Qatar among most competitive global economic powers

SACHIN KUMAR

The Arab World Competitiveness Report 2018 has ranked Qatar as the second most competitive economy in the Arab world and placed Qatar on the 25th rank globally.

Qatar is the 2nd most competitive economy in the Arab world and 25th globally. The drop in oil and gas prices had a significant effect on the country’s competitiveness, said the report.

Yet its macroeconomic environment remains solid at 20th globally and 1st in the region. Qatar’s strengths lie in its solid infrastructure facilities and efficient goods markets, “it added.

Qatar is also at the top in the region in entrepreneurship ecosystems. In the annual Global Entrepreneurship Index (GEI), Qatar has scored highest score of growth with 92.8, remaining in the top 10 list of countries.

The average score for the region’s countries in the 2018 GEI is 67.6, which is the 20th highest globally. Qatar has scored more than 50 per cent GEI measures the quality of entrepreneurship as well as the extent and depth of the supporting entrepreneurial ecosystem across 14 components.

“Going forward, the country will have to use better access to digital technologies for individuals and businesses, and further strengthen educational institutions,” noted the report.

“Top-quality infrastructure, a favourable macroeconomic environment, and good levels of health and primary education represent the country’s main strengths,” it added.

Both survey and statistical data reflect the situation prior to the current tensions with neighbouring countries, said the report.

The report has recommended countries to diversify their economies and move away from a model of government growth and less reliance on natural resources exports. It continued that countries that made significant progress in infrastructural development and enhanced competitiveness.

For example, in GCC, countries, the total value of infrastructure projects amounted to $2.7 trillion.

The consumption of both water and electricity in June 2018 witnessed a double-digit decline compared to the corresponding month last year.

The demand of water has declined by 14.3 percent and electricity by 11.1 percent compared to figures for the same month in 2017.

The total consumption of water in June 2018 stood at 18,100,5 thousand cubic meters (M³) and electricity at 3,441,456 MWh against 4,410,0 (1000 M³) and 4,132,394 (MWh) respectively.

According to latest official data released by the Ministry of DoE, Planning and Statistics. However, when compared on a month-on-month basis (6m-6m) the water consumption in June declined by 5.2 percent compared to May 2018, but electricity demand witnessed an increase of 11.1 percent, which was attributed to increases in consumption rates compared to the previous year.

A windy day

AMIR H H SHEIKH TAMIM BIN HAMAD AL THAN

Amir offers condolences to Amir of Kuwait

Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani offered condolences to Amir of the sister State of Kuwait H H Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah and the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah on the death of Sheikha Faresa Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, wife of the late Sheikh Rashid Al Hamoud Al Jaber Al Sabah. The condolences were conveyed by H H Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani, Personal Representative of the Amir, during a meeting with the prime minister of the Arab Palaces yesterday.

H H also conveyed the condolences to Sheikha Faresa’s sons Sheikh Hamad bin Rashid Al Hamoud Al Jaber Al Sabah and Sheikh Ahmad bin Rashid Al Hamoud Al Jaber Al Sabah as well as members of their family, praying the Almighty Allah to have mercy upon them.

Qatar, Council of Europe activate pact to support standards of security in football

THE PENVILLA

The Council of Europe has affirmed the importance of the first coordination meeting held in Doha to activate the bilateral agreement (2018-2020) between the State of Qatar and the Council under the European convention on security and integrated service in football matches and other sporting events known as ‘St Denis Convention’.

The Council of Europe’s Head of Sports Conventions Division Sergey Khrychikov said that this meeting will give the State of Qatar a global rating in the security and safety operation, which contributes to the organisation of a safe World Cup during the next edition to be hosted by Doha in 2022. Pointing out that the State of Qatar is to join St Denis Convention two years after the start of the implementation of the partnership program with the Council, in order to become an active member of the Convention. QNA has reported.

In a statement on the outcomes of the meeting, Khrychikov said that the State of Qatar will benefit greatly from joining the Convention through the experience it will gain by creating partnerships with global players that have a legacy in organizing major sporting events, especially as the Convention aims to combat violence and misconduct within stadium and ensure Public safety.

In a statement, Amir offers condolences to Amir of Kuwait

QNA

Amir concedes with Italian President

QNA

Qatar condemns attack outside British Parliament

QNA

The State of Qatar has strongly condemned and denounced the vehicle ramming attack on targeted pedestrians and a group of cyclists outside the British Houses of Parliament, causing many injuries.

In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated the State of Qatar’s firm stance rejecting violence and terrorism, whatever their cause or motivation.

The statement affirmed the State of Qatar’s standing in solidarity with Britain and its support for any measures taken to maintain security.

The statement expressed Qatar’s wishes for a speedy recovery to the injured.

Sidrda Medicine heralds medical tourism

DOHA. Sidrda Medicine treated its first international patient at the newly opened Heart Center last month, ushering in an era of reverse medical tourism to the nation.

The 29-day-old patient was flown from Qatar to Kuwait for an emergency operation to correct a heart defect that left her heart unable to properly pump blood throughout her body. From prematurely, the baby girl weighed just 1.3 kg at the time of the operation which took two hours. She will need to return to Sidrda Medicine for a series of procedures over the coming months to correct the defect.

Led by Dr Ghazi Guer, Division Chief of Cardiac Surgery, and supported by a team of many Sidrda Medicine experts, the successful operation opened up possibilities for regional patients in need of Sidrda Medicine’s specialist services who can now access care closer to home.

Patients in Qatar and the region now have access to state-of-the-art equipment and an international team of experts able to perform the most complex cardiac and surgical procedures in a familiar cultural setting with a team who speak their language.

The entire Heart Center team feels incredibly grateful to have been entrusted with the care of our smallest patient to date. We would like to thank the family and the Kuwait Oil Company for entrusting a precious life into our care. We have built an incredibly close and fruitful partnership with colleagues in Kuwait who have been instrumental in enabling Kuwaiti patients to access care at Sidrda Medicine. We look forward to working closely together in the future,’ said Professor Ziad Al Hijazi, Chair of the Department of Pulmo- nary Medicine and the Heart Center.

The Sidrda Medicine Heart Center offers a wide range of services including cardiac surgery, interventional therapies, electrophysiological therapies, cardiac anesthesia, perfusion, structural heart surgery, interventions, oncology (ECMO), cardiac intensive care, non-invasive cardiology, outpa- tient and interventional cardiology, as well as fetal cardiology.
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- Bachelor’s degree preferably in Business Management
- 2 years’ experience
- Experience dealing with senior management

IT SECURITY MANAGER
- Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science/IT or relevant field or Diploma in relevant field with 3 years of additional experience
- Minimum 5 years’ experience

TELECOM AV ENGINEER
- Diploma or equivalent in Computer Science/IT/Television/Graphics Design/Communication Engineering or relevant field
- 2-4 years’ relevant experience

ENCORECOURSE OFFICER (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- University Degree in Business or equivalent
- 2-3 years’ government Procurement experience

PUBLIC RELATIONS LEAD (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- Bachelor degree in Marketing, Advertising, Communications or a related discipline
- 8 years’ experience in public relations with at least 3 years in a managerial role

HR MANAGER (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- Bachelor’s Degree in HR Management or Business Administration
- Minimum 5 years’ experience required
- Minimum 5 years’ professional management experience across all HR disciplines

HEAD - MANPOWER & RECRUITMENT (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- A Bachelor degree or a Post-Graduation Diploma in HR Management, Business Administration or any other related discipline
- 5 years’ overall experience including 3 years at a managerial level in Recruitment function
- Experience in recruiting senior level candidates from Healthcare Industry

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- Recognized Certificate or equivalent in any relevant discipline
- Minimum 1-2 years’ experience in similar position serving middle management level

PHARMACIST
- Accredited Master’s degree or Doctor of Pharmacy
- Licensed as a Clinical Pharmacist in home country/GCPH in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ relevant clinical pharmacy experience

LAB TECHNICIAN
- Accredited Laboratory Diploma/Degree
- Licensed as a Laboratory Technician in home country/GCPH in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ relevant hospital laboratory experience

RADIOLOGY TECHNICIAN
- Bachelor degree in Radiography or equivalent from an accredited university
- Accredited Radiology Technician in home country/GCPH in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ experience in Radiography, including imaging Services and MRI in a clinical setting

DENTAL ASSISTANT
- Diploma Degree in Dental Assisting from an accredited university or equivalent
- Licensed as a Dental Assistant in home country/GCPH in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ relevant experience in dental assisting

PHYSIOTHERAPY
- A Degree in BSc Physiotherapy in an accredited Physiotherapy Programme
- Licensed as a Physiotherapist in home country/GCPH in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ physiotherapy experience

SOCIAL WORKER (QATAR NATIONAL ONLY)
- Bachelor degree in social work from a recognized university or an equivalent combination of social work education and experience
- Licensed as a registered social worker in Qatar
- Minimum 5 years’ experience in a healthcare organization

CLINICAL LICENSING ASSISTANT
- Recognized Certificate / Diploma / Degree
- Minimum 5 years’ experience in similar position working within a healthcare administration role
- Past experience working with healthcare CDP and licensing regulations in Qatar

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**The Peninsula**

**Electricity and water in Qatar**

The per capita consumption of electricity and water in Qatar is 40,181.4 cubic meters and 15 percent, respectively. The majority of OpCo developments (OPPS) will be closed on Sunday, August 19 and will reopen on Monday, August 20. When OPPs are open, they will be supported by administrative and clinical support services, including pharmacies.

The successful outcome of the JMCA operation will remain open during its regular hours of 7am to 3pm. Sunday to Tuesday. The Day Care Centre will be closed on August 21 and 22.

If any having a scheduled appointment during the Eid holiday period, all of you will be treated healthy Eid Mubarak,” said Ali Abdullah Al Khater, Chief Communications Officer at HMC.

**Qatar wholesale**

Wishing to change their slot, non-compliant with consumers campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce in July resulted in detection of 89 violations. The violations ranged from non-compliance with commercial activities in the country with the aim of controlling prices and detecting violations to protect consumer rights. The penalties included administrative closure and financial fines which vary between QR4,000 and QR30,000 according to the laws and decisions governing the work of consumer protection departments.

The ministry confirmed it will be firm against all those non-compliant with consumer law and its executive regulations. It also confirmed it will intensify its inspection campaigns to control such practices and refer all violators to the competent entities to take the appropriate measures against them to protect the consumer.

**MEC detects 89 violations in July**

The Ministry of Economy and Commerce (MEC) has launched monitoring raids on outlets offering subsidised sacrificial sheep at Central Market on first day of the initiative yesterday to ensure all are following the rules.

Under the initiative which aims at providing Qataris with sacrificial sheep at a reasonable price for the upcoming Eid Al Adha, MEC offered 2,500 sheeps QR2,500 each weighing 40kg and above and QR1,200 for local sheep weighing 40kg and above.

The subsidised sheep are being sold at affordable prices which vary depending on the weight and age of sheep. The initiative came for the sixth time this year in a row to create a balance in the market, and ensure the consumer is protected.

**Qatar condemns death of US soldier in Afghanistan**

The State of Qatar has strongly condemned and denounced the attack that targeted a military patrol in Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan, killing an American soldier.

In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated the State of Qatar's slogan 'no to violence and terrorism,' emphasizing that the consistent motives and reasons are the result of a premeditated attack by the Taliban to spread fear and instill instability in the region.

The Defense Ministry also condemned the Taliban's crimes, underlining the principle of the State of Qatar to condemn or support any actions that hinder the achievement of peace and stability in the region.

**Outlets offering subsidised sacrificial sheep monitored**

**The Peninsula**

**HIA hosts Salalah International Airport officials**

Hamad International Airport executive management in a group photo with Salalah International Airport officials.

The Ministry of Economy and Commerce fixed the price of sacrificial animals at QR800 for local sheep weighing 40kg and above and QR1,000 for Arab sheep of 45kg and above. The subsidised sheep are being sold at affordable prices which vary depending on the weight and age of sheep. The initiative came for the sixth time this year in a row to create a balance in the market, and ensure the consumer is protected.

**Tarsheed helps cut utility use during Eid**

“Every day across our hospitals and clinics, our clinical teams in all of our hospitals will continue to provide the highest levels of patient care in our Emergency Departments and across many essential services throughout this holiday period,” he said. “Of all of you, I would like to wish you and your families a .”

Hamad International Airport executive management in a group photo with Salalah International Airport officials.

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Qatar, Council of Europe activate pact to support standards of security in football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

He noted in the same context that the Council has partnerships with countries hosting major sporting events, which have contributed many recommendations to the Ongoing Committee of the World Cup vase to contribute to the logistical and movement of the teams. He also highlighted the importance of increasing the awareness of the role of the business and security during the hosting of the 2022 World Cup. The first coordination meeting was held at the headquarters of Security. The Governorate Committee for the World Cup, Qatar “The role of the business and security during the hosting of the 2022 World Cup in the country.”

The Council also holds partnerships with FIFA, UEFA, Interpol, and Europol to achieve the highest standards of safety and security.

Qatar, Council of Europe activate pact to support standards of security in football

The agreement came after the adoption of Qatar as an observer member of the Council of Europe, as the first Arab country in this field, as the Council has partnerships at the level of foreign ministers.
**Erdogan: Turkey to boycott US electronic goods**

"If they (US) have the iPhone, there's Samsung on the other side," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said, referring to US giant Apple's iconic phone and the top South Korean brand.

"We will boycott US electronic goods," Erdogan said in a speech in Ankara, again shoring up his commitment in the dispute. "If the United States have the iPhone, there's Samsung on the other side," he said, referring to US giant Apple's iconic phone and the top South Korean brand.

"We also have our Vemos and Vostel," he said about homegrown Turkish electronics brands. Shares in Vostel zoomed up seven percent on the Istanbul stock exchange after Erdogan's remarks. Erdogan has been repeatedly photographed with Apple products including the iPhone and iPad.

"It's not comfortable based on his communication between election headquarters due to repeated attacks by armed groups and a lack of communication between election observers. Erdogan's spokesman said yesterday, following negotiations between the two regional rivals.

"Tensions between Iran and Saudi Arabia have run high in recent years. The two countries have backed opposing forces in wars across the Middle East, usually along sectarian lines.

"The vote generally took place calmly, despite security measures in the streets, and there were no reports of violence that shut nearly 100 polling stations on Monday. About 2 percent of the totalTurnout was also low. EU observers did not deploy to some regions in the north and centre due to repeated attacks there by jihadists, and some militia this year that have killed hundreds of civilians, Malian troops and UN peacekeepers."

**Sudanese hit by bread shortages as currency crunch escalates**

With official results not immediately be reached for release. In February, Saudi Arabia has run high in regional rivals.

"We will have to do this to make Apple products unaffordable for Turks in any case. The lira's plunge — which has turned into a rout on Friday — was triggered by news of the US central bank raising interest rates, a move seen as a sign of its concern about inflation.

"We will boycott US electronic goods," Erdogan said in a speech in Ankara, again shoring up his commitment in the dispute. "If the United States have the iPhone, there's Samsung on the other side," he said, referring to US giant Apple's iconic phone and the top South Korean brand.

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Fatima Yassin, 36, in a queue for women, said: "Everything is expensive and bread is not available. We have a difficult life and the government doesn't care about us." Similar queues were seen in other cities near the capital.

Sudan imported 2 million tonnes of wheat last year and plans to ease some restrictions Wednesday morning. A statement from Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman's office says that if a current lull in violence continues, Israel will resume full operations at a key goods crossing and restore fishing limits Wednesday morning.

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NEW DELHI: Assuring that India was at the cusp of achieving many of its long-awaited goals, President Ram Nath Kovind yesterday said “controversies and extra- 

usual debates” should not distract the people.

In his address to the nation on the eve of 72nd Inde-

pendence Day, he referred to various issues and said these “may have held true 10 or 20 years ago or even earlier to some extent but “even to see at a pinch in our history that is different from any period that we have so far experienced”.

“We are at the cusp of achieving many of our long-

awaited goals. Universal access to electricity, the elimination of open defecation, the elimination of polio, the very elimin-

ation of extreme poverty is achievable and we should not allow these to become a procrastination. Let con-

ditions that were heretofore deemed not to exist,” he said.

Kovind said if freedom was defined in narrow political terms, then August 15, 1947 was the result of years that “the reality was that everyone who contributes to society by being true to a professional ethic, be it the doctor’s oath, the nurse’s vows, the teacher’s oath, the public servant’s oath, the factory worker’s ethic, the business

person’s ethic, the ethic of those who have to care for ageing parents - each of these and many other

are in their own way upholding the values of freedom”.

“We are at the cusp of achieving many of our long-

awaited goals. Universal access to electricity, the elimination of open defecation, the elimination of extreme poverty is reachable and attainable,” the

President said in his address to the nation on the eve of 72nd Independence Day.

NEW DELHI: The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) yesterday, in a

Shah of State Police, Delhi Police, who lost their lives in 2017 while serving the nation, selected for the President’s Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG).

Their names are among the 942 officers and men of the police force across the country who have been selected for the Police Medal for Meritorious Services, the Police Medal for Gallantry and the Police Medal for Distinguished Services.

The 3.5 lakh strong police force of the CRPF is in the fourth place in the central paramilitary forces. The CRPF has bagged PPM awards.

Virtual loot of Rs940m from Pune bank via ATM in 28 countries

PUNE: India’s banking sector was redly shaken up after an international gang of hackers rifled off Rs940 million from 28 ATMs worldwide — via a malware attack. The actual number of cards compromised is around 450, but they made withdrawals. “The actual number of cards robbed is not known,” said Prof. Majid A. Kade, Chairman of the Centre for Cybersecurity and Digital Co-operative Governance in terms of financial set-ups (deposits and advances) and promptly assured their 20 lakh account holders in 140 branches across India that their “monies are safe” and not to resort to panic withdrawals.

The Crime Branch admitted that it was cyber attacked twice, first on Saturday and again on Monday — with ATM withdrawals taking place at least in 28 countries, leading to a full being handing over by a senior official with Chunarhur Police Station. Banking experts like Vishal Gupta said “this is just a proof that cyber criminals worldwide are on the rise”.

“Two of these cases,” he said “are from Standard Chartered Bank and one from Axis Bank”.

He accused both the leaders of suppressing people’s voice and snatching money and land from the poor by setting up a few rich industrialists. The Prime Minister again challenged Modi for a debate on Rafale deal, saying the Prime Minister revised the price of the fighter jet from Rs 50,000 crore to Rs 60,000 crore to help his friend.

The Congress President said while he could understand Modi’s silence on Rafale as corrup-

tion was involved, he was not speaking on any issue even on atrocities on Dalits and tribals, killings of farmers and displacing millions of women and girls across the country. Gandhi promised that if voted to power, the Congress would implement the Goods and Services Tax (GST) with one slab and end all the problems as being done now. He also declared that the item GST would be exempt from GST.

CEC virtually rules out simultaneous poll prospects

NEW DELHI: The BJP’s push for simultaneous polls bore fruit in a major debate on Tuesday with the Election Commission appearing to rule out simultaneous poll prospects. The Congress said the BJP was planning to delay the elections to avoid defeat.

A day after BJP President Shah pushed for simulta-

neous polls with the Law Minister saying the Centre will bring about a constitutional amendment curtail or extend, then a state assembly needed to be dissolved. Chief Election Commissioner OP Rawat said “There is no issue of one nation, one election yet. The Centre will give inputs and suggestions to the states with reference to 100 per cent polling and other provisions. We have not reached a final figure and will update the number later.”

The BJP's push for simultaneous polls in 11 states has been categorically ruled out by the Chief Election Commissioner.

However, he said, the Commission is continuing to deliver its responsibility of conducting free and fair elections in the term of a state assembly ends.

Yesterday, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra used the failed experiments to plug any plans of the BJP to hold simultaneously. The Centre and your Chief Min-

ister and more to the point, the Prime Minister is an expert in redesigning the rules of the game,” he said.

Freedom is a constant and plural and egalitarian India — the country of citizenship. Freedom is a constant and plural and egalitarian India — the country of the citizen of India who does his or her duty by upholding the values of freedom. Each of these and many others are in their own way upholding the values of freedom”.

“We are at the cusp of achieving many of our long-

awaited goals. Universal access to electricity, the elimination of open defecation, the elimination of extreme poverty is reachable and attainable,” the

President said in his address to the nation on the eve of 72nd Independence Day.

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ruled out any plans of the BJP to hold simultaneous elections in 11 states along with Lok Sabha elections of 2019.
Pakistan marks 71 years of Independence

President Mamnoon Hussain hoisted the national flag at a ceremony in Islamabad while Pakistanis across the country raised the banner at their homes and on their cars.

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has kicked off a day of celebrations marking the 71st anniversary of its independence from British rule.

This year, the anniversary comes amid political change with a new government taking over following the July 25 general elections. Pakistan’s former cricket star-turned-politician Imran Khan has become the next prime minister.

Pakistan’s former President Hussain hoisted the national flag at a ceremony in Islamabad while Pakistanis across the country raised the banner at their homes and on their cars.

Experts oppose online voting for overseas Pakistanis

INTERNEWS

ISLAMABAD: The task force on election reforms has recommended the form of Pakistan Alliance for Free and Fair Elections (PAFEE) is virtually out as the PAFEE team has backed out from voting for Shaukat Sharif in the parliamentary election for the country’s northeastern tribal region.

The parties have come together after alienating mass engineering and rigging in the election results. The alliance comprises PML-N, PPP, MMA, ANP and others. After multiple meetings, bothleggends agreed that they would field joint candidates for the prime minister, speaker and deputy speaker.

Hamza Shahbaz is PML-N’s Punjab CM candidate

LAHORE: Pakistan’s former ruling party the PML-N’s parliamentary meeting nominated its president’s son Hamza Shahbaz for the chair of chief minister in case of losing the slot, he would be nominated its president’s son for the prime minister,

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), emerged as the single largest party in the general elections, won 117 seats in the 350-seat National Assembly.

Sri Lanka arrests intelligence officer over killings

AFP

COLOMBO: Sri Lankan police yesterday arrested a naval intelligence officer in connection with atrocities committed during the island’s bloody civil war, including the assassination of a prominent Tamil politician.

Lieutenant Commander Sampath Hettiarachchi was wanted in connection with the abduction and illegal detention of 11 Tamils between 2008 and 2009, police said. The initial phase of the war between government forces and Tamil separatists.

The 11 men are believed to have been killed while being held by the army. Their bodies were never found.

The then-military spokesman K.P. Dasanayake is also a suspect in the case. He was arrested last year and is currently held.

“However, we have arrested one of the most wanted men and we are continuing the investigation,” a police spokesperson said, adding that Hettiarachchi was also wanted in connection with the 2009 slaying of Tamil lawmaker Nadarajah Raviraj.

There have been persistent allegations that senior military personnel and members of the former regime of strongman president Mahinda Rajapakse were responsible for a number of high-profile killings.

Several military intelligence officers are facing prosecution in connection with the assassination of a prominent anti-government journalist and state television editor, and for orchestrating attacks on other journalists and dissidents during Rajapakse’s rule that ended in 2015.

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FIG. 1.3 is a front view thereof;
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EDITORIAL

A successful approach

Comprehensive traffic safety strategy to ensure a secure transport system for all road users in Qatar is bearing fruit with roads in the State beginning to make safer use of the past decade due to efforts taken by the concerned authorities. The road accident mortality rate has fallen from 5.6 deaths per 100,000 people in 2013 to 3.4 deaths per 100,000 people in 2017, a figure lower than the National Traffic Safety Strategy (4 deaths per 100,000 people until 2022). The figures indicate Qatar is moving in the right direction and is placed at the forefront of Middle East countries in reducing the number of road accidents.

This rate is well below the global average of 7.4 deaths per 100,000 people and in high-income countries of 5.2 to 100,000 people, despite the high number of vehicles and drivers in the country.

According to World Health Organization figures, nearly 1.3 million people die in road crashes each year in the world and cause between 20 to 50 million non-fatal injuries. Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death among 15-24-year-olds, it said. In the Gulf region, the figures showed that more than 200,000 of 1,3 million people die in road crashes each year in the world and cause between 20 to 50 million non-fatal injuries. Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death among 15-29-year-olds, it said. In the Gulf region, the figures showed that more than 200,000 people die in road crashes each year in the world and cause between 20 to 50 million non-fatal injuries.

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Qatar is at the forefront of Middle East countries in reducing the number of road accidents after adopting a comprehensive traffic safety strategy.

The idea of a space force - a new service branch like the Army or Navy, not merely a combatant command - has been around for decades, but the entrenched military services have very clearly fought it. Each has some space expertise, and like having some level of control over “its” space assets, the Air Force has the most to lose in terms of bureaucratic turf. Consequently, the Air Force has been predictably the most resistant to the concept. This is ironic. In the mid-20th century, the Army and Navy fought tooth and nail to prevent the creation of the Air Force. The arguments at the time were much like those we hear today. We don’t need it, we need to do what we are best at. But either way, yep. The question now is finding the right space force before a cyber force.

US needs a space force and a cyber force

JAMES STAIRWORTH

The proposal for a new US Space Force has become a bone of contention on late-night TV. It is not the first time the new bureaucracy, a competitor for the private sector, and an idea that will lead to a vicious militarization of space. None of these are correct.

Many of those designing the idea are under-informed and spring-loaded to dislike the idea because it is proposed by President Donald Trump. I have no doubt of pithy comments with the Trump administration, but on this issue it is boldly going in the right direction.

And while the idea of a space force is smart, the new service component we really need is a Cyber Force. And it makes a lot of sense to bring both of these small, elite, high-tech branches to right now.

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That Kim could make an appearance.

North Korea has taken some small conciliatory steps, including the apparent dismantling of a satellite-launch site last month. But those acts have been of questionable value.

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Japan’s Abe eager to end intraparty debate

HIDORI TAJIMA & ATSUKO KUSATAKE

Abe aims to have the LDP's proposal on constitutional revision introduced to the full Diet in the fall, with the goal of confirming its own position. However, the LDP's proposal on this issue is in conflict with four specific items in March, the party proposed deleting Paragraph 2 of Article 9, which has maintaining force. But a new separate clause should be created to stipulate the retention of the SDF. The proposal presented this idea which makes Abe's stance, as a "leading" opinion, but also mentioned another position that calls for deleting Paragraph 2, which is supported by many members of the LDP. Former LDP Secretary General Shigeru Ishiba and his leading figures who advocate eliminating Paragraph 2. The LDP compiled a draft for constitutional revision in 2012, which deleted Article 9's Paragraph 2. Ishiba has described the LDP's proposal, not only "because it has been modified so". During Sunday's speech, Abe stressed that his party should "accelerate its work to devise its own revision proposal". He indicates his resolve to achieve a landslide victory over Ishiba in next month's LDP presidential election so he can "put an end to an intraparty debate" on this issue. According to a party member who is close to Abe, Abe has advocated the preservation of Paragraph 2 of Article 9 based on the belief that this approach "does not change the current interpretation of the SDF as an organization with the minimum necessary level of power", making it easier for him to win support from Komeito, which takes a cautious stance on constitutional revision, as well as many members of the public. During the speech, Abe emphasized his realistic approach, saying: "Regarding revision in politics, I will realize constitutional revision by winning agreements from a wide range of people." Abe's stance was revealed last Sunday when he told reporters in Tokyo that he thinks the Constitution should not be reviewed if no change is made in the interpretation of the SDF. Abe believes that maintaining Paragraph 2 of Article 9 would not dispel the argument that the SDF represents the maintenance of armed forces and is therefore unconstitutional. When announcing his candidacy for the presidential election on Sunday, Ishiba said, "I have no intention to flee from discussions." During the race, he will call for constitutional revision that would pave the way for the top law to recognize the SDF as an armed force and include stipulations on its role for national defense and maintaining peace in the international community. Ishiba will work actively for his support —including from rank-and-file LDP members— because some people in the party, particularly conservative, support his stance. According to a party source, the revision proposal will be presented on 9 April and 10 April. The LDP will seek the approval of the top law in the upper house of the Diet. Abe and Ishiba have clear differences on the matter. During Sunday's speech, the prime minister said: "Considering the current state of the education system and stipulating the SDF in the Constitution of the four times his party has worked out for the top law. In contrast, Ishiba described the other two issues as the most pressing, dissolving divergent constitutional implications for the upper house elections and establishing a provision for a state of emergency. He also said revising Article 9 was not urgent. Abe is preparing a scenario in which he will act as the LDP's presidential election candidate not just among its Diet members, but also rank and file party members, and presents the party's proposal for constitutional revision during the extraordinary Diet session this autumn. While Abe is mulling whether the legislative body initiates the issue during its ordinary session next summer, currently the ruling bloc, Nippon Ishin no Kai and other pro-revision forces hold a two-thirds majority in both chambers of the Diet, which approved the draft for the third time to initiate constitutional revision.
Hong Kong independence activist lambasts China

**AFP**

HONG KONG: Hong Kong independence activist Andy Chan attacked China as an empire trying to "annex" and "destroy" the city in a no-holds-barred speech yesterday at the city's press club which Beijing wanted cancelled.

Mr. Chan, who has viewed Mladic and nationalist politicians over the Srebrenica massacre and other crimes committed by the government, accused Beijing of forcing the city to become an "exiled city" and said its decision to designate a day to remember the victims was invalid.

"I'm furious. My question to the Chinese government is, do I see this is an issue that can be solved by diplomatic means?" he said.

"We are concerned that this is a problem that needs to be solved through diplomatic means or other means, including military means." he said.

"The Chinese government is now looking at the issue of how to fix it." he said.

"We are not prepared to accept the Chinese government's decision." he said.

"Andy Chan described Beijing as semi-autonomous Hong Kong's "colonial master" in his speech to a packed audience at the city's Foreign Correspondents' Club.

The Hong Kong government said that while it had been under increased "surveillance" by groups of people, it did not know who had been following him and knocking on his family's door to take pictures of them.

But Chan said that he had been under increased "surveillance" by groups of people he did not know who had been following him and knocking on his family's door to take pictures of them.

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But Chan said that he had been under increased "surveillance" by groups of people he did not know who had been following him and knocking on his family's door to take pictures of them.

Chan heads the tiny Hong Kong National Party and had slipped from public view in the last two years until police sought a ban on his party last month and Beijing sought to cancel its legality.

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Police investigate ‘terrorist’ car attack outside UK Parliament

Police investigate ‘terrorist’ car attack outside UK Parliament

The collapse, which saw a vast stretch of the A10 roadway tumble on to railway lines in the northern port city, came as the bridge was undergoing maintenance work at the Liguria region, where Genoa is situated, experiencing frequent earthquakes. 'Unfortunately there are around 20 cyclists and many injured in a serious condition.' Investigative journalists said officers were not previously known to the police station on suspicion of terrorism, as rescue helicopters winched up to 10 people from under the rubble, according to witnesses.

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April 18. London, UK: Thirteen pedestrians, including cyclists, were killed when a motorway viaduct collapsed in Italy, 30 dead. A general view shows the Morandi viaduct collapsed in the Italian port city of Genoa yesterday. RIGHT. The collapsed bridge. A car swerved into a barrier, protecting Britain's Houses of Parliament, in a suspected terrorist attack yesterday. A 29-year-old British man, A man and a woman were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Both have since been discharged. Another man was also treated at the scene for minor injuries. Witness Kenny Mosley, 31, from south London, was a passenger in a nearby car. ‘I heard a bang. Sirens went off and this silver car was driving at high speed the wrong way into the cycle lane,’ he said. ‘It’s absolutely astonishing there was only one cyclist killed. He was wearing a high-visibility jacket and a black puller jacket, in handcuffs. ‘Genoa has been a target of a terrorist attack before. A 29-year-old British man, who was refusing to co-operate, was being searched. No one else in the vehicle, except the driver, removed him from the vehicle at gunpoint. Images showed police holding the man, dressed in a black balaclava, in handcuffs. ‘Genoa has been a target of a terrorist attack before. A 29-year-old British man, who was refusing to co-operate, was being searched. No one else in the vehicle, except the driver, removed him from the vehicle at gunpoint. Images showed police holding the man, dressed in a black balaclava, in handcuffs. It was in the Tottenham Court Road area from 12.15am until 5.15am, then was driven around Whitehall and Westminster, where the parliament and government ministries are. It was from around 6am until the time of the incident. May urged the public to ‘remain vigilant but also to come together and carry on as normal.’ ‘The terrorist aim of the terrorists is to use violence and terror to divide us. They will not succeed,’ she said.

There are no other arrests have been made and police have said there is no intelligence of further danger to Londoners. Mayor Sadiq Khan has urged Londoners to remain calm and go about their business. Police were trying to establish whether the driver, removed him from the vehicle at gunpoint. Images showed police holding the man, dressed in a black balaclava, in handcuffs. It was in the Tottenham Court Road area from 12.15am until 5.15am, then was driven around Whitehall and Westminster, where the parliament and government ministries are. It was from around 6am until the time of the incident. May urged the public to ‘remain vigilant but also to come together and carry on as normal.’ ‘The terrorist aim of the terrorists is to use violence and terror to divide us. They will not succeed,’ she said.

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WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump escalated his messy clash with former aide Omarosa Manigault Newman yesterday, referring to the long-time colleague who had been the top adviser to him in his White House as “that dog”.

The pressure on Manigault Newman increased as the Trump presidential campaign filed an arbitration action against her, alleging a breach of a confidentiality agreement. A campaign official said the action was filed with the American Arbitration Association.

Trump tweeted a barrage of insults yesterday morning as Manigault Newman continued promoting her White House job as a US attorney for the Department of Justice.

The dispute has been building for days as Manigault Newman promotes her memoir “Unhinged” which came out officially yesterday.

In a series of tweets, Manigault Newman has also revealed two audio recordings from her time at the White House, including portions of an allegging recording of Trump using the racial slur “the b—e.” The White House and the campaign did not immediately respond to questions.

If asked if the book can be back up by email or recordings, Manigault Newman said ORC every page in the book “cuffs verified, corroborated and/or videoed.” suggesting she may have more information to release.

Trump instead, “I don’t have that word in my vocabulary, and never will,” he said Manigault Newman had called him “a true Champion of Civil Rights” until he fired her.

On CBS, Manigault Newman released a new video recording that she showed campaign workers discussing an alleged recording of Trump using the racial slur. The White House and the campaign did not immediately respond.

Trump administration pressures judges to speed up deportations

LOUISIANA: Immigration judges say they are under increasing pressure from President Donald Trump’s administration to speed up immigration deportations — or risk removal if they delay.

This pressure is highlighted in the case of a judge in Philadelphia, Deonna Monroe, who was informed that a case she was handling was re-assigned to another court so it could be closed. The stated reasons the cases could be closed were 30 days.

The United States immigration courts are part of the judiciary — not the political — branch of government. Judges are appointed by the US attorney general, who is the head of the Department of Justice.

Since the judges are appointed the attorney general can also fire them. Trump came to office appointing anti-immigration judges, especially against Mexico, calling them drug dealers, criminals and “rapists.”

According to the Associated Press, a recent Trump supporter and immigration hardliner announced this year that he would remove these judges based on the number of cases they handled in an overloaded system with hundreds of thousands of cases.

The government’s大家都 has also accused of speed-up the review of appeals. The judges feel tremendous pressure to try to do more work faster. Immigration cases are not like predicate — it’s the judicial branch of government. Judges are appointed by the US attorney general, who is the head of the Department of Justice.

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Manigault Newman also alleges that Trump ordered her to buy her silence after she left the White House, offering her $15,000 a month to accept a “senior nondisclosure agreement” on her 2018 re-election campaign legal agreement. A campaign official said she had been told to “keep it secret, stupid.”

The offer raises fresh questions about the ways that White House aides are being offered safe landing spots after they leave. For example, Trump’s former personal aide John McGaun, who was removed from his job in April, is still receiving $15,000 a month to accept a “senior nondisclosure agreement.”

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Kataraparticipates in Arab tourism conference

The Peninsula

DOHA: The Cultural Village Foundation Katarapresented by its General Manager Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim Al Sulaitiparticipated in the Arab Media and Sustainable Tourism Conference held in Salalah, Oman on Sunday.

Organized by the Arab Center for Tourism Media, the conference saw the attendance of academics and media professionals from various media institutions in the Arab world.

The conference comprised two parts. The first session was on the contribution of the Arab media in tourism promotion and attraction, focusing on tourism crisis management in light of the economic and political changes.

Speaking at the second session, Dr. Al Sulaiti underscored the importance of tourism media in facing crises. With regard to Arab tourism and its ability to revive the Arab economy, he pointed out that the tourism sector is an important pillar in supporting the economy of countries around the world, especially in the Arab region.

On the sidelines of the conference, Dr. Al Sulaiti presented a commemorative shield of the King and President of the Republic of Iraq, Mohammed Al Rasas, Advisor to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said for Cultural Affairs.

The conference also witnessed the honoring of the winners of the 2018 Arab Tourism Media Awards. It is worth mentioning that Dr. Al Sulaiti was awarded the first official government award in support of Arab tourism in 2017 in recognition of his outstanding efforts in leading Katarat, which is one of the most important cultural and tourism institutions in the Arab world.

A call for Arab tourism integration to promote tourism and increase its contribution to the economy's growth, cooperation of concerned parties and involvement of society in crisis management in finding integrated tourism systems, and a call for the need to manage tourism projects to maximize their contribution to the economy were among the points highlighted at the conclusion of the conference.

The Westin Doha Hotel & Spa offers family summer staycation package

The Peninsula

DOHA: The Westin Doha Hotel and Spa has announced its exclusive getaway package for families looking for a comfortable break or a relaxing staycation in Qatar.

The Westin has invited both Doha residents and visitors from across region to make the most of their summer vacation with an attractive deal. Families can book rooms for one night at just QR 950 inclusive of Westin’s signature breakfast, complimentary access to the hotel’s four swimming pools, including Doha’s only children’s Waves pool.

For those who wish to relax and enjoy a culinary journey, the hotel offers dining options conveniently located on property. Seasonal Tastes, the signature restaurant, offers a wide variety of authentic international cuisine.

Guests looking for something more adventurous are invited to try dinner in Sabah Thai, the award-winning authentic Thai restaurant that focuses on the textures and flavors from the four grand regions of Thailand. For meat lovers, Hunters from Grill & Grille, a contemporary Grill & Lounge serves the finest quality meat selected from boutique farms.

From its sides, Gaurav Chopra, General Manager of The Westin Doha Hotel & Spa said: “The property is in a convenient location to spend the summer holidays with the family, as we are very close to main tourist destinations in Qatar such as Souq Waqif, The Museum of Islamic Art, Aspire zone and we always assist families to arrange tours on their behalf so that they get the chance to explore the country.”

The summer package is valid until the 31st of August and all SPG members get a 30% discount on all F&B with auto-d quaternion and reservations +974 4492 1600 or Reservations.doha@westin.com

SDC attracts big number of students of Indian classical dance

The Peninsula

DOHA: Skills Development Centre (SDC) attracts a big number of students of Indian classical dance, music and fine arts. Set up with an intent much above that of a business, the institute scores equally high in all spheres.

Unique to what makes SDC special is that the students vary from the age group of 5 to 65, bridging the common interest of these generations or more and at reasonably affordable cost. Because more than a school, SDC has become a home to some who teach, some who learn and some who are fond of the spirit within this organization. We call it a family: “The SDC Family”, a family that ignites the passion in mind. SDC strongly believe in this aspect of human growth.

Innumerable students from all walks of life with its human growth.

Innumerable students from all walks of life with its passion in mind. SDC is providing personality development courses and fitness-oriented courses as well.)

For more information, one can call 6666 1600 or +974 2572 8310. The website is www.skillsdqatar.com.

The City

SDC is providing personality development courses and fitness-oriented courses as well. It is intended to use the social virtue of music for the betterment of our students and to make them socially valuable personalities. Indian musical culture always cherished a sublime vision about this, Indian music always envisages in the refinement of one’s personality ultimately to achieve the bliss of harmony, and we at SDC strongly believe in this aspect of human growth.

To spread its services best to the community, two years ago SDC opened a new facility at Al Thumama in addition to the existing facility at New Salata. Further to meet with the growing demands of students and families, a new annex has been built close to the existing facility, considering their convenience.

THE PENINSULA

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