





Qatar's property market registers strong mortgage activity as sales reach QR430.7m

DEEPAK JOHN
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DOHA: Qatar's real estate market recorded substantial activity across sales, mortgage and rental transactions during the week of September 13 to 19, 2026, with property sales reaching QR430.7m, mortgage transactions totaling QR805.42m, and 502 lease contracts registered during the period.

The weekly figures, shown in the week 38 market indicators provided by Aqarat, highlight contrasting movements across the three segments of the property market, with mortgage activity recording a particularly sharp increase from the previous week.

Property sales were completed through 120 transactions, with the total sales value rising 12.3 percent week-on-week. However, the value was 14.9 percent lower year-on-year, while the number of transactions declined by 12.4 percent compared with the previous week and 9.8 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Villas accounted for the largest share of sales value, reaching QR203.5m, or 49.44 percent of the total. Land followed with QR178.5m, representing 43.37 percent. Residential apartments contributed QR27m, while other property categories accounted for QR2.6m.



The sales figures were concentrated among several major municipalities. Al Daayen recorded QR137.9m, representing 40.48% of the sales value. Doha followed with QR105m, or 30.82%, while Al Rayyan recorded QR97.8m, equivalent to 28.70%.

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Mortgage activity showed a significantly different weekly movement. The market registered 37 mortgage transactions worth QR805.42m. While the mortgage value was down 11.5 percent year-on-year, it jumped 599.3 percent compared with the previous week. The number of mortgage transactions increased 54.2 percent year-on-year and 184.6 percent week-on-week.

Land represented 50.28 percent of mortgage value, with transactions worth QR446m. Villas accounted for QR330m, or 37.20 percent, while buildings represented QR111m, or 12.51 percent.

Doha accounted for the largest share of mortgage value among the municipalities listed, at QR505m, equivalent to 59.27 percent. Al Rayyan followed with QR205m, while Al Shamal recorded QR142m.

The rental market recorded 502 transactions with a total rent value of QR4.76m. Both indicators were lower than the previous week and the same period last year. Rental value fell 52.3 percent week-on-week and 74.7 percent year-on-year, while the number of transactions declined 56.9 percent week-on-week and 75.2 percent year-on-year.

Villas again represented the largest category, generating QR2.38m, or 50 percent of rental value. Apartments contributed QR1.67m, representing 35.08 percent, followed by commercial shops at QR510,000 and other categories at QR200,000.

By municipality, Al Rayyan recorded the highest rental value at QR1.85m, followed by Doha at QR1.75m and Al Daayen at QR450,000.

QFC delegation concludes China visit with two MoUs to deepen Qatar-Asia financial ties

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DOHA: A QFC delegation has concluded a visit to Beijing and Hong Kong that reflected the growing economic relationship between Qatar and China and supported QFC's efforts to expand its institutional partnerships and explore new investment opportunities.

Led by Chief Executive Officer Mansoor Rashid Al-Khater **(pictured)**, the delegation's programme included a series of meetings with business leaders and investors, participation in the 2026 Belt and Road Summit, and the signing of new partnerships aimed at strengthening financial and business ties and opening new avenues for cooperation between Qatar and Asia.

The Belt and Road Summit in Hong Kong brought together government officials and business leaders to exchange perspectives on multilateral cooperation and explore business opportunities. During a session on the potential of emerging markets within and beyond the Belt and Road, Al-Khater outlined the sectors shaping its next phase, the opportunities this presents for the Middle East, and the financial mechanisms required to support sustainable growth.

Al-Khater noted that the next phase of connectivity is extending beyond physical infrastructure to encompass green energy, artificial intelligence and digital infrastructure, creating new opportunities for investment and cross-border business.

He identified four priorities for translating this connectivity into long-term economic value: focusing on the financial and commercial viability of projects; building the ecosystems needed to support them; mobilising new sources of capital, including the growing potential of Islamic finance to broaden funding sources and support future projects; and developing the capabilities and expertise needed to strengthen resilience and support long-term growth.

Within this broader framework, he highlighted digital infrastructure as a key enabler, extending beyond telecommunications to include data infrastructure, digital financial systems, smart cities and government platforms, all of which are increasingly important for supporting trade, investment and economic growth.

QFZ signs MoU with Honeywell Technologies to establish integrated manufacturing, service hub

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DOHA: Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ) and Honeywell Technologies today signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the development of an integrated manufacturing and service hub in Qatar's free zones, advancing local capabilities across mission-critical industries.

The MoU was signed by Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Faisal Al-Thani, Chief Executive Officer of QFZ, and Matt Spalding, Vice President, Process Technology at Honeywell Technologies, on the sidelines of Qatar Economic Forum: UNGA Special Edition 2026. The signing was attended by senior executives from QFZ and Honeywell Technologies.

The hub will focus on the machining and servicing of Honeywell Technologies Sundyne pumps used across energy and process industries, supporting customers in Qatar, the wider Middle East and Africa. Building on Honeywell Technologies' established presence in Qatar, the hub will expand local access to specialized manufacturing and servicing capabilities while strengthening support for growing customer demand.



CEO of QFZ Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Faisal Al-Thani and Vice President of Process Technology at Honeywell Technologies Matt Spalding during the MoU signing.

The MoU also creates opportunities for wider cooperation across Honeywell Technologies' portfolio, including process technology, automation, cybersecurity and building automation solutions.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Faisal Al-Thani, Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ), said: "This collaboration with Honeywell Technologies will add new depth to Qatar's industrial ecosystem by expanding localized manufacturing, servicing and automation capabilities. QFZ's integrated platform, strategic connectivity and investor ecosystem provide a strong foundation to scale these capabilities in support of the Third National Development Strategy and Qatar National Vision 2030."

Matt Spalding, Vice President, Process Technology at Honeywell Technologies, said: "We are committed to advancing high-impact initiatives that localize innovative technologies across mission-critical industries and accelerate industrial growth in support of Qatar's ambitious national vision. Through this collaboration, we will be able to help customers across the Middle East and Africa operate with greater efficiency, resilience and intelligence through advanced process solutions. It will also enable us to strengthen service delivery, respond more effectively to evolving market needs and build critical manufacturing capabilities in Qatar."

قطر ستيل
QATAR STEEL

Qatar Steel Tender Committee is pleased to announce the following tender:

Tender Number	Tender Description	Tender Fees (Non Refundable) (QAR)	Tender Bond (QAR)	Last Date for payment of Tender Fee	Date of Issue of Tender
SC-FA-09-2026	Tender for leasing of bachelor accommodation. Number of flats: 46 Duration: 3 years, starting tentatively from 1st April 2027 Brief Summary: Qatar Steel intends to lease forty six (46) fully furnished 2-BHK flats for bachelor accommodation for a period of three (3) years commencing tentatively on 1 April 2027. The accommodation shall be suitable for up to 180 occupants, with a maximum occupancy of four (4) persons per flat and two (2) persons per bedroom. Each flat shall include a minimum of two (2) bedrooms, two (2) bathrooms, kitchen, living room and dining area. The accommodation must be located in Mesaieed, Al Wakrah, or within a maximum thirty (30) minute driving distance from Mesaieed.	200	N/A	01-Oct-2026	06-Oct-2026
Bank Account	A/c No. 240/450008/1/11/0 with Doha Bank, being Qatari Riyal account. IBAN: QA52DOHB02400450008001001 1000				

Interested companies are requested to:
1. Pay the tender fees to our bank account (mentioned above)
2. Send the following details to our email servicecontracts@qatarsteel.com.qa
   - Tender Number and Title
   - Proof of payment (bank receipt)
   - Confirm the email to which tender to be issued

Qatar Steel shall issue Tender Document through email on the "Date of Issue" (mentioned above).

For Queries, you may contact Procurement, Qatar Steel Co., Tel. No. 44778778
www.qatarsteel.com.qa

Commercial Bank receives three global awards for cards and payments innovation by *The Digital Banker*

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DOHA: Commercial Bank has been recognised with three awards at The Digital Banker's Global Cards and Payments Innovation Awards 2026.

Organised by The Digital Banker, the Global Cards & Payments Innovation Awards recognise leading organisations that are shaping the future of the global payment ecosystem through technology and innovation. The 2026 programme highlights advancements across areas including POS and in-store payments, SME payments, artificial intelligence, data analytics and cloud-powered infrastructure.

The Best Business Card (SMEs) - Qatar award recognised Commercial Bank for its Visa Signature Business SME Credit Card, curated to address the specific needs of small and medium-sized businesses. The card combines cashback and premium travel benefits with advanced security, rapid issuance and expense management features, giving SMEs greater control over business spending while supporting more efficient cash flow management.

Additionally, the Bank's Pay by Plate solution earned the award for Best Real-Time Payments Service Initiative – Qatar, for modernising the fuel payment experience. The solution uses Automatic Number Plate Recognition to identify registered vehicles and trigger instant card authorisation, allowing customers to refuel and drive away without a traditional checkout step.



For Best AI/ML Initiative – Credit Limit Optimisation, Commercial Bank was recognised for its Smart Credit Limit Increase Engine, which applies artificial intelligence and machine learning to personalise credit limit recommendations. The solution analyses a range of customers and transaction data to identify more appropriate credit limits for individual customers.

Group Chief Executive Officer of Commercial Bank, Stephen Moss, said: "Receiving three awards at The Digital Banker's Global Cards & Payments Innovation Awards is a strong endorsement of our commitment to delivering smarter, faster and more relevant financial solutions. From providing SMEs in Qatar with a best-in-class business card proposition, to enabling real-time payments and applying AI and machine learning to optimise credit limits, each initiative responds to a distinct customer need.

Organised by The Digital Banker, the Global Cards & Payments Innovation Awards recognise leading organisations that are shaping the future of the global payment ecosystem through technology and innovation.

Together, these recognitions demonstrate how we are combining technology, data and customer insight to simplify banking, support business growth and deliver secure, seamless experiences. They also reflect the continued momentum of our digital transformation and the dedication of our teams to turning innovation into meaningful value for our customers."

Doha Arbitration Days 2026 brings global arbitration community together

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Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs H E Ibrahim bin Ali bin Issa Al Hassan Al-Mohannadi with other officials during the event.

DOHA: The Ministry of Justice, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) – Qatar Branch, and the Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre (QICDRC) co-organised the third edition of Doha Arbitration Days 2026, held on 20 September at The Plaza Doha, LXR Hotels & Resorts.

Held under the patronage of Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, H E Ibrahim bin Ali bin Issa Al Hassan Al-Mohannadi, the conference brought together leading members of the arbitration and dispute resolution community from Qatar, the region and internationally, providing a platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange and collaboration on key developments shaping arbitration practice.

Building on the success of its previous editions, each of which welcomed more than 500 participants, Doha Arbitration Days has continued to develop as an important regional platform for arbitrators, judges, counsel, experts, academics and institutional representatives to exchange perspectives on emerging legal and commercial issues.

The 2026 programme featured a keynote address by The Right Honourable Lord Neuberger, alongside the participation of Dr Cesar Pereira C.Arb FCIArb, CIArb Global President, and a distinguished group of legal and arbitration professionals from Qatar and abroad. The conference addressed three key areas shaping contemporary arbitration practice.

The first panel, "When Arbitration Meets the Courts: The Realities of Judicial Practice," examined the practical relationship between arbitral proceedings and national courts.

The second, "The Strait of Hormuz Crisis: Contractual Disruption, Commercial Loss and Arbitral Decision-Making," considered the legal and commercial implications of disruption and the role of arbitration in responding to complex contractual disputes.

The third panel, "Arbitration Institutions and Organisations in Transition," explored how arbitral institutions are evolving in response to changing market expectations and developments in international dispute resolution.

Chair of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) – Qatar Branch, Dr Saad bin Ahmad Al-Muhannadi MCIArb, addressed the conference and highlighted the importance of Doha Arbitration Days as a platform for strengthening professional exchange and collaboration within the arbitration community.

Dr Al-Muhannadi said: "Doha Arbitration Days has become an important platform for bringing together the arbitration community in Qatar and beyond to exchange practical knowledge and engage with the issues shaping the profession. This third edition reflects the value of collaboration between public institutions, the judiciary and the arbitration community in strengthening professional standards, developing expertise and supporting Qatar's continued growth as a centre for arbitration and dispute resolution."

Through the continued collaboration between the Ministry of Justice, CIArb Qatar Branch, and QICDRC, Doha Arbitration Days continues to provide a platform for legal dialogue, professional development, institutional cooperation, and the exchange of expertise in support of arbitration and dispute resolution in Qatar.

The entities remain committed to contributing to a modern, effective, and internationally connected dispute resolution environment that supports Qatar's legal and commercial landscape.

TotalEnergies appoints Sameh Kokash as Vice President Refining & Chemicals Qatar and Business Development & AOBO Gas

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DOHA: TotalEnergies announced the appointment of Sameh Kokash **(pictured)** as Vice President Refining and Chemicals Qatar and Vice President Business Development & AOBO Gas (Assets Operated by Others – Gas), effective September 2026. He will succeed Amir Kabbej, who is moving to a new assignment in France.

In this capacity, Sameh will oversee TotalEnergies' downstream interests in Qatar, particularly its stakes in QAPCO, Qatofin, RLOC and Laffan Refineries, as well as partnerships with QatarEnergy, QatarEnergy LNG, and Dolphin Energy.

Sameh brings almost two decades of TotalEnergies experience to his new role, having joined the company in 2007 in Field Operations. Over the course of his career, he has built a broad track record across the E&P value chain, taking on leadership roles spanning Well Performance, Process Engineering, and Design Engineering. He most recently served as Senior Business Development Manager in Refining & Petrochemicals Orient, where he helped drive strategic opportunities across the MENA region.

Sameh studied Chemical Engineering at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, and more recently completed an Executive MBA at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France.

"It is a privilege to join the TotalEnergies Qatar team at such a defining time, and to build on the long-standing partnerships we share with QatarEnergy LNG, Dolphin Energy, QAPCO, Qatofin, RLOC, and Laffan Refineries. Beyond ensuring safe and reliable operations, I am inspired by the opportunity to help shape a future of shared growth and innovation, in line with the ambitions of Qatar National Vision 2030. I look forward to further deepening the trust and collaboration that have long defined our relationship with QatarEnergy," Sameh said on his appointment.

TotalEnergies has maintained a strong presence in Qatar for more than 90 years, with activities spanning exploration and production, LNG, petrochemicals, and renewable energy, including participation in major offshore assets – the Al-Khalij and Al-Shaheen offshore fields, the Al Kharsaah solar power plant, as well as founding partnerships in QatarEnergy LNG and Dolphin Energy.

QC explores economic, investment ties with Sri Lanka

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QC First Vice Chairman Mohamed bin Ahmed bin Twar Al-Kuwari with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka H E Arun Hemachandra and Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Qatar H E Roshan Sithara Khan Azard with other officials during the meeting.

DOHA: First Vice Chairman of Qatar Chamber (QC) Mohamed bin Ahmed bin Twar Al-Kuwari received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Employment of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, H E Arun Hemachandra, in the presence of Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Qatar, H E Roshan Sithara Khan Azard.

The meeting discussed ways to strengthen economic, trade and investment cooperation between Qatar and Sri Lanka, as well as investment opportunities available to the private sectors of both countries and ways to enhance communication between business communities.

The two sides also reviewed investment opportunities in Sri Lanka, particularly in the agricultural sector, as well as potential cooperation in other sectors of mutual interest.

For his part, H E Arun Hemachandra invited Qatar Chamber and Qatari businesspeople to visit Sri Lanka to explore investment opportunities, learn more about the business environment and the advantages offered by the Sri Lankan economy to investors. He also invited them to participate in 'Sri Lanka Expo 2027', scheduled to be held in January 2027.

For his part, Mohamed bin Twar stressed the importance of strengthening economic and trade relations between Qatar and Sri Lanka, noting Qatar Chamber's commitment to promoting communication between the private sectors of both countries and familiarising Qatari businesspeople with available investment opportunities.

South African central bank raises policy rate to 7.25%

JOHANNESBURG: The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) yesterday raised its policy rate by 25 basis points to 7.25 percent, citing heightened inflation risks amid renewed fuel price pressures and persistent global supply shocks.

The Monetary Policy Committee unanimously decided to raise the rate, with the decision effective on Sept. 25, SARB said escalating tensions in the Middle East and the Russia-Ukraine conflict were disrupting energy and food supplies, contributing to a large and persistent global supply shock.

The central bank raised its near-term inflation forecasts mainly due to higher fuel prices. Headline inflation is expected to rise above 5 percent later this year and early next year before easing as the fuel price shock recedes, and is projected to return to around the 3-percent target toward the end of 2027.

"A few months back, it seemed that the fuel-price shock might be unwinding, but now it has intensified," the statement said. SARB also lowered its forecast for South Africa's economic growth this year to 1.2 percent from 1.4 percent, after the economy contracted by 0.2 percent in Q2.

It expects growth to rebound in the second half of the year, while risks to the outlook remain tilted to the downside. The rate hike came as South Africa's annual consumer inflation edged up to 4.4 percent in August from 4.3 percent in July. — ***XINHUA***

Oil price falls, global stock markets steady as Trump hails 'good' Iran talks



Brent North crude, the international benchmark, remained under $100 per barrel on hopes of diplomatic progress towards ending the Middle East conflict.

LONDON: Oil prices fell and stock markets traded steadier yesterday after recent volatility, as Donald Trump said US and Iranian representatives met for "very good" talks at the United Nations.

The US president added that the three-hour meeting was "very productive" and that two countries "have another one scheduled in the very near future".

Trump's statements came just hours after he delivered a bellicose address to the United Nations, saying he faced a "big decision" on whether to make a deal with Iran or "annihilate the Islamic Republic and do it quickly".

Brent North crude, the international benchmark, remained under $100 per barrel on hopes of diplomatic progress towards ending the Middle East conflict. Stephen Innes at Quintex Intel noted that the UN "meeting matters because it shifts the market from pure (war) escalation pricing toward a genuine diplomatic process, even if a final deal still looks distant".

The OECD yesterday said that global economic growth had been "resilient" in many countries despite the war, as it slightly raised its economic output forecasts for 2026.

Oil prices were dampened also by a report that the world's biggest crude exporter Saudi Arabia had rebooted operations along its East-West Pipeline, a crucial oil export route shut down by drone attacks.

The kingdom is aiming to resume exports later this week, Bloomberg quoted a source as saying.

But while Saudi oil giant Aramco reportedly told Asian refiners they could soon pick up crude from the Red Sea port of Yanbu, the firm told their European counterparts they will not be allocated oil in October, Bloomberg said.

In stock markets trading, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index closed down one percent, shrugging off an announcement by Chinese tech giant Alibaba that it would expand its overseas data centres.

The firm, one of the frontrunners in China's AI industry, said the move would target markets across Europe and the Middle East. — ***AFP***

Invest Qatar, Aurion Capital and LG NOVA engage to advance technology investments

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DOHA: Invest Qatar, the Investment Promotion Agency of Qatar, yesterday announced a strategic engagement with Aurion Capital, a global investment group, and LG NOVA, the Silicon Valley–based North America Innovation Centre for LG Electronics. This engagement aims to explore opportunities to scale regional investments and support the commercialisation of emerging technologies and business ventures to strengthen Qatar's position as a regional hub for entrepreneurship and high-growth ventures.

Announced during the special edition of the Qatar Economic Forum Powered by Bloomberg, held on the sidelines of the 2026 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, a new Memorandum of Understanding among the parties establishes a framework to explore collaboration across shared priorities, including targeted innovation programmes and scale-up support in high-growth sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI), digital health, financial technologies (FinTech), digital infrastructure, sports, media and entertainment.

A new hub in Qatar Science & Technology Park, serving as a regional platform for LG NOVA-affiliated technologies and ventures, is anticipated to support the expansion of advanced technology solutions, foster collaboration between innovators, investors and industry partners and enable high-potential companies to scale across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

CEO, Invest Qatar, Sheikh Ali bin Alwaleed Al-Thani, said: "This strategic collaboration reflects the multilateral strength of Qatar's value proposition. Our world-class research and development (R&D) ecosystem, robust talent pipeline and pro-business regulatory environment position Qatar as an ideal platform to test, deploy and commercialise advanced technologies. Coupled with our strategic location and future-ready digital infrastructure, Qatar offers international investors a gateway to the MENA region and a natural pathway for sustainable regional expansion."

"At Aurion Capital, we believe the future of innovation will be built through stronger connections between global markets and ecosystems, stated Founding CEO of Aurion Capital, Ali Diallo. "Our mission is to mobilise capital and strategic resources across America, Asia, the Gulf and emerging markets to create enduring economic value and accelerate the growth of transformative technologies. Qatar's ambition, investment ecosystem, and strategic position between East and West make it one of the world's most compelling destinations for innovation-led growth. Together with Invest Qatar and LG NOVA, we look forward to building a platform that helps scale world-class companies, unlock new investment opportunities, and strengthen the flow of innovation across regions."

"The next technology evolution, driven by AI, is creating extensive opportunities for new business and industry growth, across all sectors. By exploring these new opportunities with Invest Qatar and Aurion Capital we're strengthening our capabilities to build meaningful businesses that will shape our future," stated Sokwoo Rhee, EVP of Corporate Innovation for LG Electronics and Head of LG NOVA. "Our innovation process brings collaborators together to create impactful change, and by working with Invest Qatar, spearheaded by Aurion Capital, we'll be able to connect our ecosystems across the world."

Through this engagement, Invest Qatar will work closely with Aurion Capital and LG NOVA to plan and design innovation-led programmes in collaboration with key national stakeholders.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Muhammad Tauqeer
محمد تاکییر
Holder of Pakistan Passport No. CL7961003
(Qatar ID No.29158602538)
hereby change my name to
MUHAMMAD TOQEER
محمد تاکییر
Any objection, please contact the Immigration and Passport Office within 15 days from the publication of this notice.