such actions and they will not be left unanswered. A decisive reaction is necessary," Pezeshkian said.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani condemned the Israeli strikes in

Yemen, saying in a statement that they had targeted "civilian infrastructure" such as a power plant and fuel tanks.

"Iran once again warns about the consequences of the Zionist regime's (Israel) warmongering on regional and international peace and security," spokesperson Nasser Kanaani added.

In another Israeli attack on Yemen in July, fighter jets bombed "dual-use sites such as energy infrastructure" in Hodeidah, with Israel's military spokesperson saying the port was used by the Houthis to receive weapons shipments.

## Silence, destruction remain at site of Hezbollah leader's death

AFP  
Beirut

An eerie calm engulfed the rubble-strewn Beirut site yesterday where an Israeli air strike killed Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah, flattening buildings in the group's stronghold.

An AFP photographer in the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital saw a few men silently walking around the massive crater caused by the Friday strike, where plumes of smoke still billowed.

After Hezbollah on Saturday formally announced Nasrallah's death, there were no longer any rescuers at the site yesterday.

One man crouched on the edge

of the rubble, reading from the Qur'an while, beside him, his wife wept.

A preliminary toll issued by Lebanon's health ministry said at least six people were killed in the strike, but that figure is expected to rise, given the massive destruction. The Israeli military said more than 20 other Hezbollah members were killed.

The deaths confirmed by Hezbollah include its top commander in south Lebanon, Ali Karake. Iran said a senior general from its Revolutionary Guards was also killed.

Elsewhere in southern Beirut, pounded by Israeli strikes over the past week, the normally bustling streets were quiet, AFP journalists said.

Many shops were closed and

roads empty. The charred remains of vehicles and rubble of destroyed buildings lay where Israeli jets had struck.

Thousands of residents of the Hezbollah bastion have left since Friday for parts of Beirut considered safer, with many families spending the night on Beirut's streets.

Prime Minister Najib Mikati said that up to a million Lebanese may have been displaced by the intense Israeli strikes since earlier this month in Beirut but also in other parts of the tiny country, including the southern border areas abutting Israel.

"It is the largest displacement movement that may have happened... in Lebanon," he said yesterday.

## Pope slams 'immoral' use of force in Gaza and Lebanon

AFP  
Aboard the Papal Plane

Pope Francis yesterday slammed the "immoral" use of force in Lebanon and Gaza, amid ongoing Israeli strikes in both places.

"A country that acts this way with force, no matter the country, and that acts in such an excessive manner, (lends itself to) immoral actions," said Fran-

cis when asked about the consequences of Israeli air strikes on civilians aboard a flight back to Rome from Belgium.

"Defence must always be proportional to the attack. When this is not the case, a dominating tendency appears that goes beyond morality," the 87-year-old pontiff said in Italian.

"Even in war there is a morality to defend. War is immoral, but the rules of war indicate a form of morality," Francis said.

## US boosts air support and hikes troop readiness to deploy for Middle East

Reuters  
Washington

The US military said yesterday it was increasing its air support capabilities in the Middle East and putting troops on a heightened readiness to deploy to the region as it warned against expanding the ongoing conflict.

The announcement came two days after President Joe Biden directed the Pentagon to adjust US force posture in the Middle East amid intensifying concern that Israel's killing of the leader of Hezbollah could prompt retaliation. "The United States is determined to prevent foreign-backed partners and proxies from exploiting the situation or expanding the conflict," Pentagon spokesperson

Major General Patrick Ryder said in a statement.

He also cautioned that if groups "use this moment to target American personnel or interests in the region, the United States will take every necessary measure to defend our people." The Pentagon statement offered few clues as to the size or scope of the new air deployment, saying only that "we will further reinforce our defensive air-support capabilities in the coming days." Israel struck more targets in Lebanon yesterday, pressing Hezbollah with new attacks after killing the group's leader, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and a string of its other top commanders.

The strikes have dealt a stunning succession of blows to Hezbollah after almost a year of

cross-border fire, killing much of its leadership and revealing gaping security holes. But it has also raised questions about Washington's publicly declared goals of containing the conflict and safeguarding US personnel throughout the Middle East.

White House national security spokesperson John Kirby said that the United States is watching to see what Hezbollah does to try to fill its leadership vacuum, "and is continuing to talk to the Israelis about what the right next steps are." The US State Department has yet to order an evacuation from Lebanon. But last week, US officials told Reuters the Pentagon was sending a few dozen additional troops to Cyprus to help the military prepare for scenarios including an evacuation of Americans from Lebanon.

## Thousands protest as Pakistan condemns killing of Nasrallah

AFP  
Islamabad

Thousands of people protested in Pakistan cities yesterday after the Hezbollah confirmed that its longtime chief had been killed by an Israeli air strike in Lebanon.

Hezbollah said on Saturday Hassan Nasrallah was killed in the strike on Beirut's southern suburbs a day earlier, dealing a massive blow to the group he had led for decades. Around 4,000 people gathered in the Pakistan capital Islamabad and 3,000 thousand in the southern port city of Karachi during rallies and funeral prayers for Nasrallah led by some groups. "We stand against what Israel is doing in Palestine and Lebanon, this is why we are here today," 27-year-old Taskeen Zafar said during the rally in Islamabad.

The killing of Nasrallah marked a sharp escalation

in nearly a year of tit-for-tat cross-border fire between Hezbollah and Israel, and risks plunging the wider region into war.

"Pakistan strongly condemns the growing Israeli adventurism in the Middle East," Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement yesterday.

"Yesterday's reckless act of killing the Secretary-General of Hezbollah in Lebanon constitutes a major escalation in an already volatile region."

Hezbollah began low-intensity cross-border strikes on Israeli troops a day after its Palestinian ally Hamas staged an unprecedented storming of Israel in the first week of October, triggering war in the Gaza Strip. Nearly a year later, Israel announced a shift in focus to battling Hezbollah on its northern front. Israel's retaliatory military offensive has killed at least 41,595 people in Gaza, most of them civilians, according to figures from the Hamas-run territory's health ministry. The UN has described the figures as reliable.

### Shooting leaves 17 dead in eastern SA

South African police said they were launching a manhunt after 17 people were shot dead in a town in the east of the country, AFP reported from Johannesburg. "In one house, 13 people were killed — 12 women and one man. In another, four people were killed. An 18th victim is in critical condition in a hospital," the police said in a statement. South African media said the mass shootings occurred Friday night in the town of Lusikisiki in the Eastern Cape province about 200 kilometres southwest of Durban. "We do not know the motive" and "we do not know if there is one or several suspects on the run", national police chief Fannie Masemola said on SABC public television.

## Marburg disease leaves six dead in Rwanda

AFP  
Kigali

Six people have been killed in Rwanda in an outbreak of Marburg virus, a highly infectious haemorrhagic fever similar to Ebola, the country's health ministry said late on Saturday.

The highly virulent microbe causes severe fever, often accompanied by bleeding and organ failure.

Some 20 patients were being treated for the illness, Health Minister Sabin Nsanzimana told local media. "Those infected and the deceased were mainly health workers," he said, adding that efforts were underway to trace and test those who had come in contact with them. Marburg is part of the so-called filovirus family that also includes Ebola, which has wreaked havoc in several previous outbreaks in Africa.

Neighbouring Tanzania reported cases of the

disease in 2023, while Uganda experienced its last outbreak in 2017. The three countries share porous borders. The suspected natural source of the Marburg virus is the African fruit bat, which carries the pathogen but does not fall sick from it.

The virus takes its name from the German city of Marburg, where it was first identified in 1967 in a lab where workers had been in contact with infected green monkeys imported from Uganda.

The animals can pass the virus to primates in close proximity, including humans, and human-to-human transmission then occurs through contact with blood or other body fluids. Fatality rates in confirmed cases have ranged from 24% to 88% in previous outbreaks, depending on the virus strain and case management, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). There are currently no vaccines or antiviral treatments, but potential treatments, including blood products, immune and drug therapies, as well as early candidate vaccines, are being evaluated.

## US military strikes kill 37 militants in Syria

AFP  
Washington

US forces conducted two separate strikes in Syria, killing 37 "terrorist operatives" including members of the Islamic State group and Al Qaeda affiliate Hurras al-Din, the military's Central Command (Centcom) said yesterday.

A September 24 strike in northwest Syria killed nine "terrorist operatives" including senior Hurras al-Din leader Marwan Bassam 'Abd-al-Ra'uf,

the US military said.

A September 16 strike in central Syria targeted an IS training camp and killed at least 28 people, including four senior leaders, the statement said. It did not identify the leaders.

"These strikes against leadership and operatives of ISIS and the Al Qaeda affiliate, Hurras al-Din, represent Centcom's commitment to the enduring defeat of terrorist organisations in the Centcom area of responsibility and our support to regional stability," said General Michael Erik Kurilla, Centcom's commander.



**DEFENCE**

**Taiwan on alert after multiple missile firing by China**

Taiwan's defence ministry yesterday said it was on alert after detecting "multiple waves" of missile firing deep in inland China, days after Beijing said it had carried out a successful test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile. Taiwan keeps a close watch on Chinese military drills given Beijing's regular activities around the island, but only rarely releases details of what it sees taking place inside China. The ministry said it had detected "multiple waves of firing" by China's Rocket Force and army in the provinces and regions of Inner Mongolia, Gansu, Qinghai and Xinjiang, which all lie at least 2,000km from Taiwan.

**INCIDENT**

**Fire breaks out at Chinese battery giant CATL plant**

A fire broke out at a factory belonging to Chinese battery giant CATL, which supplies electric vehicle makers including Tesla, but there was no immediate word on the extent of damage, authorities said. No casualties have yet been reported from the fire at the plant in the coastal city of Ningde, CATL's base in the eastern province of Fujian, a statement by the Dongqiao Economic and Technological Development Zone said. Emergency services were sent to the plant to fight the fire and to organise the evacuation of any people who were inside the 15,000 square metre site, it said.

**POLICY**

**Sri Lanka reverts to former visa system to woo tourists**

Sri Lanka has restored an online visa application platform to encourage tourism after its top court suspended a controversial multi-million-dollar deal that outsourced visa processing to a foreign consortium. The government of newly elected President Anura Kumara Dissanayake said the move was intended to promote the nation's key tourism sector, as its economy limps out of the 2022 financial crisis. Tourists will now be able to apply for a visa online without paying the \$25 charged by India-based VFS Global, which won an outsourcing contract in April from the previous government.

**DEMAND**

**Protesters call for UK to rejoin European Union**

Several hundred people rallied in central London to call for the UK to rejoin the European Union which it left in 2020. Protesters carried placards reading "Brexit is a monumental disaster" and chanting "rejoin" as they marched past the prime minister's Downing Street residence to gather in Parliament Square. "With the new Labour government there's maybe a chance to begin reversing this mistake," academic Saskia Huc-Hepher, 50, whose husband is French, said. "Brexit was a trick against the British people... we need to keep complaining even if things won't change just now," added insurance worker Alex Taylor, 71.

# UK lawmaker quits Labour Party over PM's 'hypocrisy'

AFP  
London

The new government of UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer reeled from its first resignation as lawmaker Rosie Duffield quit the Labour Party, accusing him of "hypocrisy" over his acceptance of free gifts.

In a blistering resignation letter, Duffield denounced Starmer for pursuing "cruel and unnecessary" policies. "The sleaze, nepotism and apparent avarice are off the scale," she wrote, after it emerged earlier this month that Starmer had accepted more than £100,000 in gifts and hospitality while cutting an annual £300 winter heating payment to some 10mn pensioners.

"I am so ashamed of what you and your inner circle have done to tarnish and humiliate our once proud party," Duffield said the "hypocrisy" of a leader enjoying expensive free clothing and outings while asking others to tighten their belts was "staggering".

She also attacked the prime minister's decision to maintain a cap on a benefit aimed at supporting families with children.

"Someone with far-above-average wealth choosing to keep the Conservatives' two-child limit to benefit payments which entrenches children in poverty, while inexplicably accepting expensive personal gifts of designer suits and

glasses costing more than most of those people can grasp - this is entirely undeserving of holding the title of Labour prime minister," she wrote.

Duffield said that she would in the future sit as an independent MP "guided by my core Labour values".

The row over the free gifts from rich donors had already cast a shadow over the party's first conference since they returned to government.

Labour ousted the Conservatives in a landslide election win in July after 14 years in opposition.

But instead of toasting their victory at the conference earlier this week, ministers found themselves on the backfoot and facing anger from the normally supportive unions. All of the gifts accepted by Starmer had been declared and none fall foul of parliamentary rules. But records show that Starmer accepted more than £100,000 (\$132,000) in gifts and hospitality since December 2019, more than any other lawmaker.

It also emerged that Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner accepted the loan of a New York apartment for a holiday and that Chancellor Rachel Reeves accepted around £7,500 worth of clothing.

Reeves and the Labour party have defended the abolition of the £300 payment to many pensioners to help them heat their homes, citing a need to fill a "£22bn black hole" they say was left by the Conservatives.



People salvage their belongings along a street as the floodwater recedes in an area that was flooded by the overflowing Bagmati River following heavy rains in Kathmandu, Nepal, yesterday.

# Nepal shuts schools as death toll from heavy rains hits 151

Reuters  
Kathmandu

Nepal has shut schools for three days after landslides and floods triggered by two days of heavy rain across the Himalayan nation killed 151 people, with 56 missing, officials said yesterday.

The floods brought traffic and normal activity to a standstill in the Kathmandu valley, where 37 deaths were recorded in a region home to 4mn people and the capital.

Authorities said students and their parents faced difficulties as university and school buildings damaged by the rains needed repair.

"We have urged the concerned authorities to close schools in the affected areas for three days," Lakshmi Bhattarai, a spokesperson for the

education ministry, said. Some parts of the capital reported rain of up to 322.2mm (12.7 inches), pushing the level of its main Bagmati river up 7ft past the danger mark, experts said.

But there were some signs of respite yesterday morning, with the rains easing in many places, said Govinda Jha, a weather forecaster in the capital.

"There may be some isolated showers, but heavy rains are unlikely," he said.

Television images showed police rescuers in knee-high rubber boots using picks and shovels to clear away mud and retrieve 16 bodies of passengers from two buses swept away by a massive landslide at a site on the key route into Kathmandu.

Weather officials in the capital blamed the rainstorms on a low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal extending over parts of neigh-

bouring India close to Nepal. Haphazard development amplifies climate change risks in Nepal, say climate scientists at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

"I've never before seen flooding on this scale in Kathmandu," said Arun Bhakta Shrestha, an environmental risk official at the centre.

In a statement, it urged the government and city planners to "urgently" step up investment in, and plans for, infrastructure, such as underground stormwater and sewage systems, both of the "grey", or engineered kind, and "green", or nature-based type.

The impact of the rains was aggravated by poor drainage due to unplanned settlement and urbanisation efforts, construction on floodplains, lack of areas for water retention, and encroachment on the Bagmati river, it added.

**Shahrukh Khan steals show at Indian film awards**

Bollywood icon Shahrukh Khan declared "it's good to be back" as he won best actor at the International Indian Film Academy Awards after a long absence from the limelight. The 58-year-old stole the show as event co-host before walking off with the coveted prize for his role in the action thriller *Jawan*, capping a five-hour show in Abu Dhabi. "I just want to tell you it's good to be back," he told a packed crowd in the capital of the United Arab Emirates, which has a large Indian population. "I love awards, I'm greedy about awards... I think I have a little happiness from the audience this year because I worked (again) after a long time," he added. Sandeep Reddy Vanga's *Animal* won best picture among six awards. Rani Mukerji was named best actress for the child-custody drama *Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway* and Vidhu Vinod Chopra won best director for *12th Fail*.

**Record feat**



New Zealand yesterday reclaimed the world record for the largest mass haka after more than 6,000 people performed the legendary Maori war dance, dethroning France. The record was broken in deafening fashion at Eden Park rugby stadium in Auckland, where thousands of men, women and children combined on the pitch to complete the traditional native challenge involving vigorous movements, stamping feet and rhythmic shouting. An adjudicator confirmed 6,531 participants had performed the 'Ka Mate' haka, a rendition made famous by the All Blacks rugby team, who perform it immediately before Test matches. The world record had been held by France since September 2014 when 4,028 people slapped their thighs and belled the chant following a rugby match in France Brive-la-Gaillarde, southwestern France.

# US firm denies link to Star Health data leak

Reuters  
Bengaluru

US software firm Cloudflare has denied any role in hosting two websites run by a hacker offering for sale stolen personal data and medical records of customers of top Indian insurer Star Health.

The statement comes after the company was made party to an Indian lawsuit filed by Star Health last week, in which the insurer alleged that Cloudflare hosted the websites in question.

"Cloudflare is not the host for the domains in question," the firm said, adding that it works as a pass-through service situated between a website host and an end-user, which is why one may see a Cloudflare IP address.

Star has also sued Telegram and the self-styled hacker xen-

Zen, after Reuters reported that sensitive personal data, from telephone numbers to copies of identity cards and blood reports of its customers, were publicly accessible via Telegram chatbots.

The websites and Telegram bots were inaccessible yesterday.

Star did not immediately respond to a request for comment outside regular business hours in India.

Earlier, Star said initial assessment showed "no widespread compromise", adding that sensitive customer data remained secure.

The company has received a temporary injunction from a court in its southern home state of Tamil Nadu ordering Telegram and the hacker to block any chatbots or websites in India that make the data available online.

# Sunak tells Conservatives 'learn lessons' of defeat

AFP  
London

Former UK prime minister Rishi Sunak yesterday urged his Conservative Party to "learn the lessons" of their crushing election defeat as it gathered to begin electing a new leader.

The four-day meeting in Birmingham, central England, comes three months after the Tories were ousted from power by Labour, with Keir Starmer taking over as prime minister.

"This is our first conference in opposition since 2009," Sunak wrote in parliament's *The House*

magazine. "We need to learn the lessons of our defeat: we did not get everything right in government - no government ever does - and we do now need to reflect on that," he wrote.

The party last met in opposition 15 years ago - a year before David Cameron set them on their way to 14 years of consecutive but chaotic rule, marked by austerity, Brexit, the Covid pandemic and infighting.

The get-together will see four candidates audition in front of parliamentary colleagues and grassroots members as they bid to replace Sunak as the next Tory leader.

Kemi Badenoch, Robert Jenrick, James Cleverly and Tom Tugendhat will all make pitches from the stage as well as face questions from the floor in the main hall at the International Convention Centre in Britain's second-largest city.

Immigration will be one of the policy areas they will be grilled on.

The subject was a major election issue in the July ballot, when the Conservatives lost critical votes to Nigel Farage's anti-immigration Reform UK party.

Setting out his stall, front-runner and former immigration minister Jenrick pledged a cap "cast in iron" on immigration.

"The age of mass migration must end. It's placing immense pressure on housing, on public services and on community cohesion," he told Sky News's Sunday Morning with Trevor Phillips.

Jenrick's nearest rival, Badenoch, said immigration was something the country needed to "get right".

"Numbers matter... culture matters. If we want to have a well-integrated society, we need to make sure that we have a shared culture and a shared identity," she told Sky.

Conservative MPs will vote next week to determine the final two candidates. Party members will

then select the winner in a ballot that closes at the end of October.

Britain's new opposition leader - and the person tasked with reuniting the party before the next elections - will be announced on November 2.

Whoever is chosen will determine whether the party tacks further to the right or seeks to regain the centre ground following the Conservatives' worst-ever general election result on July 4.

Labour won a whopping 174-seat majority in the 650-seat UK parliament. The Tories lost 251 seats to return just 121 MPs, the lowest number in their history.

That capped a stunning down-

fall from the previous election in 2019, when the Tories won an 80-seat majority under Boris Johnson, mainly on a promise to "get Brexit done".

The party unravelled in spectacular fashion. Several scandals, not least Downing Street staff partying during coronavirus lockdowns, forced Johnson from office.

His successor, Liz Truss, then lasted just 49 days due to her mini-budget, which tanked the pound and spooked markets.

Sunak, brought in to steady the ship, was unable to reverse the slide and his 20 months in office were marred by factional infighting.



**CHAIRMAN**

Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Attiyah

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Faisal Abdulhameed al-Mudahka

**Deputy Managing Editor**

K T Chacko

- 📍 P.O.Box 2888, Doha, Qatar
- ✉ editor@gulf-times.com
- ☎ 44350478 (News),
- ☎ 44466404 (Sport),
- ☎ 44466636 (Home delivery)
- ☎ 44350474
- 📘 facebook.com/gulftimes
- 🐦 twitter.com/gulftimes\_Qatar
- 📷 instagram.com/gulftimes
- 📺 youtube.com/GulftimesVideos

**GULF TIMES**

## Earth-like planet's survival offers clues for our future

Existence of an Earth-like planet around a dead sun offers hope for our planet's ultimate survival, according to a latest study by University of California – Berkeley. The discovery of an Earth-like planet 4,000 light years away in the Milky Way galaxy provides a preview of one possible fate for our planet billions of years in the future, when the sun has turned into a white dwarf, and a blasted and frozen Earth has migrated beyond the orbit of Mars. The distant planetary system, identified by the university's astronomers after observations with the Keck 10m telescope in Hawaii, looks very similar to expectations for the sun-Earth system: It consists of a white dwarf about half the mass of the sun and an Earth-size companion in an orbit twice as large as Earth's today.

That is likely to be Earth's fate. The sun will eventually inflate like a balloon larger than Earth's orbit today, engulfing Mercury and Venus in the process. As the star expands to become a red giant, its decreasing mass will force planets to migrate to more distant orbits, offering Earth a slim opportunity to survive farther from the sun. Eventually, the outer layers of the red giant will be blown away to leave behind a dense white dwarf no larger than a planet, but with the mass of a star. If Earth has survived by then, it will probably end up in an orbit twice its current size.

The discovery, to be published in the journal Nature Astronomy, tells scientists about the evolution of main sequence stars, like the sun, through the red giant phase to a white dwarf, and how it affects the planets around them. Some studies suggest that for the sun, this process could

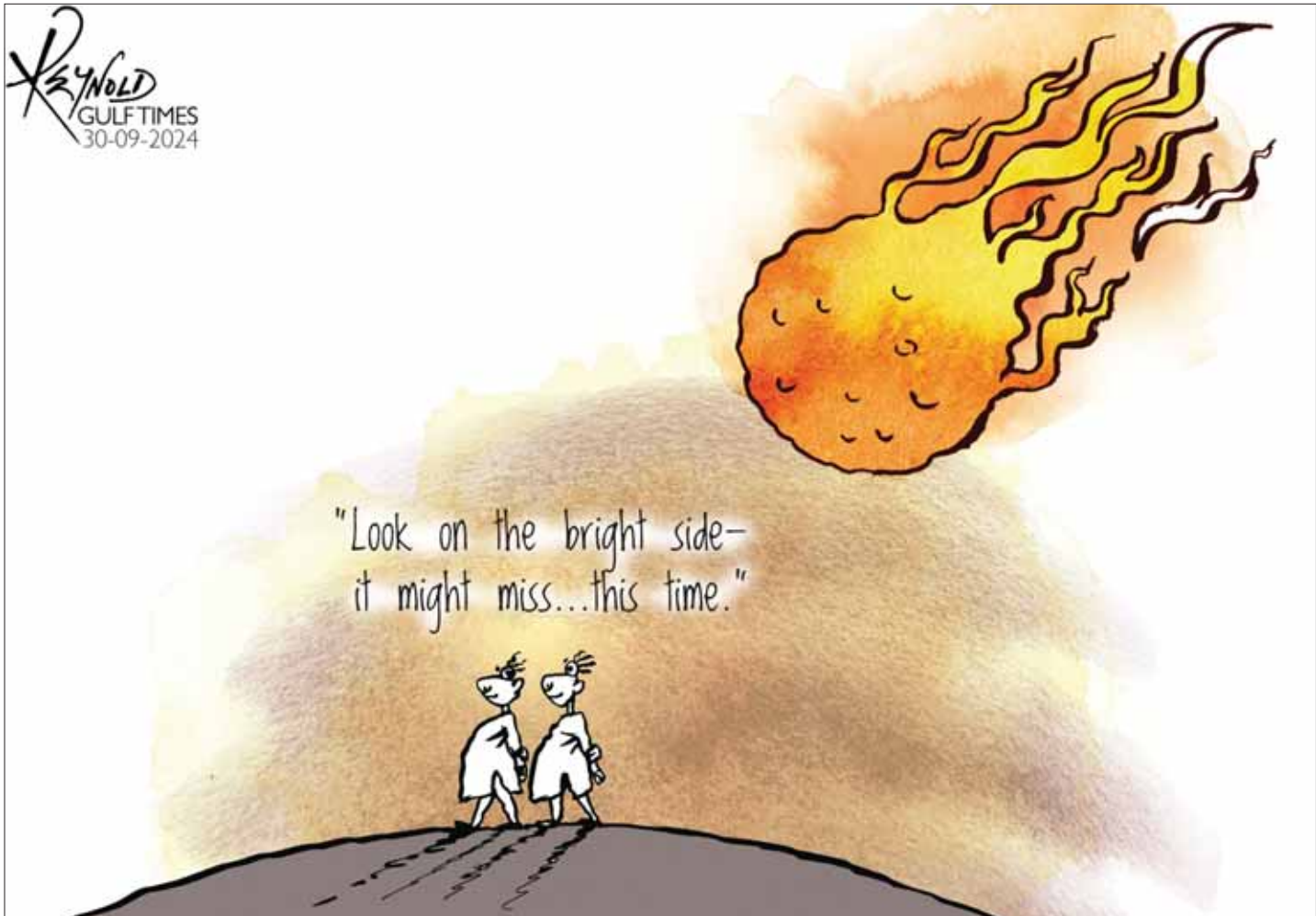
**Several moons of Jupiter and around Saturn appear to have frozen water oceans that will likely thaw as the outer layers of the red giant expand**

begin in about 1bn years, eventually vaporising Earth's oceans and doubling Earth's orbital radius—if the expanding star doesn't engulf our planet first. Eventually, about 8bn years from now, the sun's outer layers will have dispersed to leave behind a dense, glowing ball—a white dwarf—that is about half the mass of the sun, but smaller in size than Earth.

"We do not currently have a consensus on whether Earth could avoid being engulfed by the red giant sun in 6bn years," said study leader Keming Zhang, a former doctoral student at the University of California, Berkeley, who is now an Eric and Wendy Schmidt AI in Science Postdoctoral fellow at UC San Diego. "In any case, planet Earth will only be habitable for around another billion years, at which point Earth's oceans would be vaporised by the runaway greenhouse effect—long before the risk of getting swallowed by the red giant."

The planetary system provides one example of a planet that did survive, though it is far outside the habitable zone of the dim white dwarf and unlikely to harbour life. It may have had habitable conditions at some point, when its host was still a sun-like star. "Whether life can survive on Earth through that (red giant) period is unknown. But certainly the most important thing is that Earth isn't swallowed by the sun when it becomes a red giant," said Jessica Lu, associate professor and chair of astronomy at UC Berkeley. "This system that Keming's found is an example of a planet—probably an Earth-like planet originally on a similar orbit to Earth—that survived its host star's red giant phase."

Zhang noted that even if Earth gets engulfed during the sun's red giant phase in a billion or so years, humanity may find a refuge in the outer solar system. Several moons of Jupiter, such as Europa, Callisto and Ganymede, and Enceladus around Saturn, appear to have frozen water oceans that will likely thaw as the outer layers of the red giant expand.



# Translation plays key role in fostering cultural dialogue

## ● Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding building bridges between nations and peoples

**QNA**  
Doha

**E**xperts and officials have emphasised the role of translation in fostering cultural dialogue and strengthening global co-operation, contributing to strengthening the bonds of friendship among the nations and peoples of the world.

In statements to the Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of the International Translation Day, which falls on Sept 30 every year, they noted that translation has played a pioneering role in opening up to other cultures, helping to break free from cultural isolation and one-dimensional perspectives. They praised the role of the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding, launched by Qatar in 2015, in building bridges of communication between nations and peoples, rewarding excellence, encouraging creativity, and promoting noble values, diversity, and openness, while fostering a culture of knowledge and dialogue and spreading Arab and Islamic culture.

Media Adviser for Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding Dr Hanan al-Fayyad said that the award has contributed over a decade to promoting the idea of cultural openness among the peoples of the world, relying on translation as one of the most important tools for resisting the cultural isolation that some cultures suffer from.

She noted that during these 10 years, there has been a significant interest from non-Arab translators in translating important Arabic works, which reflects a clear awareness and interest in reading Arab thought. It is undeniable that translators play a crucial role in presenting this work to readers, who in turn seek to uncover the true face of Arab culture, she added. She pointed out that the award has played an important role in encouraging translation in the Arab world, with special attention to the value of translated works, which is evident in the quality of submissions for the award.

This type of cultural exchange between the Arab world and others helps shift the prevailing language of dialogue from one filled with distortion and stereotyping to a more humane language that fosters explicit

calls for deeper understanding among peoples.

Dr Hanan explained that the award looks forward, as it enters a new decade, to continue bridging gaps between the world, aligning viewpoints, and promoting a culture of peace through well-thought-out plans to achieve these goals. This will be accompanied by establishing international partnerships with institutions specialized in culture and translation, or with active institutes in the field of translation and the Arabic language, she noted.

For his part, translator and academic Jamal Shaheed, a researcher at the French Institute of the Near-East (Ifpo), said that translation has historically played a pioneering role in opening up to other cultures to break free from

phenomenon. He praised the role of the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding, launched by Qatar, which is a pioneer in this field, as it has encouraged translators to engage in scientific and accurate translation after the spread of commercial translations that have tarnished the reputation of translated Arab books, which continue to fill the shelves of libraries in all Arab cities.

Dr Kian Ahmed Hazem Yahya, an Iraqi translator and academic, said that translation is the communication of the meaning of a source-language text by means of an equivalent target-language text.

Dr Yahya, winner of the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation in 2018 in the English to Arabic translation

specialised in several languages, with each session dedicated to a living language, without neglecting less commonly used languages, thus promoting linguistic justice. The large number of translators who are invited are celebrated in a way that encourages them to give more, she said, noting that the award granted by Qatar with this material and moral value places it at the forefront of countries that have given and continue to give translation and translators the status they deserve.

More than 7,000 languages are spoken, and few are written. This highlights the importance of translation contributing to the transfer of knowledge between many languages, as it constituted a basic value for the UN, which made Sept 30 the International Translation Day.

The International Federation of Translators announced that the theme of International Translation Day 2024 is "Translation, an art worth protecting" to be a space for exchanging ideas, perceptions, and aspirations about what is considered success or failure in a profession with no limits to testing and learning.

Events and conferences are organised globally on this occasion to highlight the role of translation in promoting international understanding, exchanging ideas between different cultures, and enhancing global co-operation.

This day is also an opportunity to recognise the efforts of translators and appreciate their valuable contributions to society, in addition to discussing the challenges they face in an era characterised by globalisation and accelerating technology.

Since 1991, the International Federation of Translators has begun to officially celebrate this occasion annually, while the UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution to recognise and celebrate this international day in 2017, as 11 countries signed its draft, including Qatar.

In 2015, Qatar established the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding to honour translators and appreciate their role, both regionally and internationally, in building bridges of communication between nations and peoples. This year, it celebrates a decade of its role in promoting cultural dialogue between peoples.

**'There has been a significant interest from non-Arab translators in translating important Arabic works, which reflects a clear awareness and interest in reading Arab thought'**

cultural isolation and the one-dimensional space.

He pointed out that Arabs had a foundational role during the early Abbasid era, as translation began at the House of Wisdom in Baghdad, especially during the era of Al-Ma'mun. However, it diminished after the Mongol invasion of Baghdad and the spread of the Dark Ages, and it then revived in the 19th century with figures like Rifa'a Al-Tahtawi and Butrus Al-Bustani.

Shaheed, who won the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation in 2017 in the category of translation from French to Arabic, added that the number of Arabic speakers currently exceeds half a billion. However, the volume of translated works in our region remains weak compared to other peoples of the world, with translated publications not exceeding 1,500 books annually from the Atlantic to the Gulf, while the number reaches tens of thousands in major global languages, he noted.

He continued that the number of centres and publishing houses focusing on translation has increased in some Arab countries in recent years, which has encouraged and revitalised translation; this is a positive civilisational

category, added that the Award was created to promote cultural dialogue and mutual understanding among nations, recognising translation's crucial role in advancing global peace and prosperity.

He said that this award is open to all languages globally, requiring that the target language engage constructively with Arabic through translation or adaptation, indicating that it promotes cultural exchange without discrimination, welcoming Asian and African languages alongside European ones.

Dr Nadia al-Ashiri, a researcher at the King Fahd School of Translation of Abdelmalek Essaadi University in Morocco, explained that translation plays a vital role in bridging gaps between peoples through their diverse languages and cultures, adding that transferring one culture to another encourages mutual understanding and dialogue, reducing fear from unfamiliarity.

The Moroccan researcher affirmed the success of the Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding in building bridges of understanding, dialogue, and coexistence between cultures, by adopting the best translators and critics

**To Advertise**

✉ gtadv@gulf-times.com

**Display**

☎ 44466621 📠 44418811

**Classified**

☎ 44466609 📠 44418811

✉ gtcad@gulf-times.com

**Subscription**

✉ circulation@gulf-times.com

# Austria far-right secures historic victory

AFP  
Vienna

Austria's far-right topped yesterday's national elections, marking a historic victory by beating the ruling conservatives in the Alpine EU nation.

While the Freedom Party (FPÖ) has been in government several times, this is the first time it has won a national vote.

But even with the victory, it is not certain it will be able to form a government.

In line with far-right parties elsewhere in Europe, the FPÖ has seen its popularity surge, fed by voter anger over migration, inflation and Covid restrictions.

The FPÖ stood at 29.1% of votes, against 26.3% for the conservative People's Party (ÖVP), according to projections based on more than 60% of the votes counted.

FPÖ leader Herbert Kickl, who took over the scandal-tainted party in 2021 and led its recovery, said he was ready to form the government with "each and every one" of the parties in parliament.

"It can't be any more clear than today" that the country must "reconnect with the population's needs," Kickl said on national television after the results were announced.

"Our hand is outstretched in all directions," he said.

At the FPÖ headquarters, the



Chairman and top candidate of right-wing populist Freedom Party of Austria Herbert Kickl waves as he arrives to vote at a polling station in Purkersdorf yesterday during Austria's general election. (AFP)

atmosphere was festive, as supporters wearing traditional Austrian dresses celebrated.

"It's a real success... It will be a very, very exciting time" with the FPÖ trying to form the government, said Erik Berglund, 35, a waiter. He hailed sharp-tongued Kickl as the "most competent leader".

Chancellor Karl Nehammer, who managed to close the gap to the FPÖ in recent weeks in opinion polls, said at his party headquarters that he could see the disappointment of party members.

"It was a race to catch-up, and unfortunately we didn't manage it," Nehammer said, vowing to

"continue to fight for the people's interests".

The ÖVP's support has plunged from more than 37% in the last national election in 2019. The Greens with whom they governed in an unprecedented coalition were also punished, falling to 8.3 percent from almost 14% in 2019.

More than 6.3mn of Austria's 9mn inhabitants were eligible to vote. Nehammer reiterated his refusal to work with Kickl, who has called himself the future "Volksskanzler", the people's chancellor, as Adolf Hitler was termed in the 1930s.

Kickl regularly attacks EU sanc-

tions against Russia and espouses the far-right concept of "remigration": expelling people of non-European ethnic backgrounds deemed to have failed to integrate.

The FPÖ had been widely predicted to narrowly top the vote, but yesterday's results for the party were even better than expected.

"This is certainly an earthquake and sends a shockwave through all the other parties," political analyst Thomas Hofer told AFP.

Even though the FPÖ has come first however, analysts predict Nehammer is in a good position to remain chancellor if he forms a coalition with the Social Democrats (SPO) and another party, probably the liberal NEOS.

The SPO reached 21% , according to the projections, while the NEOS have 9% .

It would be the first time a three-party coalition governs Austria, but analysts say such a coalition will have a hard time given the right-wing shift in the country.

A coalition between the far-right and the conservatives still remains a possibility says analysts, given their common platform against immigration and on other issues. Long a political force in Austria, the FPÖ's first government with the conservatives in 2000 set off widespread protests and sanctions from Brussels.

"The FPÖ mainly stirs up fears and never has anything constructive to contribute," researcher

## Parties unite against far-right leader

Leaders of Austrian political parties united to reject the idea of forming a coalition with the head of the far-right Freedom Party (FPÖ) Herbert Kickl after his FPÖ came first in a parliamentary election yesterday.

Projections showed the FPÖ winning for the first time, and with its highest ever vote share. The most closely watched projection, by pollster Foresight for national broadcaster ORF, put it on 28.9% based on a count of 82.8% of ballots, with the conservative People's Party (ÖVP) second on 26.3%.

The FPÖ would need to form a coalition with one or more parties to secure a parliamentary majority and build a stable government, but when party leaders held a discussion on ORF yesterday evening, no potential partners were forthcoming.

"I do not want you in government and I stand by that," the leader of the fourth-placed, liberal Neos, Beate Meinl-Reisinger, said, addressing Kickl directly.

"I simply believe it would not be good for our country."

Of the four parliamentary parties other than the FPÖ, three have long ruled out a coalition with it altogether. Only the ruling ÖVP has left the door open to one, though ÖVP leader Karl Nehammer has said his party will not join a government with Kickl in it, which he repeated after results came in.

The leader of the Social Democrats, Andreas Babler, also called for an alliance against the FPÖ.

Kickl said they should question their democratic credentials. "I think there's something you haven't understood, and this goes for Karl Nehammer as well as you," he responded to the Neos' Meinl-Reisinger.

"You can continue your attacks in my direction but you're forgetting something. I stand here only as an ambassador and as an advocate for many, many voters in this country."

Theres Friesacher, 29, told AFP after voting in Vienna, citing corruption scandals that have frequently engulfed the party.

Both past ÖVP-FPÖ governments were short-lived.

The last one, headed by charismatic then-ÖVP leader Sebastian Kurz, collapsed over a spectacular FPÖ corruption scandal in 2019, after just a year and a half in power.

## Trump launches into 'dark speech' on illegal immigration

Donald Trump has called Democrat Kamala Harris "mentally impaired" and said illegal immigrants are out to cut the throats of ordinary Americans in their own homes as he doubled down on the racially charged rhetoric fuelling his unprecedented bid to regain the US presidency.

Trump was seeking to strike back at Harris after she visited the US-Mexico border on Friday and vowed to do more to control asylum claims and undocumented migrant crossings.

The issue is one of the Democratic vice president's weakest in polling, as she runs neck-and-neck against Trump in the November 5 election. Trump dismissed Harris's speech at the border, swearing and telling supporters in the small town of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, that President Joe Biden and Harris are responsible for an "invasion" of violent criminals.

Anti-immigrant sentiment has been at the core of Trump's appeal in economically depressed, majority-white parts of the country ever since his



Former US president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump delivers remarks at the Prairie du Chien Area Arts Center in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. (AFP)

2016 presidential victory, but the rhetoric is turning ever more extreme as election day nears. The 78-year-old businessman — the first major presidential candidate in US history to be a convicted felon and subject of multiple ongoing court cases — said former California prosecutor Harris, 59, is "dumb."

"Joe Biden became mentally impaired. Kamala was born that way. She was born that way. And if you think about it, only a mentally disabled person could have allowed this to happen to our country," he said.

Harris, meanwhile, spent Saturday at a fundraiser in San Francisco, California, where she

said Trump was using "the same tired playbook we've heard for years."

"This election is about two very different visions for our nation and we see that contrast on the campaign trail," she said. Trump spoke in Wisconsin while flanked on stage by large mugshots of migrants accused of crimes, painting a hellish picture of an America under violent assault — despite a plunge this year in illegal border crossings and what the FBI says is a steep decline in crime overall, particularly murder. "They will walk into your kitchen, they'll cut your throat," Trump said of illegal immigrants.

## Gunmen kill 7 labourers in southwestern Pakistan

Seven labourers were shot dead in southwestern Pakistan, police said yesterday, in a region where ethnic violence is being waged by militants. The labourers who had migrated to Balochistan province from Punjab province for work were attacked at their home in a Panjur district during the night.

"Seven labourers were killed and one injured," said Moazzam Jah Ansari, the head of Balochistan police

based in the provincial capital Quetta. Balochistan is Pakistan's poorest province, despite an abundance of untapped natural resources, where separatist groups have waged attacks on security forces as well as Pakistanis from neighbouring provinces.

Punjab is the largest of the six main ethnic groups in Pakistan and are perceived to dominate business, government and the ranks of the military.

## Hurricane Helene kills at least 69

Damage estimated from \$15bn to more than \$100bn

Reuters  
Flat Rock (North Carolina)

States across the Southeastern US started a massive cleanup and recovery effort yesterday after winds, rain and storm surges from Hurricane Helene snuffed out power for millions, destroyed roads and bridges, and caused catastrophic flooding from Florida to Virginia.

The storm killed at least 69 people, according to state and local officials in South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia. Officials feared still more bodies would be discovered.

Damage estimates ranged from \$15bn to more than \$100bn, insurers and forecasters said over the weekend. Property damage and lost economic output will become clearer as officials assess the destruction.

In North Carolina, the death toll rose to 11 people, Governor Roy Cooper said yesterday. All roads in the western end of the state should be considered closed and will take months to repair, he said. Food and water is being airlifted to those areas.

"This is an unprecedented tragedy that requires an unprecedented response," Cooper said at a press conference.

In Flat Rock, North Carolina, there were widespread blackouts, and people waited hours in line for gas.

"Grocery stores are closed, cell-phone service is out," Chip Frank,



Workers clear Cane Creek road in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene yesterday in Fairview, North Carolina. (AFP)

62, said as he entered his third hour waiting in line. "It all depends on these gas stations. You're not going to be able to go nowhere, and it's just a scary feeling."

The storm has damaged water systems, communications and critical transportation routes across the region, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Army Corps of Engineers will start assessing damage to water systems yesterday to help them get back online, FEMA said.

Roughly 2.7mn customers remained without power yesterday, a US Energy Department official said, down 40% from Friday after unprecedented storm surges, ferocious winds and perilous conditions extended hundreds of miles inland.

Days of driving rain followed after Helene slammed into Florida's Gulf Coast on Thursday night, destroying homes that had stood for decades.

A total of 11 people died in Flor-

ida, Governor Ron DeSantis said on Saturday in the Gulf Coast city of Perry, which saw 15-foot storm surges, larger than those seen in other hurricanes in recent years.

In Horseshoe Beach, on Florida's Gulf Coast about 70 miles west of Gainesville, Charlene Huggins surveyed the debris of her blown-out house, pulling a jacket out of the rubble on Saturday.

"Five generations lived in this house, from my grandmother, my father, myself, my daughter, son and my granddaughter," Huggins said, holding a chipped glass cake stand. "So there's a lot of memories here. It just breaks your heart."

Not far away, James Ellenburg stood on the property where his own family has lived for four generations. "I took my first step right here in this yard."

In coastal Steinhatchee, a storm surge - a wall of seawater pushed ashore by winds - of eight to 10 feet moved mobile homes, the weather service said.

## Sheinbaum: cool-headed scientist who will lead Mexico

Claudia Sheinbaum, the former city mayor who will take office tomorrow as Mexico's first woman president, is an environmental scientist and dedicated leftist known for keeping a cool head in times of crisis.

Sheinbaum, 62, is a close ally of outgoing President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, but considered more pragmatic and less populist.

"The driving force of both is the fight for a more just society, but with important nuances," analyst and author Jorge Zepeda Patterson wrote in his latest book *Presidenta*.

While Lopez Obrador hails from rural southern Mexico, "Sheinbaum comes from an intellectual university environment, middle class, cosmopolitan, modern and essentially urban," he added. She has a "more modern left" agenda that includes the issues of feminism and the environment, according to Zepeda Patterson.

Sheinbaum was born to Bulgarian and Lithuanian Jewish migrants in Mexico City during the turmoil of the early 1960s, when students and other activists were seeking to end the Institutional Revolutionary Party's long grip on power. "I am a daughter of 1968," she often repeats in reference to the student movement.

Her mother, renowned biologist Annie



WOMAN OF THE MOMENT: Mexico's President-elect Claudia Sheinbaum speaks after receiving the certificate of her victory in the presidential election at the Metropolitan Theater in Mexico City. (AFP)

Pardo, lost her job as a university professor for denouncing the massacre of students.

"At home, we talked about politics morning, noon and night," Sheinbaum was quoted as saying in a biography. Guillermo Robles, a former classmate at the prestigious National Autonomous University of Mexico, remembers Sheinbaum as a serious student. "Neither she nor I were that into

socializing with everyone," he said. Sheinbaum's magnetism as a young woman lay in her left-wing political convictions, Robles said. She spent several years as a researcher in California, where she honed her English language skills. In 2000, Lopez Obrador, then the newly elected mayor of the capital, appointed Sheinbaum as Mexico City's environment secretary, with an agenda to reduce pollution.

She returned to academic life after Lopez Obrador's defeat in the 2006 presidential election.

Sheinbaum was a contributing author of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

In 2017, after she returned to politics, Sheinbaum faced criticism when a powerful earthquake caused a school to collapse in a southern Mexico City district where she was the local mayor, killing 26 people, including 19 children.

Sheinbaum denied that irregularities in the construction were her office's responsibility, and went on to be elected mayor of all of Mexico City the following year.

Her use of scientific methods and technological tools was seen in the Covid-19 pandemic response in the capital, though it did not prevent a high mortality rate.

"She has an impressive capacity for analysis, reading data and finding very practical solutions," said Tatiana Clouthier, a former economy minister who was a spokesperson for her election campaign. "Despite being a scientist, she is something of a social fighter, which makes a very good combination of heart and mind," Clouthier added.

In 2021, while Sheinbaum was Mexico City mayor, disaster struck again when a

section of elevated metro track collapsed, killing 26 people and injuring dozens. Sheinbaum rejected accusations that budget cuts were to blame.

She negotiated with the construction company owned by business magnate Carlos Slim that built the line to obtain compensation for victims and avoid lawsuits.

"Governing is about making decisions. You have to make a decision and assume the pressures that can come from it," Sheinbaum said.

During a series of heated debates before the June election, Sheinbaum's main opponent Xochitl Galvez branded her "cold and heartless," saying she lacked sympathy for child cancer patients and earthquake victims.

"I would call you the ice lady," Galvez said. Sheinbaum remained unflappable and also showed a warmer side at times during the campaign, kissing and hugging supporters, and revealing a nerdy sense of humour in TikTok videos.

She shared videos with the news of her marriage in November 2023 to her university sweetheart, Jesus Tarriba. Robles, her former classmate, said success had never gone to her head. "She does have love for Mexico. She's not ambitious like many politicians. Claudia is not even remotely like traditional politicians," he said.

# PROMOTION ITEMS FOR

يبدأ العرض من: ٢٢٤/٩/٢٠٢٤ العرض صالح لجميع فروع سفاري الدوحة  
Promotion available at all Safari outlets on: 30-09-2024  
قد يكون هناك حدود للمشتريات العرض ساري حتى نفاذ الكمية  
Purchase limit may apply, Offer valid until stocks last.



SCAN HERE



More Than 1000  
Products Are Available

Cool! 😎



Love it! 😍

QR  
10

QR  
20

QR  
30



كريم الجمال دوف ١٥٠ مل × ٢ حبة  
Dove Beauty Cream 150ml x 2pcs



اوسكار محمصة خبز ٢ شريحة  
Oscar OTW2038 2 Slice Bread Toaster



روتبونت ترمس مشكل  
Rotpunkt Flask Asrtd.



كعكة التوت البري ٥٠٠ جم (تكفي لـ ٦-٨ أشخاص)  
Raspberry Cake 500gm  
( Good For 6-8 Person )



زيتون اسباني اسود / اخضر ٥٠٠ جم  
Green/Black Olive Spain 500gm



سمك دنيس تركي ١ كجم  
Fresh Sea Bream Turkey 1kg



دانا مياه شرب ١.٥ لتر × ١٨ حبة  
Dana Pure Drinking Mineral Water 1.5ltr x 18pcs



ايجلو ايس كريم مشكل ١ لتر × ٢ حبة  
Igloo Ice Cream Asstd 1ltr x 2pcs



ساديا دجاج شواية ١٤٠٠ جم × ١ حبة  
Sadia Chicken Griller 1400gm x 1pc



روزاري برجر دجاج ١ كجم × ١ حبة  
Rosary Frozen Chicken Burger 1kg x 1pc



ماكربل طازج عمان ١ كجم  
Fresh Mackerel Oman 1kg



امريكانا ناجتس دجاج ٤٠٠ جم + ٢٠٠ جم  
Americana Chicken Nuggets 400gm+200gm



بريتانيا بسكوت  
قهوة كراك ٢٩.٥ جم × ١٨ حبة  
Britannia Biscoffe Coffee Crack 29.5gm x 18pcs



كادبوري ديري ميلك بابلي ٢٨ جم × ١٢ حبة  
Cadbury Dairy Milk Bubbly 28gm x 12pcs



جولدن تشويس مكسرات مشكلة ٣٠٠ جم × ٢ حبة  
Golden Choice Mixed Nuts 300gm x 2pcs



بطاطا حلوة مصرية ١ كجم  
Sweet Potato Egypt 1kg



فستق ليمون فيندوكي ٥٠٠ جم  
Pistachio Lemon (Findoki) 500 Gm



كاجو بالقشرة (١٨٠) ٥٠٠ جم  
Cashew With Skin (W 180) 500 Gm



يارا زيت دوار الشمس ١.٨ لتر × ١ حبة  
Yara Pure Sunflower Oil 1.8ltr x 1pc



دابور املا زيت الشعر ٣٠٠ مل × ٢ حبة  
Dabur Amla Hair Oil 300ml x 2pcs



شمام ايراني ١ كجم  
Sweet Melon Iran 1kg



تايد مسحوق غسيل ١.٥ كجم × ١ حبة  
Tide Detergent Powder 1.5kg x 1pc



اولويز قوط صحية ٣٢ حبة  
Always Thick Purple Sanitary Pad 32'S



كوهينور اريز بسمتي ٤.٥ كجم  
Kohinoor Everyday Basmati Rice 4.5kg



سكين سولينجن ٨ حبة  
Solingen S-Solid Knife 8pcs



توت كينيا (حوالي ١٢٥ حرام) ١ عبوة  
Blueberry Kenya (Approx: 125gm) 1pk

## Shop n' Drive WIN 25

Shop with Confidence License number 14001

Spend QR.50/- & get an E-Raffle coupon to Win 25 MG 2024 Car

Fourth Lucky Draw on: 23-10-2024 at Safari Hypermarket, Barwa Village

Promotion Started, Valid until: 21-01-2025 This promotion is available at all Safari outlets across Qatar

Win 4 Car in Every Lucky Draw (First Prize: MG RX8 2024 Car x 6 Winners, Second Prize: MG5 2024 Car x 19 Winners)

سابيل سوليد ١٠٠ مل + مزبل عرق ١٥٠ مل  
Sapil Solid 100ml+Deodorant 150ml

ساعة ذكية ٩ ماكس ١ حبة مشكل  
Smart Watch 9 Max Asrtd. 1pc

Safari Mall, Abu Hamour, Tel: +974 44191441, Safari Hypermarket, Salwa Road, Tel: +974 44099088, Safari Hypermarket, Al Khor, Tel: +974 44482555, Safari Hypermarket, Barwa Village, Tel: +974 44118704, Safari Hypermarket, Industrial Area, Tel: +974 44689058

www.facebook.com/safarihypermarket www.instagram.com/safarimallqatar