

‘National documentation and its strategic management aid sustainable development’

DOHA: The Assistant Secretary-General of the National Archives of Qatar (NAQ), Aisha Khalid Al Saad, said the launch of the 1st NAQ strategy 2025–2030, under the theme “Memory of the Future”, works to advance the documentation system and ensure the enduring legacy of Qatar and the region.

The Assistant Secretary-General said the strategy is a cornerstone for preserving national identity and managing it strategically, which supports sustainable development.

She added that a national archives and records administration’s work transcends mere documentation to being an essential player in shaping the future and maintaining collective memory, stemming from the fact that the administration functions as the institutional memory of the state, providing a reliable foundation for decision and policy-making.

Al Saad said NAQ is opening

a new chapter with the official launch of the strategy, which includes more than 24 projects.

The NAQ Assistant Secretary-General said preserving and managing national documents strategically supports sustainable development, by providing accurate data for decision-makers, enhancing transparency, enabling research, and enriching the country’s cultural identity, which is why NAQ focuses on adopting the latest technologies and developing integrated policies to ensure easy access to documents, and enhancing Qatar’s role as an advanced regional hub in document archiving.

She said investing in this field translates into preserving national history, supporting the present, and planning for a future based on institutional knowledge and digital innovation, adding that data governance is an integral part of

ensuring the safe and effective preservation of national information.

The NAQ Assistant Secretary-General added that clear governance frameworks help define stakeholders’ roles and responsibilities, improving the efficiency of document management and reducing risks associated with data loss or misuse. By adopting international best practices in documenting and managing data, institutions become better able to analyse historical data and using it for strategic planning and informed decision-making, she said. She stressed NAQ’s commitment to preparing national competencies capable of leading the future of document management in Qatar and facing the sector’s challenges, by offering specialised training programmes that keep pace with advancements in digital archiving and document management. — *QNA*



Officials during the meeting.

National Committee for International Humanitarian Law meets

DOHA: The National Committee for International Humanitarian Law held its first meeting of 2025 at its headquarters in the Ministry of Justice, under the chairmanship of Undersecretary of the Ministry of Justice and Chairperson of the Committee H E Saeed bin Abdullah Al Suwaidi.

During the meeting, the Chairman of the Committee commended the achievements of the committee members and the activities and events they organised during the committee’s work programme in its previous sessions.

The committee also reviewed the agenda for the

first meeting of 2025, which included the activities proposed to be organised during the current year, to enhance the Committee’s role in spreading and raising awareness among society and parties concerned of the provisions and principles of international humanitarian law. — *QNA*

Qataris join US govt leadership programme to drive innovation, strengthen US-Qatar ties

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: A distinguished group of young Qatari professionals participated in the US Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), the premier professional exchange initiative that fosters collaboration and knowledge-sharing between global leaders and their American counterparts.

Covering diverse themes such as sustainability, women’s leadership, ethical media, entrepreneurship, and governance transparency, the program empowers participants and strengthens US ties with emerging global changemakers.

Among this year’s participants was Ghanim Al Sulaiti, an entrepreneur and advocate for sustainability, who joined the IVLP on The Climate Crisis:

Working Together for Future Generations. Reflecting on his experience, Al Sulaiti stated, “Being part of the IVLP program with the US Embassy has been an eye-opening experience. Meeting changemakers, founders, and leaders who are driving real impact reminded me why I started this journey with Enbat—to prove that plant-based food isn’t just a lifestyle choice, it’s one of the most powerful ways we can reduce our environmental footprint. Seeing how sustainability is being tackled globally has only strengthened my belief that businesses can and should be a force for good.”

On the theme of Mentoring Women for Political and Social Leadership, Khadeja Abuhaliqa, Manager of the Aladaam Youth Ambassador Program, found the experience enriching. She



FROM LEFT: Sheikhha Najla Al Thani, Rooda Al Qebaisi, and Ghanim Al Sulaiti

remarked, “The IVLP deepened my understanding of how mentorship and civic engagement empower women. While the US fosters leadership through grassroots activism, Qatar’s approach is driven by policy initiatives and the semi-government sector. This experience reinforced my commitment to expanding mentorship within the Youth Ambassador Program,

equipping young leaders, especially women, with the skills and confidence for political and social leadership.”

Fellow participant Rooda Al Qebaisi echoed this sentiment, emphasising the program’s impact: “The 2024 IVLP has been a transformative experience, offering invaluable insights and fostering connections across cultures. It has truly

broadened my perspective.”

Sheikha Najla Al Thani, a participant in the Transparency and Accountability in Government IVLP, emphasised the critical role of international collaboration in strengthening governance frameworks.

She emphasised, “The IVLP program has not only broadened our understanding of the importance of

whistleblowing but has also highlighted its vital role in fostering transparency and accountability within governance systems. By encouraging individuals to come forward with information on misconduct or corruption, we can build stronger, more resilient institutions that serve the public interest and uphold ethical standards.”

The IVLP serves as a vital bridge for US-Qatar relations, enabling leaders from various sectors to engage in discussions that drive innovation and positive change.

These exchanges not only support Qatar’s national development but also contribute to America’s global leadership by building lasting partnerships, enhancing economic ties, and promoting shared solutions to global challenges.

PHCC launches national bowel cancer awareness campaign to encourage early detection

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC), through the Screen for Life Program, has launched a national campaign to raise awareness of the bowel cancer, which is the one of the most common cancers among women and men in Qatar.

The National Breast and Bowel Cancer Screening Program also known as ‘Screen for Life’ is a lifesaving, population-based program that aims to promote education, awareness, and encouragement of early detection of breast and bowel cancer in Qatar. The program is being conducted under Qatar’s National Cancer Program and in accordance with the country’s National Health Strategy, which represents a shift towards preventive and community-based care. Therefore, on a yearly basis, the program is responsible of launching a nationwide campaign to raise awareness about breast cancer and the importance of screening.

During the month of March, the campaign will utilise a blend of traditional and digital marketing strategies and will feature strategic partnerships



with prominent governmental and private entities, including Qatar Museums. In addition, a series of educational social media posts will be posted over the month and awareness booths will be set at different health centres and public lectures during and after the month of Ramadan.

Bowel cancer is one of the most common cancers in Qatar among men and women, with early detection significantly increasing the chances of successful treatment. In fact, when diagnosed early, the survival rate can be as high as 90%.

The campaign aims to encourage participation in a free screening test called the Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT). This test is offered to all men and women in Qatar aged 50 to 74, who show no

symptoms of bowel cancer and have not had a bowel cancer screening in the last two years or a colonoscopy in the past 10 years.

Director of Screening Programs Dr. Shaikha Abu Shaikha (pictured) encouraged all people to get to know the main symptoms of bowel cancer, that might include: Blood in the stool or rectal bleeding, change in everyday bowel habits: diarrhea, constipation, or a combination of that lasts more than two weeks, feeling that the bowel is not empty, abdominal pain, unexplained weight loss, unexplained anemia, weakness or fatigue.

She said, “It is important to always remember that having one of these symptoms does not mean that you have cancer, it could be related to other conditions. This is why, we urge you to call 107 to consult a family physician. And then the physician will do the clinical examination and will ask for referral to Hamad Medical Corporation if needed.

The Breast and Bowel cancer screening suites are available in four different health centers across Qatar: Al Wakrah, Rawdat Al Khail, Muaither, Laibeib and Al Sadd.

Qatar National Library celebrates Ramadan with community

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: This Ramadan, Qatar National Library (QNL) is hosting a series of interactive activities to bring the community together in celebration. From interactive competitions to cultural events, the Library is offering families, children and art lovers a unique opportunity to participate in enriching experiences throughout the holy month.

The activities kick off with the “Guess the Leader” competition for children aged 6 to 11. The challenge, which runs every Monday and Wednesday from March 3 to 26, is a test of

children’s knowledge of Islamic heroes. To participate, simply follow @qnl_children on Instagram, answer the questions posted about Islamic leaders, and submit your answers along with the book call number from the Conquering Heroes series available at the Children’s Library. Exciting prizes await the winners, who will be announced between April 13 and 17. On March 13, the Library is celebrating Garangao, which marks the halfway point of Ramadan for fasting children.

Traditionally celebrated by children going from house to house to collect treats, the

Library is marking the occasion with a host of cultural and artistic activities for all ages.

Finally, on March 15, art lovers have the opportunity to learn how to design Eid cards to share with family and friends when the Library hosts a hands-on workshop on using Canva, the popular and free online graphic design tool.

There’s also still the chance to see “From Material to Market: The Art of Book-Making in Morocco,” the Qatar National Library exhibition that brings to life the centuries-old traditions and techniques of book production in Maghribi tradition.

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Aspetar supports community sports, promotes healthy lifestyles during Ramadan

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: Aspetar, Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Hospital, continues to play a pivotal role in supporting community sports activities and promoting healthy lifestyles during the holy month of Ramadan.

This commitment underscores Aspetar's dedication to fostering community sports and enhancing the culture of health and fitness, becoming a vital companion for athletes and the

public on a balanced, healthy Ramadan journey.

Aspetar leads the Ramadan sports scene by providing comprehensive medical support for numerous Ramadan sports events, including the Al Kass Football and Padel Tournaments and the Ramadan Festival at Aspire, along with a series of diverse sports competitions.

Aspetar's active presence reflects the hospital's vision of playing sports an integral part



Aspetar's scientific journal has released a special Ramadan issue.

of community life and encouraging everyone to adopt healthy and active lifestyles.

Aspetar offers athletes and the public its distinguished guide for physical activity during Ramadan, which is considered a reliable scientific reference.

This guide serves as a

compass, guiding individuals on how to maintain their physical fitness and enjoy safe and effective sports activities during the holy month.

For the fifteenth consecutive year, Aspetar has launched its "Healthy Ramadan" campaign through local media and Aspetar's social media platforms, featuring a variety of television programmes, sports, and health tips and guidelines presented in an interactive and engaging manner.

This awareness campaign reflects Aspetar's commitment to effective community engagement, providing valuable information to help individuals make the most of Ramadan in terms of health and sports.

Additionally, Aspetar's scientific journal has released a special Ramadan issue, featuring a collection of scientific research and studies conducted by Aspetar researchers on fasting and sports, as well as nutrition and mental health.

Centrepont introduces 'A Ramadan of Radiance' – celebrating inner glow of season

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: Centrepont has unveiled its newest campaign, "A Ramadan of Radiance," celebrating the special light that shines within each of us during the holy month.

Inspired by the unique beauty and energy people radiate during this season of reflection and togetherness, Centrepont's campaign captures a blend of tradition, style, and elegance across its latest Ramadan and Eid collections.

With offerings from Babyshop, Splash, Lifestyle, and Shoemart, each brand invites families to embrace the spirit of Ramadan while looking and feeling their best.

Splash introduces a modest yet contemporary collection for those who seek to blend heritage with modern flair. The collection is crafted with sustainable materials and features a stunning palette of rich jewel tones, delicate pastels, opulent whites, and earthy textures. Women can indulge in breezy dresses, luxe maxis, intricate kaftans, and versatile co-ords, perfect for Suhoor or Iftar gatherings.

For men, Splash offers a selection of modern tailoring fused with timeless elegance, including classic thobes, tailored suits, and chic separates designed for both tradition and trend.

Babyshop's Ramadan collection

captures the magic of the season for young trendsetters and parents alike. Featuring polished designs and glamorous touches, the collection offers a wide variety of elegant options, from beautifully embroidered jackets and puffy dresses to stylish suits and coordinated sets.

Accessories like matching hats, bow ties, and hair accessories that add charm to every outfit, while thoughtfully designed options for infants and toddlers ensure even the youngest family members are dressed to impress for the gatherings and celebrations.

Lifestyle adds an extra layer of radiance to Ramadan and Eid with a range of exclusive cosmetics, skincare, and bath and body products. Designed to enhance your personal glow, the collection includes highlighters, shimmering palettes, and festive nail colours.

The jewellery range features statement necklaces, delicate earrings, and intricate bangles, while festive bags in metallics, velvets, and jewel-toned finishes complete your look.

Home essentials like fragrance sets, ornate trays, and festive décor elevate your gatherings, making every Iftar and Eid celebration unforgettable. Lifestyle's curated gift sets ensure you have the perfect presents for loved ones.

Shoemart ensures every step you take during the season is stylish and



Centrepont's newest campaign captures a blend of tradition, style, and elegance across its latest Ramadan and Eid collections.

comfortable. Women's footwear features glittery heels, beaded sandals, and elegant handbag sets for a coordinated look. Men's offerings range from Arabic-inspired slip-ons and traditional sandals to modern loafers, blending comfort with sophistication.

The children's collection stands out with metallic finishes, pastel hues, and sparkling details, making sure even the

youngest family members shine.

As your go-to shopping destination, Centrepont's Ramadan collection combines elegance, comfort, and a spirit of celebration to ensure you're prepared for every occasion.

People can discover the beauty of "A Ramadan of Radiance" at Centrepont stores across Qatar, UAE, KSA, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Oman, or shop online.

Qatari Forum for Authors holding literary, religious events in Ramadan

DOHA: The Qatari Forum for Authors has announced a diverse lineup of events for Ramadan 2025, aimed at enriching knowledge and deepening cultural and religious awareness within society.

This year's Ramadan programme features a range of literary, intellectual, and religious activities that highlight various aspects of literature and culture while aligning with the spiritual essence of the holy month.

Dr. Aisha Jassim Al Kuwari, General Manager of the forum, emphasised that Ramadan presents an opportunity to strengthen religious and cultural ties. She affirmed the forum's commitment to organising events that resonate with the spirit of the month and contribute to fostering literary and intellectual engagement, thereby enhancing cultural and religious enrichment within the community.

Among the key events is the "Qotouf" Initiative, led by renowned media figure Muhammad Shabrawi. This initiative explores various facets of literature and culture, covering topics such as the relationship between classical poets Abu Al Ala Al Ma'arri and Al Mutanabbi, the historical rivalry between Basran and Kufian scholars in Arabic grammar and its impact on contemporary Arab culture, as well as a selection of cultural discussions relevant to the modern era.

Additionally, the forum will host a weekly religious and cultural programme presented by author Dr. Sultan bin Awad Durai, focusing on the significance of the Holy Quran in the lives of Muslims. The programme will encourage Quranic memorisation and reflection while addressing various religious and cultural themes.

Another highlight of the programme is a special cultural event featuring Dr. Turabah Ammar, which will delve into Qatar's scientific and cultural renaissance and its pivotal role in advancing Arab and Islamic culture.

Through these initiatives, the Qatari Forum for Authors seeks to promote intellectual discourse, celebrate cultural heritage, and provide a meaningful Ramadan experience that inspires both spiritual and literary engagement. — *QNA*

MOCI announces recall of Mercedes S-Class, 2021 model

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in cooperation with Nasser Bin Khaled and Sons Automobiles, Qatar's Mercedes dealership, has announced the recall of Mercedes S-Class, 2021 model, as the vehicle's electrical system battery software is not compatible with the current serial production configuration, and it is possible that different versions of the software may have been downloaded by mistake that are not supported within this configuration leading to malfunctions. The Ministry said it will coordinate with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair works.



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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 Mushlaryat Portal can "Buy Tender Online and download Tender Document" from QatarEnergy website (Mushlaryat Portal).

Effective from 1st July 2023, bids submitted by a Local company (companies incorporated in Qatar) acting as Tenderer in accordance with this Invitation to Tender, will not be accepted by QatarEnergy without any further notification, if such companies are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal (<https://icv.qa/en-US>) by the specified Original Tender Closing Date or Original due date for submission of COMMERCIAL Package in case of two stage Tendering as per ITT. However, any Local company that has been established within last two (2) years is exempt from this mandatory ICV certification requirement.

SL. NO.	TENDER NO.	TENDER SALE PERIOD		TENDER CLOSING DATE	TENDER BOND	BOND CURR.	TENDER FEE	FEE CURR.
		START DATE	END DATE					
1.	DT25/00003	03.03.2025	09.03.2025	24.03.2025		N/A	100.00	QAR

Title of Tender: **SUPPLY OF 12FT X 12FT MOORING BUOYS**

Mid-Tender Meeting Location: To be advised if required

Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time: To be advised if required

* 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.qatarenergy.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/Mushlaryat Portal only.

* Brief Scopes of Work for the above tenders are posted on the QatarEnergy website/Mushlaryat 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 Mushlaryat 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/>



قطر للطاقة
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LNG

QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	SUP/C/ITD/6967/25 PROVISION OF ADOBE SOFTWARE LICENSE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MAINTENANCE SUPPORT	02/03/2025 to 27/03/2025	0	0	27/03/2025

Scope of Work:
Tenderer shall provide subscription services of Adobe license and annual maintenance support including provision for future Adobe license requirements on call-off basis.

Tentative award date: Q4 2025

Contract duration: Three (3) years

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

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

Note: 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/>

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Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar students offer AI solutions to manage crises and enhance education

The Hackathon was held in collaboration between Carnegie Mellon University and the Hamad Bin Jassim Centre for Computing Science Education.

DOHA: The winning teams of the Lifeline Hackathon 2025 presented innovative solutions that employ artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to address challenges in crisis-affected areas around the world.

Organised by Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, a Qatar Foundation partner university, the competition brought together 264 students from 44 educational institutions in Qatar, representing a variety of academic disciplines.

Over three weeks, the participating students collaborated to develop practical and effective solutions that combined multiple disciplines.

The Hackathon was held in collaboration between Carnegie Mellon University and the Hamad Bin Jassim Centre for Computing Science Education, which was an initiative launched in partnership between Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar and the Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charitable Foundation.

Managing Director of Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charitable Foundation Saeed Muthkar Al Hajri, expressed his pride in this competition, saying: “We are proud to support the



Saeed Muthkar Al Hajri

“Lifeline Hackathon 2025” competition, which allows students to apply their knowledge in creating technical solutions that have a tangible and fundamental impact on the lives of people around the world.”

Regarding the Life Line initiative, he stressed that this initiative, which is based on linking the elements of technology and innovation with humanitarian work, represents a qualitative turning point in the importance of charitable work as an effective element in encouraging the educational process based on innovation and employing it in various fields, especially humanitarian ones.

For his part, Michael Trick, Dean of Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, stressed that the university adopts an approach that focuses on addressing the humanitarian challenges facing affected groups through research and innovation.

He said at the award ceremony, “At



Michael Trick



Dr. Khaled Harras



Carnegie Mellon University, we believe that true innovation is what makes a tangible difference. We dedicate our knowledge and skills to presenting ideas that have a positive impact on the world, and this is what the Lifeline Hackathon embodies, as students use their technological creativity to serve the communities most in need.”

Dr. Khaled Harras, Director of the Hamad Bin Jassim Center for Computer Science Education, Professor of Computer Science and Senior Associate Dean at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, praised the competing teams, saying: “I am very happy with the achievement of the first-year students who demonstrated exceptional ability to innovate and achieved advanced positions in the competition.”

“Carnegie Mellon University laid the foundation for AI technologies more than 50 years ago, and today we see

the continuation of these efforts through our students’ solutions that contribute to alleviating suffering and improving people’s lives,” added Harras, the academic advisor to the competition organising team.

WINNING PROJECTS

First place went to a team of first-year students from Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar for a project that combines artificial intelligence and solar energy to support teachers in areas with poor infrastructure and connectivity.

The team, consisting of Davide Prato, Marco Casagrande, Madina Mirzatieva and Billard Rotaissier, developed a prototype of a smart learning platform to enhance education in disadvantaged environments. The project outperformed 25 other qualified teams, as judged by a jury of 22 experts.

Second place went to a team from Qatar University for an innovative project that improves the efficiency of emergency response. Students Fatima Ahmed, Shada Ibrahim, Rania Marabet, and Hala Sobeih created an interactive platform based on artificial intelligence that connects patients, paramedics, and emergency medical teams, integrating a smart ChatBot to collect health data and provide first aid instructions accurately and effectively.

The third place went to another team of first-year students from Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, including Sherkhan Pakdolt, Soon Choi, Enkhmonkh Enkhbayar and Furqan Saeed, who presented a model for a crisis-resistant communications network that provides flexible and reliable solutions in areas with traditional communications outages, in addition to providing AI-powered medical support.

The winning teams received prizes worth QR75,000 provided by the Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council, while the WISE Innovation Summit for Education, Education Above All Foundation, and Qatar Red Crescent provided significant support by providing expertise in crisis management and education, in addition to mentoring, arbitration, and workshops.

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar has collaborated with the Qatar Computing Research Institute, the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology in Qatar, and Deen Developers to organise a series of preparatory workshops prior to the final round that focused on core topics such as computing in crises and risk management.

The hackathon reflected a spirit of collaboration and innovation, with all students forming multidisciplinary teams to address issues in education and crisis management. The awards ceremony concluded with a panel discussion featuring representatives from WISE and Education Above All on how to harness innovation to achieve a sustainable positive impact.



Sheikh Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani Primary Health Care Centre provides quality services in Azraq camp in Jordan

- 4,543 patients visited specialised medical clinics in January.
- 2,917 women patients benefited from the centre's services.
- The centre organises visits for several doctors from abroad.
- Several awareness events on training in treating babies with developmental dislocation.

Sheikh Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani Primary Health Care Centre provides free primary health care services to Syrian refugees in Azraq camp in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at a high level of quality to meet the essential needs of the camp residents.

This is in addition to organising many awareness events and added services to improve the health status of the camp residents, most notably organising visits by several doctors from abroad from various specialities.

Medical services are also provided for heart diseases such as installing heart batteries for children and doctors specialising in ophthalmology and dermatology.

The centre organised several events on training in treating babies with developmental dislocation. The centre's managers confirmed



that they would continue implementing pioneering initiatives in parallel with improving its medical services constantly.

STATISTICS

In a statistic provided by the centre on the medical services provided during January 2025 and the number of beneficiaries, the report indicated that the total number of visitors to various specialized medical clinics reached 4,543 patients.

The children's clinic received 758 children while the number of women benefiting from the centre's services reached 2,917 patients, the number of adult men benefiting from the centre's services reached 868 patients.

As many as 3,020 prescriptions were dispensed to patients through the pharmacy during the same period of the current year.

MEDICAL SPECIALITIES

The centre provides many medical services through specialized clinics in paediatrics, gynaecology, general medicine, and dentistry, in addition to an emergency and first aid department, as well as a unit for providing vaccinations and inoculations and a pharmacy for free medicines to visitors and patients.

Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charitable Foundation is continuously working to improve these services, which ensures that various health complaints they suffer from are dealt with quickly and effectively, which will contribute to them obtaining these services according to the highest health standards.

This is what the Foundation is keen on through these periodic visits aimed at identifying the increasing needs of the centre and providing the most important medical specialities that cover most health conditions that require specialised medical intervention.



Israel suspends aid to Gaza as first phase of truce ends

GAZA STRIP: Israel said yesterday that it was suspending the entry of supplies into Gaza, with deadly attacks reported in the territory after it and Hamas hit an impasse over how to proceed with their fragile ceasefire.

As the 42-day first phase of the ceasefire drew to a close, Israel gave its backing to an extension it said was put forward by US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, which would cover the holy month of Ramadan and the Jewish holiday of Passover.

Hamas has repeatedly rejected an extension, instead favouring a transition to the truce deal's second phase, which would see the release of all remaining hostages and a more permanent end to the fighting in the war-ravaged Gaza Strip.

"Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu decided that, from this morning, all entry of goods and supplies into the Gaza Strip will be suspended," his office said in a statement.

"If Hamas persists with its refusal, there will be other consequences," it added.

Hamas slammed the move, saying in a statement that the "decision to suspend humanitarian aid is cheap blackmail, a war crime and a blatant coup against the (ceasefire) agreement".

Gaza's civil defence agency, meanwhile, reported "artillery shelling and gunfire from Israeli tanks" east of Khan Yunis city, in the southern Gaza Strip.

The Palestine Red Crescent, however, reported one person killed in an Israeli drone strike in the area, and one more killed in another town nearby.

Gaza's health ministry later reported at least four killed and six wounded in Israeli attacks yesterday.

Hamas called on "mediators and the international community to pressure" Israel to "put an end to these punitive, immoral measures against more than two million people in the Gaza Strip".

Its spokesman Hazem Qassem later said Israel "bears responsibility for the consequences of its decision on the people of the Strip and the fate of its prisoners".

A senior Hamas official had earlier told AFP the Palestinian group was prepared to release all remaining hostages in a single swap during the second phase.

At a demonstration in Tel Aviv on Saturday evening, supporters and family members of the hostages demanded the government secure their freedom.

"The current crisis in the negotiations is a deliberate crisis, orchestrated and manipulated by Netanyahu," said Einav Zangauker, whose son Matan is still in Gaza.

Under the first phase, Hamas returned 25 living hostages and the bodies of eight others, in exchange for the release of about 1,800 Palestinian prisoners.

More than 15 months of war created



Trucks carrying humanitarian aid line up on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing with the Gaza Strip yesterday, ahead of Israel suspending the entry of supplies into the Palestinian enclave. (AFP)

a humanitarian crisis in Gaza, with the UN repeatedly warning the territory was on the brink of famine before the ceasefire allowed a surge of aid to enter.

The suspension of aid comes as Palestinians in Gaza, alongside much of the Muslim world, mark the second day of the holy month of Ramadan, during which the faithful observe a dawn-to-dusk fast.

On Saturday evening, Gazans gathered amid destroyed buildings for a fast-breaking iftar meal as they entered

their second Ramadan under the shadow of war. "We are here in the midst of destruction and rubble, and we are steadfast despite the pain and our wounds," said Beit Lahia resident Mohammed Abu Al Jidyan.

"Here we are eating iftar on our land and we will not leave this place."

The war has left much of Gaza in ruins, displaced the vast majority of its residents and killed more than 48,388 people, mostly civilians, according to the territory's health ministry, figures the UN has deemed reliable. — **AFP**

Iran lawmakers sack minister over economic woes

TEHRAN: Iran's parliament sacked the country's finance minister yesterday after impeaching him over soaring inflation and a plunging currency, state television reported.

Economy and Finance Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati lost a vote of confidence, with 182 of 273 parliamentarians present backing his removal.

On the black market on Sunday, the Iranian rial was trading at more than 920,000 to the US dollar, compared with less than 600,000 in mid-2024.

Earlier, President Masoud Pezeshkian defended Hemmati, a former central bank governor, telling lawmakers: "We are in a full-scale (economic) war with the enemy... we must take a war formation".

"The economic problems of today's society are not related to one person and we cannot blame it all on one person." Lawmakers took turns angrily censuring Hemmati, blaming him for Iran's economic woes.

"People cannot tolerate the new wave of inflation; the rise in the price of foreign currency and other goods must be controlled," said one parliamentarian, Ruhollah Motefakker-Azad.



Iran's Finance Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati delivers a speech to members of parliament in Tehran yesterday, during impeachment proceedings against him. (AFP)

"People cannot afford to buy medicine and medical equipment," said another, Fatemeh Mohammadbeigi.

Pezeshkian took office in July with the ambition of reviving the economy and ending some Western-imposed sanctions.

But the depreciation of the rial has only intensified, especially since the fall in December of Iran ally Bashar al-Assad of Syria.

"The most important problem of the country's economy is inflation, and that is

chronic inflation, which has plagued our economy for years," the economy minister added.

Decades of US-led sanctions have battered Iran's economy, with double-digit inflation causing an increase in consumer prices since Washington pulled out of a landmark 2015 nuclear deal in 2018.

"I personally believe in dialogue, and I will continue to do so," said Pezeshkian during the impeachment session.

"However, we will stand by the position the supreme leader has taken regarding America until the end, and we will not do anything else."

The Iranian economy has since 2018 been under pressure from high inflation, serious unemployment and the depreciation of its currency, which weighs heavily on everyday Iranians.

In that year, then Economy Minister Masoud Karbasian lost a vote of confidence during an impeachment session over the dire economic conditions.

According to the Iranian constitution, a dismissal of the minister would be effective immediately, with a caretaker appointed until the government chooses a replacement. — **AFP**

Eight dead in India avalanche as rescue operation ends

DEHRADUN: Rescuers recovered the eighth and final body from the site of an avalanche in a remote area of northern India, the army said Sunday, marking the end of a marathon operation in sub-zero temperatures.

More than 50 workers were submerged under snow and debris after the avalanche hit a construction camp on Friday near Mana village on the border with Tibet in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand.

Authorities had revised down the number of workers on site at the time of the avalanche from 55 to 54 after one worker, previously believed to be buried, was found to have safely made his way home before the avalanche hit.

The army used drone-based detection system to assist in its search operations.

Multiple drones and a rescue dog were also employed.

Working on a project by the Border Roads Organisation, the workers were living on site in steel containers considered stronger than tents and capable of withstanding harsh weather.

At an altitude of more than 3,200m, minimum temperatures in the area were down to minus 12 degrees Celsius. — **AFP**

Ugandan army deploys to town in northeast DR Congo

KAMPALA: The Ugandan army confirmed yesterday it has sent troops to another town in northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo to fight local armed groups, amid fears a raging conflict could spiral into a wider war.

"Our troops have entered Mahagi town and we are in control," Uganda's defence and military affairs spokesman Felix Kulayigye told AFP Sunday.

The deployment was requested by the Congolese army following alleged massacres of civilians carried out by a militia known as the Cooperative for the Development of Congo (Codeco), he said, without providing further details.

Mahagi is in Ituri province, which borders Uganda, where at least 51 people were killed on February 10 by armed men affiliated with Codeco, according to humanitarian and local sources. — **AFP**



Iftar in Lahore
Devotees wait to break their fast with Iftar meals on the first day of holy month of Ramadan, at the Badshahi mosque in Lahore yesterday. (AFP)

Egypt rejects attempts to form parallel Sudanese government: Statement

CAIRO: Egypt rejected yesterday attempts aimed at establishing a rival government in Sudan, warning that such moves jeopardised the "unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity" of the war-torn country.

Sudan has been locked in a war between the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for nearly two years, plunging the country into what the United Nations describes as one of the worst humanitarian disasters in recent memory.

A week ago, the RSF and its allies signed a charter in Kenya declaring the formation of a "government of peace and unity" in areas under their control.

"Egypt expresses its rejection of any attempts that threaten the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of brotherly Sudan, including the pursuit of forming a parallel Sudanese government," a statement from Cairo's foreign ministry said Sunday.

It added that such actions "complicate the situation in Sudan, hinder ongoing efforts to unify political visions and exacerbate the humanitarian crisis". — **AFP**

10 killed in Benin clashes

COTONOU: Clashes in Benin over the last week between armed groups and the military left ten dead, including one soldier, as the West African country faces an uptick in attacks on army positions.

While the country's economic capital Cotonou, in the south, continues to draw in international tourists, Benin's poorer north has for years now seen such attacks, often blamed by the government on groups seeking to extend their reach from neighbouring Burkina Faso and Niger.

Overnight Thursday into Friday, the army launched "an offensive operation" that led to "the neutralisation of nine terrorists," a source close to the military high command told AFP on Saturday.

The operation — which a local source said took place in the commune of Karimama — came after an improvised explosive device left one

soldier dead and two others injured in nearby Kantoro.

Both communities are near the border with Niger. While the border near Burkina Faso remains the epicentre of such attacks, communities near the Niger border have seen an uptick in violence recently.

"Offensive aerial operations aided by those on the ground resulted in the destruction of an important logistics hub" belonging to unnamed "terrorists," an officer told AFP, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Long-running insurgencies in Burkina Faso and Niger have seen Islamic State and Al Qaeda-linked groups seize swathes of rural territory, often capitalising on long-simmering ethnic or local political disputes as well as weak state presence.

Attacks in Benin's north have led observers to worry of a spillover of violence in the country. — **AFP**

 World in brief

Philippine clash kills one suspected rebel

MANILA: A suspected rebel has been killed in a clash with government troops in Sultan Kudarat province in the southern Philippines, the military said yesterday.

In a report, the military said the fighting broke out around 11am local time on Saturday when government troops on combat patrol ran into some 20 New People's Army (NPA) insurgents in Palimbang town, resulting in the death of one rebel and the recovery of two firearms.

NPA rebels have been fighting government troops since 1969. Military data showed that the NPA's personnel strength has declined since its peak of around 25,000 armed members in the 1980s. Despite its dwindling fighters, the NPA continues to launch small-scale attacks in the countryside. — **XINHUA**

Police arrest 71 smugglers in Afghan capital

KABUL: Afghan counter-narcotic police have detained 71 suspected drug smugglers and seized more than 11 kg of illicit drugs in the capital city of Kabul, an official statement said yesterday.

The contraband, which included 3.2 kg of methamphetamine, 4 kg of heroin and 4.4 kg of hashish, was seized during separate routine operations carried out by the police on the outskirts of Kabul city, the office of Deputy Minister of Interior for Counter-Narcotics said in the statement. According to the source, the police have also seized two Kalashnikov rifles, one M4 machine gun, and two pistols from the apprehended smugglers.

In a related operation, police in the eastern Nangarhar province arrested eight individuals linked to the illicit purchase and trafficking of drugs, confiscating 20,500 stimulate tablets from their possession. — **XINHUA**

Maldives shuts govt offices due to flooding

COLOMBO: Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu ordered the closure of government offices and institutions yesterday in response to severe flooding caused by the highest daily accumulated rainfall in the country's history, PSM News, the official state media of the Maldives, reported. The Maldives Meteorological Service in a post on X said it recorded 296 millimeters of rainfall in the 24 hours ended at 8am yesterday morning.

The president's decision follows continuous rainfall, which has resulted in significant hardship to the people, PSM News said.

PSM News said heavy rains on Saturday led to extensive flooding in Male City, including Male, Hulhumale, and Hulhule, which is home to Velana International Airport, and several outer islands. The Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) and other agencies have been mobilized to mitigate the impact of floodwaters on households and properties in the capital, it said.

A total of 17 pumps were deployed by the MNDF across six locations to remove floodwater, with an estimated 17,000 tonnes of water already pumped out, PSM News said. — **XINHUA**

China's top political advisory body concludes session

BEIJING: The 14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's national political advisory body, closed the tenth session of its standing committee yesterday in Beijing.

Wang Huning, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, presided over the closing meeting and delivered a speech.

He called on the political advisory body to make contributions in 2025 to advance Chinese modernization and to achieve the objectives and tasks set in the 14th Five-Year Plan with high quality. — **XINHUA**

Trump orders tariff probe on lumber, calls for supply boost

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump ordered a probe Saturday into potential tariffs on lumber imports — in his latest move threatening to stoke trade tensions — while also pushing for a domestic supply boost.

Trump signed an executive order instructing Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick to start an investigation “to determine the effects on the national security of imports of timber, lumber, and their derivative products.”

The study may result in new tariffs being imposed, which would pile on top of existing levies. The investigation takes aim at exporters like Canada, Germany and Brazil, with White House officials earlier accusing these economies of “dumping lumber into our markets at the expense of both our economic prosperity and national security.” — **AFP**

Orsi takes office, returning Uruguay to leftist rule

MONTEVIDEO: Yamandu Orsi was sworn in Saturday as president of Uruguay, returning the South American country of 3.4 million to leftist governance after five years of predecessor Luis Lacalle Pou’s center-right leadership.

Uruguay, one of Latin America’s most prosperous and stable countries, on Saturday celebrated four decades of uninterrupted democracy. “The good health of democracy is closely associated with the achievement of certain standards of well-being,” Orsi, 57, said in a speech after his inauguration in Montevideo’s Legislative Palace.

He also paid a warm tribute to his 89-year-old mentor, the beloved former president Jose “Pepe” Mujica, who campaigned for Orsi while battling esophageal cancer.

Elected to a five-year term, Orsi promised to protect Uruguay’s economy, to address drug-related crime, and to pursue “sustainable and humane” development. — **AFP**

Kyiv’s allies embrace Zelensky at crisis talks

LONDON: UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer yesterday warned that European security faces a once-in-a-generation moment at the start of Ukraine crisis talks in London, just days after a Kyiv-Washington clash.

Eighteen allies were gathered on the key question of security guarantees for Ukraine, especially after US President Donald Trump berated his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky in an unprecedented White House blow-up.

Summit host Starmer, sitting next to Zelensky and in front of the flags of Ukraine and European nations, said it was “a once-in-a-generation moment for the security of Europe and we all need to step up”.

“I hope you know that we are all with you and the people of Ukraine for as long as it takes. Everyone around this table,” he told the Ukrainian leader.

Zelensky was embraced by some of the 18 other top leaders, including Starmer, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and NATO



Western and NATO leaders pose for a family photograph during a summit held at Lancaster House in central London yesterday. (AFP)

chief Mark Rutte.

It was a stark contrast to Zelensky’s unusually heated Friday meeting with Trump in Washington, where he was berated by the American leader and accused of not being “ready” for peace with Russia. Speaking ahead of the summit in

London, Starmer said “nobody wants to see” scenes like Zelensky and Trump’s Oval Office clash.

“We have to find a way that we can all work together. Because, in the end, we’ve had three years of bloody conflict. Now we need to get to that lasting peace,” Starmer told the BBC.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni echoed the sentiment, saying as she met Starmer in his Downing Street home that it was “very, very important that we avoid the risk that the West divides”.

Ukraine’s allies have been underscoring their steadfast commitment to counter growing concerns that Trump is about to sell Kyiv short in negotiations with Russia.

Starmer warmly welcomed Zelensky to the British capital on Saturday, the day after the Ukrainian leader was kicked out of the White House, extending a loan to strengthen Ukraine’s depleted defences.

The London meeting brings together leaders from around continental Europe, including France, Germany, Denmark and Italy as well as Turkey, NATO and the European Union. With fears growing over whether the United States will continue to support NATO, the meeting will also address the need for Europe to increase defence cooperation. — **AFP**

Pentagon orders up to 3,000 troops, Stryker combat vehicles to border

WASHINGTON: Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth has ordered about 3,000 active-duty troops to the southern US border, including soldiers from a motorized brigade equipped with 20-ton armoured Stryker combat vehicles, defence officials familiar with the effort said.

The defence secretary approved the orders Friday, said two officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal Defence

Department planning. The soldiers are primarily from the 4th Infantry Division’s 2nd Stryker Brigade at Fort Carson, Colorado, and will be joined by soldiers specializing in engineering, intelligence and public affairs, the officials said.

The Pentagon announced the deployment in a statement on Saturday afternoon after the news was first reported by *The Washington Post*. Hegseth has ordered the deployment

of a Stryker brigade combat team and a helicopter unit to “reinforce and expand current border security operations to seal the border and protect the territorial integrity of the United States,” the statement said.

The troops will arrive in coming weeks, underscoring the Defence Department’s “unwavering dedication to working alongside the Department of Homeland Security to secure our southern border and maintain the

sovereignty, territory integrity, and security of the United States under President Trump’s leadership,” the statement added. About 2,400 soldiers will deploy with the Stryker brigade and an additional 550 will go with the aviation unit, said another defence official, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. A handful of others will join them. — **THE WASHINGTON POST**

US judge rules against Trump in watchdog dismissal case

WASHINGTON: A federal judge ruled on Saturday that limits on President Donald Trump’s power to fire the head of an independent watchdog agency are constitutional, teeing up a likely Supreme Court showdown.

The case revolves around the White House’s February 7 dismissal of Hampton Dellinger, chief of the Office of Special Counsel.

His small agency investigates whistleblower complaints and

protects federal workers’ rights, among various other roles, and could possibly be a significant player in pushing back against Trump and Elon Musk’s efforts to fire swaths of federal employees.

District Judge Amy Berman Jackson had previously ordered Dellinger temporarily reinstated while she considered the case, but on Saturday issued a ruling that his dismissal had been “unlawful.”

She said there were specific

legal reasons for which the agency head could be fired by the president, but “the curt email from the White House informing the Special Counsel that he was terminated contained no reasons whatsoever.”

She further rejected the White House’s argument that the unique restrictions blocking the president from firing the special counsel were unconstitutional.

“The elimination of the restrictions... would be fatal to the defining and essential

feature of the Office of Special Counsel as it was conceived by Congress and signed into law by the President: its independence,” said Jackson.

The case is almost certain to be appealed and eventually end up in the Supreme Court.

The conservative-dominated bench, which includes three Trump-nominated justices, previously declined to block Jackson’s temporary reinstatement, saying it would wait for her final ruling. — **AFP**

US foreign policy shift aligns with our vision, says Kremlin

MOSCOW: The Kremlin said in remarks aired yesterday that the United States’s dramatic shift in foreign policy largely aligns with its own vision.

US President Donald Trump has sought to build ties with Moscow since taking office in January, reaching out to President Vladimir Putin and siding with Russia at the United Nations.

“The new administration is rapidly changing all foreign policy configurations. This largely coincides with our vision,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told a reporter from state television.

“There is a long way to go, because there is huge damage to the whole complex of bilateral relations. But if the political will of the two leaders, President Putin and President Trump, is maintained, this path can be quite quick and successful,” Peskov added. — **AFP**

Private US company aces lunar landing on first mission

WASHINGTON: A US company successfully landed its spacecraft on the Moon yesterday, marking only the second private mission to achieve the milestone — and the first to do so upright.

Firefly Aerospace’s Blue Ghost Mission 1 touched down at 3:34 am US Eastern Time (0834 GMT) near Mons Latreille, a volcanic formation in Mare Crisium on the Moon’s north-eastern near side. The mission control team in Austin, Texas, erupted in cheers as CEO Jason Kim confirmed that the spacecraft was “stable and upright.”

That stood in stark contrast to the first private lunar landing



The Firefly’s Blue Ghost lander’s shadow on the Moon’s surface during its lunar landing as part of the Ghost Mission 1 yesterday. (AFP)

last February, which toppled over upon arrival, dulling the achievement of being the first

US Moon touchdown since the crewed Apollo 17 mission of 1972. — **AFP**

Argentina’s Milei says ‘chainsaw’ cuts to last years

BUENOS AIRES: Argentine President Javier Milei told lawmakers on Saturday he planned to make more “chainsaw” cuts to public spending, adding that his government’s austerity program would “last for years.”

The libertarian leader has held a chainsaw at public events as a symbol of his push to restore fiscal discipline in

the South American nation where he has been president since December 2023.

Milei’s measures, which have plunged Argentina into recession, are blamed for tipping millions more people into poverty in the first half of 2024, and bringing tens of thousands of people onto the streets in protest. Milei has swatted away criticism, insisting

that what he presents as short-term pain will lead to long-term gains for the economy. “The chainsaw today is the symbol of a change of era, the beginning of a new golden age for humanity, but this time, instead of going against the world, Argentina is at the forefront,” he said Saturday in his annual address to congress. — **AFP**

Poland can help overcome ‘dilemma’ of US position on Ukraine, says PM

WARSAW: Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk yesterday said Poland could use its friendly ties with Washington to persuade the United States to be more supportive of Ukraine, ahead of talks with European allies.

Tusk called the US position

on Ukraine a “dilemma” and said “we have to transcend this dilemma”, adding that Poland “will be more heard” because of its high defence spending and “very good relations with the Americans”. Speaking ahead of the summit in London where

European powers will be joined by President Volodymyr Zelensky, Tusk said Poland was in “a unique situation”. Tusk was speaking after a heated clash in the White House on Friday between Zelensky and US President Trump that has cast doubt

on continued US support for Ukraine.

The new US administration has initiated a rapprochement with Russia and Trump and Vice President JD Vance have often echoed Kremlin talking points on the conflict. — **AFP**



World in brief

NY ex-governor Cuomo announces mayorship bid

NEW YORK: Former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo launched his electoral campaign for New York City mayorship on Saturday. “Our city is in crisis. That’s why I am running to be mayor of New York City. We need government to work. We need effective leadership,” Cuomo said on social media platform X.

New York City is scheduled to hold its mayoral election on November 4, 2025. Cuomo would run against embattled incumbent mayor Eric Adams and other candidates from the Democratic Party in the crowded race. He also posted a 17-minute video explaining his positions and his mayoral campaign website also went online. “Did I make mistakes, some painfully? Definitely. And I believe I learned from them and I am a better person for it,” said Cuomo in the video. — **XINHUA**

Russia’s cargo spacecraft docks with ISS

MOSCOW: Russia’s Progress MS-30 cargo spacecraft, launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome on Friday, successfully docked with the International Space Station yesterday, Russia’s state space corporation Roscosmos said.

Carrying a total of 2,599 kg of supplies, the Progress MS-30 delivered 1,179 kg of equipment, clothing, food supplies, and medical and hygiene products. Additionally, the spacecraft transported 950 kg of fuel for station refueling, 420 liters of drinking water, and 50 kg of nitrogen to replenish the station’s atmosphere. A key delivery of this mission is the new Orlan-MKS No. 6 spacesuit, designed for spacewalks. This model features an advanced internal hermetic shell made from high-tech fabric for enhanced durability, an automated water-cooling system to ensure optimal comfort, and an upgraded display system. — **XINHUA**

US, Guyana denounce Venezuelan naval incursion

GEORGETOWN: The United States on Saturday denounced what it said were Venezuelan naval vessels “threatening” an Exxon-Mobil unit in maritime territory claimed by Guyana.

The statement, which warned of “consequences” if there were further provocation from Caracas, came hours after Guyanese President Irfaan Ali said a Venezuelan patrol boat had “approached various assets in our exclusive waters” around 7am (1100 GMT). Guyana had “put its international partners on alert,” he said on Facebook. The US State Department warned against any further encroachment. “Venezuelan naval vessels threatening ExxonMobil’s floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) unit is unacceptable and a clear violation of Guyana’s internationally recognized maritime territory,” said the statement from the department’s US Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. — **AFP**

Swiss to host Palestinian conference on March 7

GENEVA: Switzerland said it will host an international conference on March 7 on the protection of Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories, as called for in a United Nations vote.

The 196 signatories to the Geneva Convention will be invited to the meeting, which will be attended by ambassadors, a spokesperson for the Swiss foreign ministry said. On September 18, the UN General Assembly mandated Switzerland to organise the conference, given that the country is the depositary of the international treaties setting out the rules of war and humanitarian law. — **AFP**

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Pro-Russian candidate declared winner in Abkhazia vote

MOSCOW: Pro-Russian politician Badra Gunba has been declared winner of runoff presidential elections in the breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia, officials said yesterday, amid tensions over Moscow's influence.

Abkhazia is recognised by most of the world as Georgian territory, but has been under de-facto Russian control since a brief 2008 war between Moscow and Tbilisi. Gunba won 54.73% of the vote in the second round, while opposition leader Adgur Ardzinba garnered 41.54%, Dmitry Marshan, chair of the separatist region's election commission, said. President Vladimir Putin congratulated Gunba in a message, saying the Abkhazian people had expressed their "free popular will". — **AFP**

Tanker suspected of damaging Baltic cables allowed to leave Finland

HELSINKI: An oil tanker believed to belong to Russia's "shadow fleet" and suspected of sabotaging undersea Baltic cables has been allowed to leave Finland's waters, where it has been held since December, Finnish police said yesterday.

The Eagle S, which is registered in the Cook Islands, is suspected of intentionally dragging its anchor dozens of kilometres along the Baltic seabed, damaging an electrical cable and four telecommunications cables on December 25.

"As the criminal investigation conducted by the National Bureau of Investigation, including the forensic investigation on board Eagle S, has progressed, there are no longer grounds for continuing the seizure of the tanker," police said in a statement.

The anchor was found by the Swedish navy in January. Finnish police suspect eight of the tanker's crew of involvement, and three of them are still barred from leaving Finland. The investigation will continue, the police said, adding they expect it to be completed by the end of April.

Security analysts say Russia is operating a large "shadow fleet" of hundreds of vessels, seeking to dodge the sanctions Western nations imposed on its oil exports over the war in Ukraine. Several undersea Baltic cables were damaged last year, with many experts calling it part of a "hybrid war" carried out by Russia against Western countries. — **AFP**

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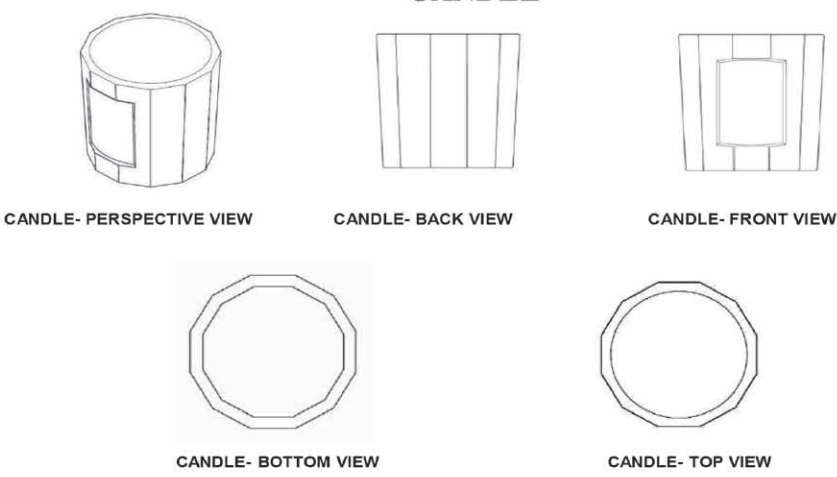
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◆ الزايم الاس جي بي تي ◆ الزايم الاس جي او تي ◆ الفوسفاتيز القلوي
◆ الزايم غاما جلوتاميل ◆ اجمالي البروتين الكلي ◆ الألبومين ◆ الغلوبولين
◆ نسبة اي جي

هرمون الغدة الدرقية تي اس اتش

وظائف الكلي

◆ تحليل اليوريا ◆ مستوى الكرياتينين ◆ النقرس ◆ صوديوم
◆ بوتاسيوم ◆ كلوريد ◆ نيتروجين اليوريا في الدم

تحليل البول

تخطيط قلب

كشف نظر العين

◆ كشف النظر

إستشارة طبيب عام

* Valid till May 31st, 2025 | *This package excludes insurance coverage | * Fasting of 8-10 hrs

◆ متوفر لغاية ٣١ مايو ٢٠٢٥ ◆ فحاضه العرض لايشمل تغطية التأمين الصحي ◆ الصيام من ٨ الى ١٠ ساعات

Reyada Medical Centre / مركز الريادة الطبي
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متاح طوال أيام الأسبوع Available all days of the week
7 صباحاً – منتصف الليل 12/7 AM - Midnight
بدون موعد مسبق/ Appointment Not Required

تسوق
بنقده
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