





Qatar accelerates AI ambitions with focus on infrastructure, innovation and skills

DEEPAK JOHN
THE PENINSULA



Assistant Undersecretary for Digital Industry Affairs at MCIT H E Reem Al Mansoori speaking during the session titled 'AI at Scale: From Ambition to Impact', yesterday.

DOHA: Qatar is accelerating efforts to build an AI-enabled economy by investing in shared digital infrastructure, attracting global technology partners and equipping its workforce with the skills needed to turn artificial intelligence into measurable economic growth, a senior government official has said.

Speaking at a session titled AI at Scale: From Ambition to Impact, held on the sidelines of MWC26 Doha yesterday, H E Reem Al Mansoori, Assistant Undersecretary for Digital Industry Affairs at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, said the country was taking a coordinated national approach to ensure AI adoption delivers tangible results across government and industry.

Al Mansoori described the past 12 to 18 months as one of the fastest-moving periods in technology development, requiring the government to adopt a more agile approach to implementing AI initiatives.

"It was really the fastest programme we ever executed," she said, noting that technologies once considered difficult to implement had become increasingly accessible within a relatively short period.

She said Qatar had benefited from strong government backing, including efforts to attract international technology companies such as Scale AI to establish a presence in the country, alongside partnerships with consultants and other technology providers to develop and implement its national AI programme.

Al Mansoori stressed that governments must take a leading role in developing the AI ecosystem, arguing that the scale of investment and speed of technological development make it difficult for individual private-sector organisations to build the necessary foundations independently.

"With AI, the ecosystem cannot be replicated how the previous technology has been going and organically developed. With AI, everyone needs to work closely. The government needs to be at the heart of that," she said.

She highlighted investment in data centres, computing capacity, graphics processing units (GPUs) and shared services as essential foundations for accelerating AI adoption.

In Qatar, these efforts include the establishment of Qai, support from telecommunications operator Ooredoo in supplying the growing demand for AI computing capacity, and the use of the Tasmu Smart Qatar platform to develop shared services that organisations can build upon.

She also pointed to the National Planning Council's contribution in preparing and enabling access to national data, describing data readiness and sharing as critical requirements for successful AI development.

According to Al Mansoori, establishing this shared infrastructure allows government entities and private organisations to concentrate on developing applications that address their specific needs, rather than bearing the full cost of building the underlying technology.

However, she cautioned that infrastructure alone would not guarantee success. Organisations must identify clear objectives for AI adoption and ensure that individual projects deliver measurable improvements in productivity, efficiency and economic performance.

She emphasised that successful implementation requires direct leadership involvement, particularly in managing organisational change and ensuring AI applications create genuine value rather than simply introducing technology for its own sake.

Looking ahead, Al Mansoori said AI could play a significant role in helping Qatar achieve its economic and workforce ambitions by increasing productivity and expanding the country's knowledge base.

She expressed confidence that Qatar's national AI programme, combined with investment in skills and infrastructure, would support the country's 2030 development ambitions.

"AI is doubling the knowledge for us and even doubling the workforce," she said, adding that Qatar hoped to meet or even exceed its targets through the opportunities created by artificial intelligence.

The session also featured Jack Hidary, Founder and CEO of SandboxAQ, a company specializing in quantitative artificial intelligence (AI); and Lindy Kouyoumji, Partner at global consulting firm Oliver Wyman.

Participants examined how AI can move from ambition to tangible impact, alongside rapid technological advances and the evolving landscape of AI models.

QatarEnergy acquires interest in Namibian offshore exploration license

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DOHA: QatarEnergy entered into an agreement to acquire a participating interest in an offshore exploration block in the Republic of Namibia from Chevron Namibia Exploration II Limited, a subsidiary of Chevron.

Under the terms of the agreement, which is subject to customary regulatory approvals, QatarEnergy will acquire a 25% interest in Petroleum Exploration License 0082 (PEL82), comprising blocks 2112B and 2212A. Upon completion of the transaction, Chevron (the Operator) will hold a 55% interest, while Namcor E&P and Custos Energy will each hold a 10% interest.

Under the terms of the agreement, which is subject to customary regulatory approvals, QatarEnergy will acquire a 25% interest in Petroleum Exploration License 0082 (PEL82), comprising blocks 2112B and 2212A.

Commenting on this occasion, H E Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi, the Minister of State for Energy Affairs, the President and CEO of QatarEnergy, said: "We are pleased to further strengthen our relations with Chevron through this agreement, and to expand and diversify our footprint in Namibia. We would like to thank the Namibian authorities for their cooperation and support, and we look forward to working with our partners to progress exploration activities and achieve positive results for the benefit of all stakeholders."

The PEL82 exploration license covers an area of approximately 11,444 square kilometers offshore Namibia, in water depths ranging from 350 to 2,300 meters.



Baladna, Gürmen Group sign MoU to develop textile manufacturing in Syria

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Baladna's President Ramez Al Khayyat with Chairman of Board of Gürmen Group Remzi Gür during the MoU signing.

DOHA: Baladna for Trading and Investment ("Baladna"), a subsidiary of Baladna, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Türkiye-based Gürmen Group to explore the development and operation of a textile manufacturing facility in Syria. The agreement establishes a framework for cooperation aimed at supporting industrial development, attracting international expertise and creating new opportunities for local manufacturing and employment.

The MoU was signed yesterday at Eighteeth Tower in Lusail, Doha, by Ramez Al Khayyat, Baladna's President, and Remzi Gür, Honorary Chairman of Board of Gürmen Group. The signing ceremony was attended by Saifullah Khan, Group Chief Finance and Investment Officer of Baladna, Paul Kenny, Chief Executive Officer, and Yasemin Gür Solmaz, Chairman of Gürmen Group, alongside senior executives and representatives from both companies.

Under the MoU, the two companies will jointly assess the feasibility of establishing and operating a textile manufacturing facility in Syria through a potential joint venture. The collaboration brings together their respective expertise and capabilities to explore opportunities for developing a competitive textile manufacturing business, with the potential to serve both domestic and international markets.

The cooperation aims to support the development of the local textile industry, encourage knowledge transfer, create employment opportunities and strengthen Syria's manufacturing capabilities. The proposed project will be evaluated through a joint feasibility study and business plan to determine its commercial viability and implementation requirements.

Marek Warzywoda, Group Chief Executive Officer of Baladna, said: "Our cooperation with Gürmen Group reflects our commitment to exploring investments that support Syria's economic recovery and the development of its productive sectors. We see considerable potential in the textile industry, particularly through partnerships that combine international industrial expertise with local capabilities. Our ambition is to contribute to building sustainable industries that create employment opportunities, strengthen local production and support Syria's competitiveness in regional and international markets."

Yasemin Gür Solmaz, Chairman of Gürmen Group, added: "Syria has a long history in textile manufacturing and a strong foundation of industrial knowledge and skilled talent. Through our cooperation with Baladna, we aim to explore the development of a modern textile manufacturing operation that benefits from our experience in production, technology and international markets. We believe that combining our respective strengths can help establish a competitive and sustainable business while contributing to the development of the local textile industry."

Baladna continues to advance its investment strategy in Syria through the development of an integrated dairy farm and processing facility, alongside strategic partnerships aimed at strengthening local production and supporting the country's food security. The company is also collaborating with the International Finance Corporation to explore opportunities to develop the dairy sector and expand the participation of local farmers and livestock producers.

As part of its broader investment plans, Baladna is pursuing opportunities across agriculture and industry, including textile manufacturing, sugar production and strategic crops. These initiatives are expected to have a significant impact on employment, creating substantial direct and indirect job opportunities, attract international expertise and introduce modern technologies, contributing to the recovery of Syria's productive sectors and long-term economic growth.

QCB issues new financing rules for SMEs against point-of-sale revenues



DOHA: Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has issued regulations on financing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) against point-of-sale (POS) revenues and verified electronic payment revenues within the State of Qatar, into line with the Third Financial Sector Strategy and in support of financial inclusion in Qatar.

A statement by QCB yesterday clarified that these regulations help encourage MSMEs to expand their business activities by facilitating access to financing through easing collateral requirements for obtaining credit, expediting credit approval procedures, and relying on the revenues of such enterprises as a source of repayment, whether such revenues are generated through POS devices provided by the same financing bank or by other banks.

It added that other verified electronic payment revenue streams within Qatar, for which revenues can be substantiated, may also be utilized.

The regulations include a number of controls, most notably setting a maximum financing limit equivalent to 30% of the average total annual revenues, with a repayment period of two years, including a grace period not exceeding six months, in addition to other controls aimed at protecting both banks and customers alike. — ***QNA***

China-Türkiye green forum eyes deeper green cooperation

ISTANBUL: The China-Türkiye Green Development Business Forum was held in Istanbul yesterday, bringing together nearly 300 representatives from government bodies and business communities of both countries to explore ways to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in green development.

The event was jointly hosted by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye.

Ren Hongbin, chairman of the CCPIT, said in his remarks that China-Türkiye economic and trade cooperation has maintained sound momentum and yielded fruitful results in recent years under the strategic guidance of the two countries' leaders.

Green development is one of the most promising areas for bilateral economic and trade cooperation, Ren said, adding that the forum aims to help businesses from both countries seize opportunities, strengthen exchanges and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in green sectors.

He said the CCPIT is ready to work closely with Turkish partners to build high-quality platforms for economic and trade cooperation, provide better professional services and deliver more tangible results in bilateral green cooperation.

Turkish Vice President Cevdet Yilmaz said in his address that this year marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Türkiye and China. He noted that Türkiye attaches great importance to developing relations with China and hopes to promote more balanced and sustainable bilateral economic ties.

Yilmaz said Türkiye regards green transformation as a key element of its development policies and welcomes more Chinese investment.

He also expressed willingness to strengthen the alignment of Türkiye's Middle Corridor initiative with the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative to enhance connectivity cooperation between the two countries and across the region.

During panel discussions, government and business representatives from both countries exchanged views on green energy and low-carbon industrial chains, as well as the Middle Corridor initiative and hub economy.

The forum also featured sector-specific business matchmaking sessions, providing a platform for enterprises from both countries to explore practical opportunities for cooperation. — ***XINHUA***

Vodafone Qatar, QMIC sign MoU to accelerate innovation in AI, IoT and smart technologies

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DOHA: Vodafone Qatar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Qatar Mobility Innovations Centre (QMIC) during Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026 to explore opportunities for collaboration across the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), smart mobility and digital innovation.

The MoU was formally signed by Mohamed Mohsin Alyafei, Enterprise Business Unit Director at Vodafone Qatar and Dr. Mohammed Adbdulaziz Al-Sada, Chief Executive Officer at QMIC.

The strategic partnership aims to combine Vodafone Qatar's connectivity and digital capabilities with QMIC's expertise in mobility technologies, location-based services, AI, smart city innovation and applied research. Together, they will explore opportunities to develop innovative solutions, including those related to robotics and automation, that support organisations across the public and private sectors and contribute to the growth of Qatar's economy.

The strategic partnership aims to combine Vodafone Qatar's connectivity and digital capabilities with QMIC's expertise in mobility technologies, location-based services, AI, smart city innovation and applied research.

Commenting on the occasion, Enterprise Business Unit Director at Vodafone Qatar, Mohamed Mohsin Alyafei, said, "At Vodafone Qatar, we remain committed to advancing digital innovation and supporting Qatar's transformation into a knowledge-based economy, in line with Qatar National Vision 2030. Our MoU with QMIC marks an important step in strengthening collaboration around emerging technologies, bringing together our expertise to explore innovative solutions that address the evolving needs of businesses and organisations across Qatar."



Enterprise Business Unit Director at Vodafone Qatar Mohamed Mohsin Alyafei and Chief Executive Officer at QMIC Dr. Mohammed Adbdulaziz Al-Sada with other officials during the MoU signing.

Chief Executive Officer at QMIC, Dr. Mohammed Adbdulaziz Al-Sada, commented, "This partnership with Vodafone Qatar represents an important step in strengthening the connection between locally developed research and industry-led innovation. At Qatar Mobility Innovations Center (QMIC), we have built a portfolio of cutting-edge technologies in intelligent mobility, AI and smart cities, developed by our talented research and engineering teams in Qatar to address real-world challenges. By combining our homegrown R&D capabilities with Vodafone Qatar's connectivity infrastructure and digital ecosystem, we aim to accelerate the transition of these technologies from research and proof of concept towards scalable, commercially viable solutions that support Qatar's digital transformation ambitions."

Qatar Society of Engineers organises 3D Printing & Smart Manufacturing Conference 2026

DOHA: Qatar Society of Engineers organized the 3D Printing & Smart Manufacturing Conference 2026, under the patronage of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and in strategic partnership with UCC Holding. Held under the theme 'From Idea to a Sustainable Reality,' the event brought together experts, engineers, and representatives from the engineering and industrial sectors, as well as government and private entities.

The conference highlighted the importance of digital and technological transformation in modern manufacturing and construction. It showcased the latest practical applications across four key pillars: construction and sustainable infrastructure; energy and heavy industry; digital policy, legislative development, and human capital; and the integration of digital twin technologies and artificial intelligence into industrial systems.

The event also featured research papers and specialised panel discussions that enriched debate on sustainability, digital supply chains, and smart manufacturing.

Chairperson of the Qatar Society of Engineers Eng. Amna Mohammed Al Naama said the conference's primary objective was to support national efforts to build a knowledge- and innovation-based economy. She commended the strong turnout and active engagement of participants and guests, noting that the diverse panel discussions and research papers reflected the readiness of Qatar's engineering sector to adopt advanced manufacturing technologies and 3D printing.

The conference concluded with a set of recommendations, including the development of a roadmap to advance 3D printing and smart manufacturing by identifying priority sectors and applications and fostering partnerships among government entities, industry, and academic institutions to support innovation and investment in these technologies.

The conference also recommended adopting clear technical standards for testing and evaluating 3D-printed products and spare parts. It proposed establishing mechanisms for technical approval, certification, and accreditation to ensure product quality, safety, and reliability and build confidence in their use across the engineering and industrial sectors.

The conference further advocated integrating 3D printing into construction and infrastructure projects and using it to manufacture spare parts for the oil, gas, and heavy industry sectors. Guided by feasibility studies and actual operational needs, these applications would aim to reduce production costs, shorten implementation and supply timelines, and enhance sustainability and resource efficiency. — *QNA*

GSMA and ExonNet sign MoU

DOHA: A strategic memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed on Sunday between GSMA Industry Services and ExonNet on the sidelines of the MWC26 Doha conference, aiming to support and foster digital transformation of micro and small enterprises.

The agreement was signed by Chief Executive Officer of Events and Industry Services at the GSMA Sianne Ryder and CEO of ExonNet Anthony Rodrigo.

The partnership seeks to enable mobile network operators to offer tailored digital services to micro and small enterprises via telecommunications networks, helping integrate underserved segments by providing advanced solutions that go beyond traditional connectivity.

During the signing ceremony, Sianne Ryder emphasized that the partnership is the result of months of dedicated work, with plans to extend the initiative to the upcoming MWC event in Barcelona, reaffirming a commitment to leaving no one behind and serving those with the least access to services.



Chief Executive Officer of Events and Industry Services at the GSMA Sianne Ryder and CEO of ExonNet Anthony Rodrigo during the signing ceremony.

For his part, Anthony Rodrigo explained that the agreement is grounded in a digital ecosystem developed and tested over several years across various regions in Africa and Asia, noting that both parties look forward to delivering tangible services that address the specific needs of target groups beyond telecommunications sector. — *QNA*

German exports rise more than expected in September

FRANKFURT: German exports rose more than expected in September on strong demand from other European countries, official data showed yesterday, the latest positive sign for the manufacturing powerhouse.

Exports increased two percent from the previous month to 141.1 billion euros ($158 billion), rebounding after two months of declines, statistics agency Destatis said.

That was above a rise of 0.5 percent forecast by analysts surveyed by the financial data firm FactSet.

It follows recent positive growth and manufacturing data, fuelling hopes that Europe's biggest economy has turned a corner after a long period of stagnation.

The September export data was lifted by a 3.5 percent increase in shipments to other European Union countries, according to the provisional data from Destatis.

But exports to China fell over five percent, extending a downward trend as the country's manufacturers increasingly compete with German companies in sectors ranging from automobiles to chemicals.

Shipments to the United States, the biggest destination for German goods, slipped by 0.5 percent. Germany's trade with the world's largest economy has been hit hard by US President Donald Trump's tariff blitz.

Despite higher energy prices triggered by the US war against Iran, the German economy is expected to grow in 2026 at its fastest pace in several years, lifted by higher government spending on defence and infrastructure. — *XINHUA*

Steady inflation outlook, mixed views for jobs in NY Fed survey

WASHINGTON: Americans' expectations for inflation were unchanged last month, but their outlook for unemployment was the worst since 2020, according to a Federal Reserve Bank of New York survey released Monday.

Consumers' estimates for inflation in a year held steady at 3.9% in October, and expectations for three and five years ahead also remained stable at 3.3%, and 3%, respectively, in the New York Fed's monthly survey of consumer expectations. However, the findings offered a mixed outlook for the job market.

The mean probability that the unemployment rate will increase in the next year rose to 45.3 percent, the highest since April 2020 and driven by respondents without a college degree.

Chances of finding a job if unemployed, meanwhile, improved for a second straight month to the highest since November 2025.



The labor market has remained solid in the face of rising price pressures as a result of the conflict in Iran.

So far the labor market has remained solid in the face of rising price pressures as a result of the war in Iran.

The government's employment report showed the unemployment rate fell to 4.1% in October, as companies added more payrolls than expected.

Fed officials have often said the labor market remains in a delicate balance amid a low-fire, low-hire environment.

In the New York Fed survey, the probability of losing a job in the next year rose slightly, while perceived chances of leaving a post voluntarily declined.

After holding interest rates steady in a 3.75% to 4% range last month, a number of Fed officials have argued gradual rate hikes will be needed to tame inflation back to their 2% goal.

After holding interest rates steady in a 3.75% to 4% range last month, a number of Fed officials have argued gradual rate hikes will be needed to tame inflation back to their 2% goal.

At their last meeting, policymakers said the "accumulation of more information" would allow them to determine the best level for policy.

The October consumer price index is due Tuesday.

The New York Fed data showed consumers' views of their own financial situations remained mixed.

Credit access perceptions were little changed, but the average probability of missing a minimum debt payment in the next three months rose to the highest since December.

Slightly more households said their financial situation had improved compared to last year, though respondents who said their finances would worsen in the next year also rose slightly.

After the economy expanded to the fastest pace in a year in the quarter ended in September, other surveys have shown an improvement in consumers' sentiment around their personal finances. — ***THE WASHINGTON POST/ BLOOMBERG***

EU aims to pick new ECB chief by year-end: Eurogroup

BRUSSELS: The EU wants to name the next head of the European Central Bank by the end of the year, Eurogroup chief Kyriakos Pierrakakis **(pictured)** said yesterday, before ministers held their first discussions on a successor to Christine Lagarde.

Former Dutch central bank chief Klaas Knot and Spain's Pablo Hernandez de Cos, head of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), are the two candidates to replace Lagarde, who announced last month that she would step down in February.

"The ambition here is that the whole process would have completed itself by the end of the year," Pierrakakis said before a Eurogroup meeting of euro area finance ministers, when the ECB race will be on the agenda.

Pierrakakis said that Dutch and Spanish ministers would present their candidates, and that later yesterday he would meet with Antonio Costa, head of the European Council, which represents EU member states' leaders.


Former Dutch central bank chief Klaas Knot and Spain's Pablo Hernandez de Cos, head of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), are the two candidates to replace Lagarde, who announced last month that she would step down in February.

It will be up to EU leaders to appoint Lagarde's replacement based on a recommendation by euro area finance ministers.

There will be fierce negotiations as ECB executive board member Isabel Schnabel and chief economist Philip Lane are due to be replaced as well.

The expectation is that the leaders agree on a package deal on all three, including Lagarde's replacement.

"Perhaps this would facilitate things but again this is a decision that will be taken by the leaders," Pierrakakis said.

Spanish Economy Minister Carlos Cuerpo said Hernandez de Cos was the "right person for the position", pointing to his decades of experience.

"He knows the ECB inside out. He's been leading institutions such as the Bank of Spain, such as BIS as well. A steady hand, but always a profile to be able to find consensus," Cuerpo told reporters.

Dutch Finance Minister Eelco Heinen said Knot was an "excellent candidate", adding that "He has a very clear understanding of the ECB mandate and he has... a lot of experience to fulfil this position".

EU governments want a deal as soon as possible.

Irish Finance Minister Simon Harris, whose country holds the rotating EU presidency, said he hoped Lagarde's replacement would be chosen by December.

"It certainly makes sense to fill the vacancy as quickly as possible," Harris said.

"But it's also about getting it right and getting the right person. It's a really crucial appointment." — ***AFP***

Tajikistan's agricultural output up 8.5% in first three quarters

DUSHANBE: Tajikistan's agricultural output totaled 67.1 billion somoni in the first three quarters of 2026, up 8.5 percent year on year, the Khovar news agency reported Sunday, citing data from the country's Ministry of Agriculture. The Khatlon Region accounted for the largest share of agricultural output at 53.3%, followed by the Sughd Region at 31.4%. Dushanbe and the cities and districts under republican subordination accounted for 14.2 percent, while the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region accounted for 1.1 percent.

The increase was mainly driven by higher production of potatoes, grapes and livestock products, according to the report. — ***XINHUA***

'Building integrated AI systems requires moving beyond reliance on standalone solutions'

DOHA: International experts in telecommunications technology and artificial intelligence have emphasized that building integrated AI ecosystems requires moving beyond a reliance on isolated solutions developed independently by individual entities, and instead shifting toward the development of shared capabilities that can be utilised and leveraged across government institutions.

This took place during a panel discussion at the MWC26 Doha conference, which focused on the future of interactive AI.

The session was attended by international AI experts, leaders from the telecommunications and technology sectors, representatives from major global corporations, as well as investors and innovators from the region and beyond, including Head of 'Quotient' (Oliver Wyman's global AI division) Jad Haddad and Regional General Manager of Google Cloud in Qatar Ghassan Kosta.



MCIT Assistant Undersecretary for Infrastructure and Operations Affairs Sami Mohammed Al Shammari with other industry leaders during the panel session at MWC26 Doha.

During the session, Assistant Undersecretary for Infrastructure and Operations Affairs at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) Sami Mohammed Al Shammari emphasised that the use of AI in national planning marks a new phase in the development of government operations, shifting from traditional analytical models to intelligent tools that facilitate faster and higher-quality decision-making.

He indicated that the success of this digital transformation depends on the presence of an appropriate regulatory and technical environment, effective partnerships between institutions, and investment in infrastructure and human capabilities, all of which ensure that innovation in AI is translated into sustainable economic and institutional value.

For her part, Director of Digital Innovation at MCIT Eman Ahmed Al Kuwari affirmed that the State of Qatar is moving toward an advanced stage in the deployment of AI technologies.

This transition involves shifting from the use of smart applications, which currently serve as tools for assistance and information provision, to the development of systems capable of executing tasks, interacting with users, and delivering services, thereby enhancing the efficiency of government operations and elevating the experience of citizens and residents alike. — *QNA*

Financial Sustainability Conference for Economic Sectors to convene tomorrow

DOHA: The Financial Sustainability Conference for Economic Sectors will kick off in Doha Wednesday, bringing together a host of decision-makers, experts and representatives of government, private-sector, financial and academic enterprises to delve into the primary challenges and immense opportunities surrounding financial sustainability and explore ways to turn knowledge and expertise into actionable recommendations and initiatives.

The gathering will address a raft of key themes, foremost among them the role of financial sustainability in economic diversification; sustainable finance and the banking sector's role in supporting the economy; and the contribution of accounting, auditing and governance to achieving financial sustainability. Other pivotal topics include the role of digital transformation and artificial intelligence in substantially augmenting financial sustainability, as well as financial risk management and strengthening economic resilience amid far-reaching global changes.

Organised by the Qatar Association of Certified Public Accountants (QCPA), in strategic partnership with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), and sponsored by the Ministry of Finance, Qatar Development Bank and QNB Group, the conference aims to provide a platform for sharing expertise and ideas, fostering collaboration and bolstering integration across economic sectors.

Chairman of QCPA Dr. Sultan bin Hassan Al Dhabet Al Dosari said financial sustainability is the bedrock of ensuring the viability and continuity of economic sectors, building a more diversified and efficient economy, and striking a delicate balance between economic growth, the preservation of natural resources and the rights of generations to come.

The event is part of the Qatar's broader efforts to build a diversified and sustainable economy, while augmenting the role of innovation and technology in line with QNV 2030. — *QNA*

Global demand for GCC crude oil records average annual growth of 3.1%

MUSCAT: The 2025 energy sector indicators for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, released by the Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-STAT), show that global demand for GCC crude oil grew at an average annual rate of 3.1% over the period 2021-2025.

Crude oil production in GCC countries increased by 5% in 2025 compared with 2024, reaching 16.9 million barrels per day and accounting for 22.5% of global crude oil production. These figures underscore the GCC's continued significance in the global energy supply system.

In the natural gas sector, production in GCC countries stood at approximately 460.9 billion cubic metres, accounting for 10.6% of global natural gas production.

On the exports front, the statistics indicate that GCC crude oil exports reached 12.2 million barrels per day in 2025, representing 27.3% of global crude oil exports. This reinforces the region's role in meeting international market needs and highlights the importance of stable GCC supplies amid ongoing changes in global energy markets.



In the natural gas sector, production in GCC countries stood at approximately 460.9 billion cubic metres, accounting for 10.6% of global natural gas production. This reflects the importance of the region's natural gas resources in meeting global energy demand, alongside the role of natural gas in supporting manufacturing and related economic activities.

The data show fluctuations in GCC crude oil production over the period 2021-2025. According to the bulletin, production stood at 16.0 million barrels per day in 2021, rose to 18.2 million barrels per day in 2022, then declined to 17.0 million barrels per day in 2023 and 16.1 million barrels per day in 2024, before increasing to 16.9 million barrels per day in 2025.

Alongside the pivotal role of oil and gas, GCC countries are working to reshape their energy systems by expanding renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency and advancing clean energy projects.

These efforts contribute to reducing emissions and balancing economic growth requirements with environmental protection. — *QNA*

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Announcement

The following individuals had purchased Demand Drafts/Transfers through Gulf Exchange and have not been claimed by the beneficiary are kindly requested to visit our Main Branch carrying proper identification to claim the amount. Those amounts has become Unclaimed as per Qatar Central Bank Circular No. 115/2003 since more than 10 years have elapsed from the date of issuance as per the records. Please note, if no claim received one month from the date of this announcement, the Co. shall be obliged to implement QCB instructions and transfer the unclaimed amount to General Authority for Minors' Affairs.

1 GANESH CHINTA
2 SHEIKH KHALID A RAHMAN H A ALTTHANI
3 LOLWA KHALID A A AL NUAIMI
4 FATIMA ALI Y A JASSIMAN
5 MOHAMMADU MUTHEER JAMALDEEN
6 ZAMZAM MOHAMED M BOOR
7 ALANOUD MOHAMMED A A AL MARRI
8 VAZIDKHAN MAYANA
9 BELAIHIM HEZAM SH S ALQAHTANI
10 SH THANI ABDULLA T J ALTHANI
11 MUSEER AHAMMED VALIYATHODY PARAMDA
12 MUSTHAFA SAHEB KULJAR
13 MOHAMED YISSA
14 SOHAN YADWA
15 جمعة عبد الونيس العراقي محمد نعم
16 THARASAN SELVANAYAGAM
17 LIONAL SOMAWEERA W GEDARA
18 AWANTHI N R D MAHATELGE
19 KRISNARAJAH PUSPARAJAH
20 MUHAMMAD KOZHUKKUTHAZHE
21 INDUNATH S A D THALAGAHAPELEGEDARA
22 ASMIL MOHAMED THAHIR
23 ANDRY ALI
24 ZAKI AMRI MUNAAN
25 حملة الهدى للحج و العمره - عبدالرحمن حسن
26 حملة الثقلين للحج و العمرة - منصور امر ا
27 ABDELKARIM MAZOUNI
28 QATAR GYMNASTIC FEDRATION
29 DALIA MOULOUDJ
30 SIVALINGHAM KURUPPAN SIVAN
31 KALANIAN JAYA
32 THARINDU DHANUSHKA M N ARACHCHIGE
33 SARATH PATHIRANA SENARATHNA W
34 ROSHAN KUMAR K
35 SALITHA NAYANA KUMARA DELOGOLLAGE
36 SURANGA MAKULUWA HANDI
37 ALEX SUSAIPILLAI FRANCIS
38 VAJIRAPANI MAHAKUMARA K GAMAGE
39 THIRUCHELVAM N MANIKKARASA
40 RANJITHLAL NAMMUNI A H WALHENAGE
41 MOHAMED JAZAR SUBAIR
42 KESHARA DEEPAL S M ARACHCHIGE
43 SARATHKUMAR THANGARASA
44 PRAVEEN MORGAN
45 CHAMIKA PATHUM W H MUDIYANSELAGE
46 SANJEEWA NAMAL KUMARA MANATHUNGAGE
47 MOHAMED FAHIM H K FAUSUDEEN
48 PASKARAN ASAIMUTHU
49 THILEEP SELVARASA
50 SAMPATH GAYAN DESHAPPRIYA M DON
51 GYAN MANOJ R D MUDIYANSELAGE
52 CHANDRASIRI HERATH HERATH MUDIYANSE
53 PRIYANTHA SISIRA KUMARA GARACHCHIGE
54 RUMESH MARIYADAS
55 KAMILA U I P
56 السيد / علي حسين نعمة - حملة المدينة للح
57 السادة / حملة الصفا و المروة للحج و العم
58 السادة / السلام العالمية
59 السادة / حملة الحرمين للحج و العمرة
60 SIDDIC KALLEKKATTIL
61 FAIYAZ AHMED ANSARI
62 RAM KRIPAL RAJBHAR
63 RAJU RAM SAMUJH
64 KINGSLY FERNANDO S FERNANDO
65 MADHANKUMAR EALUMALAI
66 SURINDER SINGH AJIT SINGH
67 JESSE V DOSA
68 ARINA D POTENCIA
69 CHRISTOPHER VILLARTA PACQUING
70 RAYAN E UNDALOC
71 BABYLYN BUNION ROBLES
72 EFREN JR S DIAZ
73 JUFFREY M DUARTE
74 JOSE MARI B GAY
75 REY BOLQUERIN QUILANGIT
76 MARIO VILLAHERMOSA GENON
77 CHINA NAGESWARA RAO NALLAM
78 ALI MOHAMED A Y AL SHAER
79 GODOFREDO JR GORME SABALO
80 MARIA LANI ESPANOL SUMAMPONG
81 KHALID DHAFER H ALDOSARI
82 DENNIES T MACASINAG
83 LANIE BATINO AMORA
84 EDUARDO DELA TORRE JR
85 REJOHN VALENTINO MURGUIA
86 MARY JANE MACALDO EBONA
87 ZENICIA MERCADER CATABAY
88 LAGA ULAN LOMANGEL SALIK
89 JOSEPH A DELA VEGA
90 ISAGANI JR GERONCA DEIPARINE
91 RASHIDUL HUSSAIN SHEIKH
92 وزارة الثقافة والفنون والتراث
93 دار الوطن للطباعه والنشر والتوزيع
94 محمد عبدالله عبدالغني ال عبدالغني
95 محمد احمد قطب موسى
96 محمد السيد عبدالرزاق بطور
97 احمد محمود احمد على
98 محمود سيد علام علي
99 عمار وليد احمد هندي
100 السادة / حملة التوبة للحج و العمرة
101 السادة / حملة الفرقان للحج و العمرة
102 السيد / محمد سالم الهاجري
103 د. اسامة حمد
104 IMAS HASANAH
105 NIROJAN SELLATHAMBY PAKIYARASA
106 MOHAMED SAKEER MOHAMED FAROOK
107 SAFRAS LANTRA TUAN
108 MOWFEER MOHAMED MUSTHAFFA
109 RAIGAMAGE DEESHANA NILAKSHI PEIRIS
110 RAJANTHERAN RASANAYAGAM
111 ABDUL BASHEER ELAYODATH
112 MOHAMMAD GULFAM SHEIKH SAHARUL
113 NRIPEN NIKHIL KANJILAL
114 UMMER FAROOK K P PURAYIL
115 MOHAMED SAPRAS HAJA MOHAIDEEN
116 NISHAM THERUVATH MOHAMED ALI
117 ISHTEYAK AHMAD
118 BIJIMON KOOMPELNIKARTH CHITHAM
119 PHILIP CHACKO
120 SHEIKH ABDULLA KHALIFA A AL THANI
121 HOSSIEN HANSHOL ALHIEFIL
122 ABDULLA ABDULLA A ALSAYGH
123 HAMED SALEM MS MISHAAB
124 RAFI ALKASEM
125 ناصر سعد محمد سعد النعيمي
126 حامد محمد يوسف ابو مطر
127 MOHRA MOHD M K ALFADALA
128 SEUNG YOUB BAEK

Slovakia's exports surge 11% in Sep, fastest growth in 18 months

BRATISLAVA: Slovakia's exports reached €10.7bn in September 2026, up 11 percent year-on-year, marking the fastest growth in 18 months, according to preliminary data released by Slovakia's Statistical Office on yesterday.

Imports increased by 9.9 percent year-on-year to €10.1bn, allowing the country to return to a trade surplus after a one-month gap. The surplus stood at €542.1m up €141m from a year earlier.

Machinery and transport equipment, including automobiles, made the largest positive contribution to export growth. Exports in this category rose by more than 12 percent year-on-year, the fastest increase since March 2025.

Other European Union (EU) member states remained Slovakia's main trading partners in September, accounting for nearly 80 percent of the country's total exports and around 65 percent of its imports.

Exports to other EU countries increased by 7 percent year-on-year, while imports from these countries rose by more than 11 percent. Meanwhile, exports to non-EU countries surged by nearly 30 percent, while imports from these countries grew by more than 7 percent.

Imports increased by 9.9 percent year-on-year to €10.1bn, allowing the country to return to a trade surplus after a one-month gap. The surplus stood at €542.1m up €141m from a year earlier.

Slovakia recorded a trade surplus of nearly €1.9bn with other EU member states in September, while its trade deficit with non-EU countries stood at around €1.4bn.

In the first nine months of 2026, Slovakia's exports increased by 4.4 percent year-on-year to €85.5bn, while imports rose by 4.2 percent to €83.4bn. — ***XINHUA***

Gold prices rally more than 1%

SINGAPORE: Gold prices rallied more than 1% yesterday, extending their recent advance as investors awaited US inflation data for fresh clues on the outlook for interest rates and the Federal Reserve's monetary policy.

Spot gold climbed 1.6% to $4,129.69 an ounce, while US gold futures for December delivery advanced 1.6% to $4,139. The gains build on a strong run for the precious metal, which jumped about 5% last week as market sentiment remained supportive.

Elsewhere in the precious-metals complex, spot silver advanced 2.8% to $53.31 an ounce. Platinum added 1.6% to $1,556.14, while palladium gained 2.1% to $1,044.28. — ***QNA***

PENOMAG Classifieds

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Nicole Marie Chambers
نيكول ماري تشامبرز
Holder of UK Passport No. 141891677
(Qatar ID No.29382600471)
hereby change my name to
NICOLE MARIE MHETLI
نيكول ماري المهتلي
Any objection, please contact the Immigration and Passport Office within 15 days from the publication of this notice.





