Father Amir's legacy laid foundations for Qatar's modern economy

Qatar's private sector and business community would always remember with deep appreciation the support given to the national economy during the Father Amir's reign and the major projects and reforms that expanded opportunities for trade, investment and industry and strengthened the role of national companies.



Chairman of Qatar Chamber, Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim bin Mohammed Al Thani

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He added that the progress, prosperity and distinguished international standing enjoyed by Qatar today represent a natural continuation of the vision whose foundations were laid by the Father Amir and further strengthened under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir.

Sheikh Khalifa said that Qatar's private sector and business community would always remember with deep appreciation the support given to the national economy during the Father Amir's reign and the major projects and reforms that expanded opportunities for trade, investment and industry and strengthened the role of national companies.

Concluding his remarks, QC Chairman said: "No words can fully express the stature of the Father Amir or the magnitude of his contributions to Qatar and its people. He was a wise leader, a great national symbol and the architect of Qatar's modern renaissance. His vision, achievements and enduring legacy will remain a source of pride and inspiration for generations to come."

He prayed to Almighty Allah to grant the late Father Amir His mercy and the highest place in Paradise, protect Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and preserve the blessings of security, stability, dignity and prosperity for the State of Qatar.

Tajikistan's industrial output up 14.1% in H1

DUSHANBE: Tajikistan's industrial production rose 14.1 percent year on year in the first half of 2026, Minister of Industry and New Technologies Sherali Kabir has said.

Speaking at a press conference, Kabir said the country's industrial output totaled 33.8 billion somoni (about 3.6 billion US dollars) during the January-June period, an increase of 4.5 billion somoni from a year earlier.

He noted that Tajikistan ranks among the leading members of the Commonwealth of Independent States in terms of industrial growth.

According to the ministry, the Sughd region remained the country's largest industrial hub, with enterprises there generating industrial output worth 20.5 billion somoni in the first six months of the year, accounting for 60.8 percent of the national total. — ***XINHUA***



Minister of Industry and New Technologies Sherali Kabir

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Thailand to introduce new EV policy measures amid market challenges

BANGKOK: The Thai government is actively preparing a new package of support measures to protect electric vehicle (EV) investors from intensifying competition and macroeconomic headwinds, the head of the Board of Investment (BOI) said.

Speaking at the 11th International Electric Vehicle Technology Conference and Exhibition, BOI Secretary General Narit Therdsteerasukdi announced that the agency has finalized a proposal following direct consultations with individual automakers and industry groups like the Electric Vehicle Association of Thailand (EVAT).

Narit said the upcoming interventions aim to ensure long-term sustainability as the domestic industry faces rapid technological change and tighter local credit conditions that are beginning to contract the consumer market.

The announcement underscores a critical strategic pivot for the Southeast Asian automotive hub. EVAT President Suroj Sangsnit emphasized that Thailand's transition can no longer merely focus on introducing more battery-powered cars into the market.

"More importantly, it is about building a complete, competitive, and connected EV ecosystem that can support Thailand's long-term industrial growth," Suroj said, mapping out critical localization fields including battery cell systems, advanced software, component recycling, charging infrastructure, and local talent development.

According to the BOI, overall promoted investments in the EV sector have already reached 130 billion baht (about 3.9 billion US dollars), covering almost 200 projects and spanning licensed domestic manufacturing capacity that surpasses 370,000 pure-battery electric vehicles (BEVs) annually.

On the infrastructure side, the nation has deployed over 22,000 charging stations, including 10,000 specialized fast-charging outlets.

Thailand is witnessing a rapid shift in consumer preferences, as electrified mobility solutions surpassed 40 percent of total new vehicle registrations last year, data from the BOI showed.

The figures highlight a significant transformation, with BEVs alone securing a nearly 20 percent market share, compared to the less than 1 percent levels seen just five years ago.

The breakdown further revealed that hybrid electric variants represented over 21 percent of new registrations, while plug-in hybrid models accounted for 3 percent of the market.

Narit also noted that the forthcoming policy will prioritize mandatory domestic sourcing, foreign-local joint ventures, automated factory facility upgrades, and expanding testing capabilities into advanced driver assistance systems and autonomous mobility platforms. — ***XINHUA***

Inside China's factories, computing power is reshaping manufacturing

China's computing power has grown to rank among the world's largest, with AI computing becoming an increasingly important force behind this growth. Advances in computing power have reduced costs and made it easier for factories to deploy AI algorithms.

GUANGZHOU: In a production hall in Huizhou, Guangdong Province, rows of television sets move along an automated assembly line. At one workstation, a robotic system precisely connects signal and interface ports on each unit, a task that once relied on manual operation.

Powered by 3D vision and artificial intelligence (AI), the system has helped TCL, one of China's leading consumer electronics makers, achieve a product pass rate of 99.8 percent since it was introduced last year, according to Lei Dengsi, a senior engineer with TCL Industry. The scene reflects a broader transformation taking place across China's manufacturing sector. The world's largest manufacturing base is moving beyond traditional advantages of scale and labor, using computing power, data and AI to build smarter and more flexible factories.

At TCL, this shift has progressed from automation to digitalization and now to intelligent manufacturing.

"In the past, production management relied heavily on workers' experience and fragmented systems, which made it difficult to respond quickly to problems," said Chen Zhanyuan, deputy general manager of TCL Industry's smart display business unit.

With intelligent manufacturing systems, factories are becoming more connected, data-driven and flexible, Chen said.

China has been the world's largest manufacturing country for 16 consecutive years. With traditional manufacturing still making up much of its industrial base, the transition toward smart manufacturing has become a key step in the country's industrial upgrading.

China's 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030), the nation's core blueprint for economic and social development, places intelligent transformation, digitalization and network connectivity among the key priorities for manufacturing, encouraging wider adoption of smart manufacturing and industrial internet technologies.

Across Guangdong, a premier manufacturing hub, companies are already putting these technologies to use.

At Dongguan Moldbao Smart Technology Co., robots move through a digital workshop where electrodes of different shapes and sizes are stored in automated racks and delivered precisely for molding.

"Molds are the foundation of industry," said Wang Sheng, the company's vice president. "As consumer products become more diverse and are updated faster, manufacturers need higher precision, stability and flexibility."

Smart factories, he said, allow manufacturers to respond to these challenges by using data and AI to improve production. Behind these factories is a growing foundation of computing power. Industrial internet systems collect massive amounts of real-time data, while computing resources turn that information into decisions, from optimizing production processes to improving AI-based quality inspections.

China's computing power has grown to rank among the world's largest, with AI computing becoming an increasingly important force behind this growth. Advances in computing power have reduced costs and made it easier for factories to deploy AI algorithms.

"As algorithms become more closely integrated with real industrial processes, and as automation expands across production lines, they can continue to improve by learning from vast amounts of real-world production data," Wang said. "This will enhance their accuracy, stability and ability to adapt to different industrial scenarios."

The rise of intelligent manufacturing is also creating new opportunities for companies that produce the technologies behind computing.

Guangzhou-based CanSemi Technology, a manufacturer of advanced chips, sees industrial intelligence as a growing market opportunity. At the same time, the company's own production processes generate large amounts of data that can be used to further improve factory intelligence.

Guangdong Fenghua Advanced Technology Holding Co., Ltd., which produces electronic components including high-end multilayer ceramic capacitors used in computing servers, has introduced AI-assisted research systems and high-throughput laboratories to accelerate innovation.

"The next step is to connect data across the entire value chain, from demand and research to production and delivery," said Cao Xiuhua, the company's vice president.

AI is also modernizing traditional crafts. At Haday's soy sauce factory in Foshan, Guangdong, an ancient Chinese soy sauce-making tradition has been given a digital upgrade. An AI vision system can identify more than 13,000 soybeans per second, while an intelligent filling system ensures highly precise packaging. Another AI-based technology can distinguish more than 170 aroma profiles. — ***XINHUA***

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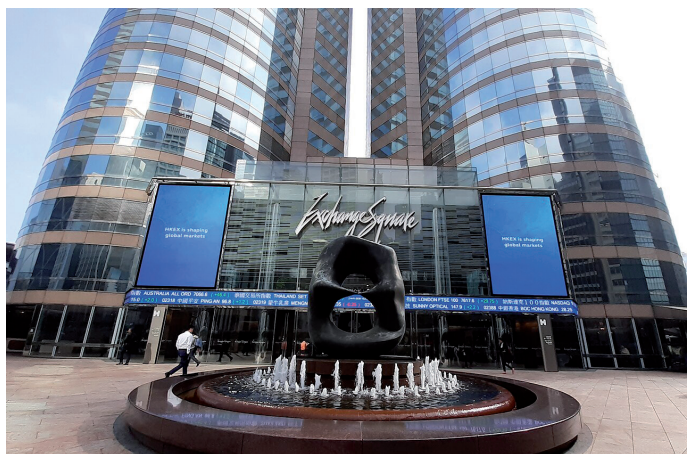
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(Qatar ID No.29305008982)
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MD READ HOSSAIN
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HKEX IPO fundraising surges 92% YoY in H1

Data showed that the HKEX recorded 87 new listings in the first six months of 2026, a year-on-year increase of 98 percent. Total funds raised were 346.1 billion HK dollars, up 22 percent from 284.5bn HK dollars in the same period last year.



HONG KONG: The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) announced that funds raised through IPO in the first half of 2026 were 210.2bn HK dollars (about $26.8bn), up 92 percent from 109.4 billion HK dollars in the same period last year.

Data showed that the HKEX recorded 87 new listings in the first six months of 2026, a year-on-year increase of 98 percent. Total funds raised were 346.1 billion HK dollars, up 22 percent from 284.5bn HK dollars in the same period last year.

The average daily turnover in June 2026 was 319.1bn HK dollars, up 39 percent year on year. The average daily turnover for the first six months of 2026 was 283bn HK dollars, up 18 percent.

At the end of June, HKEX had 2,748 listed companies, with a total market capitalization of about 43.3 trillion HK dollars. — ***XINHUA***

I, Liliana Patricia Empty Espinosa
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LILIANA PATRICIA ESPINOSA BERMUDEZ
ليلانا باتريكا يسبينوسا بير مو ديز
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Monday 13 July 2026

Contact: Tel: 44557 857 or email: adv@pen.com.qa

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