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Qatar discusses developing relations with Inter-Parliamentary Union

The Speaker of the Advisory Council, H E Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Hai, welcomed the visit of the finance ministers of the 135th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva. During the meeting, they discussed the mandates of the Advisory Council and the Inter-Parliamentary Union and means of developing them, in addition to the most important topics listed on the agenda. The meeting was attended by the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations Office in Geneva, Ambassador Ali Khalfan Al Mansouri, and a number of members of the Advisory Council.

Local dates exhibition opens at Souq Waqif

Minister of Environment and Municipality H E Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al Rumaihi launched the exhibition at Souq Waqif to support the Qatari farmers to develop their production of dates, and to showcase it in the local and international markets. He pointed out that the exhibition comes in accordance with the directives of HH the Amir in support of the agricultural sector. He also referred to the increasing number of national committees which participated in many Gulf exhibitions.

Significant increase in home-based businesses

The expo offers home-based businesses a unique opportunity to display and promote their products, create new home-based businesses, which participate in the Qatari market. The expo offers home-based businesses many chances to develop their production and to develop their products in order to be competitive in the market.

DOHA: Qatar National Commission for Education, Culture and Science (QNCECS) has launched the National Campaign for the Right to Education in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Doha, the capital of Qatar. Dr Hamad Al Sulaiti, Secretary-General of the QNCECS, said that the campaign is launched to raise awareness about the right to education and to protect the right to education.

QM holds phone talk with Iraq counterpart

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Mohammad Al Sorour met yesterday in Baghdad with his Iraqi counterpart, HH the Amir in support of the agricultural sector. He pointed out that the exhibition comes in accordance with the directives of HH the Amir in support of the agricultural sector. He also referred to the increasing number of national committees which participated in many Gulf exhibitions.

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QM launches right to education campaign

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The USS Essex (LHD 2) transits the Pacific Ocean.

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Eng. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sada (centre), Assistant Undersecretary at the MME, with other officials

Winter camping season to begin on November 1

Ras Alnouf, Al Aturiyah, Al Suna, Emkitanh, Al Ghariya, Al Mafjar, Aisha, Al Khor, Al Waab, areas of Rawdat Rashed, Rawdat Hasham, Abu Dhalouf, Al Zubara, Khalid Al Thani said, “I came here because I want to study business administration at CMU-Q next year. CMU-Q is a prestigious university and one of the best in the fields it teaches. The workshop was very useful because it allowed me to interact with other students and exchange ideas. It concentrated on the art of negotiation, and the best ways to use it in achieving your goals.”

To support the nation’s journey to become a diversified and sustainable economy and strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialised programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

In 2004, Carnegie Mellon and QF began a partnership to deliver select programs that will contribute to the long-term development of Qatar. Today, Carnegie Mellon Qatar offers under graduate pro-

The US Navy’s amphibious assault ship arrives in Doha

The US Navy’s amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD-2) arrived at Doha Port for a scheduled port visit to Qatar yesterday. The US Essex is the largest ever US Navy vessel to visit Qatar, and the meeting was hosted by the US embassy in Qatar.

Port calls. View the visit of the USS Essex, reaffirm US com-

continuity to regional security and prosperity and the free and secure flow of commercial activity in the region, the närri ing waiways, and represent an expression of friendship and opportunity to deepen bilateral partnerships.

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About her participation at the workshop, high school student Aisha Mohammed Althani said, “I wanted to participate because I have a degree in Biological Sciences, business administration, and information systems.

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Eng. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sada (centre), Assistant Undersecretary at the MME, with other officials during the press conference yesterday. IC: ARDA SABI / THE PENINSULA

The USN Essex, a amphibious assault ship, is the first USN ship to visit Qatar, and the meeting was hosted by the US embassy in Qatar.

Eng. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sada said, “To ease the online registration process, the appli-

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s in three days.” He said that today, the registration will be open for the northern areas, such as Al Ghushatmena, Al Zubara, Sealine, Dukhan, Al Sarriya, Zekreet, Buruq, Al Naqyan, Al Kharrara, Al Karan, Um Al Maa.

“Tomorrow (Tuesday) the applicant can apply for the areas of Rawdat Hasham, Abu Dhalouf, Al Zubara, Al Chahab, Al Zubara, Al Fateh, Al Zubara, Al Udeid, while Wednesday the registration will be open for the areas of Rawdat Rashid, Rawdat Althani, Al Khor, Al Wadi, Embankment, Al Ghurair, Al Majar, Ras Althani, Al Abad, Al Souq, Ghari Al Raws,” he added.

He said that registration for each category will continue until the allotment of last camp in that category. He added that the rules and conditions to be followed for the camping season, including security and safety instructions, is in accordance with relevant State organs.

At the press conference, a number of officials from the Mini-

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They also discussed the elec-

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The new Macan was showcased during the Paris Motorshow.

The Macan offers a range of design, comfort, connectivity and driving dynamics include the three-dimensional LED light panel at the rear and the new fully inter-connected Porsche communication management system with 10.9 inch touchscreen inside the vehicle.

The vehicle dynamics of the Macan remain its principle feature. The overhauled chassis increases comfort and makes Porsche’s compact SUV even more enjoyable to drive. As is typical for a sports car, it comes with mixed-size tyres enabling the driver to take full advantage of the intelligent all-wheel drive Porsche Tractiocontrol Management (PTM) system and adopt a dynamic driving style.

In keeping with Porsche’s design DNA, the new Macan features a three-dimensional LED light panel on the rear of the vehicle. The brake lights with four-point design provide further reinforcement of the brand’s identity. LED technology is incorporated as standard into the newly designed main headlights, while the optional Porsche Dynamic Light System Plus (PDLS Plus) can be used to control light distribution.

The Macan offers a range of digital features operated via the new Porsche Communication Management (PCM) system. The full-HD touchscreen is now 10.9 inches in width (previously 7.2 inches). Similar to the Panamera and Cayenne, the user interface can be adapted to suit personal requirements via prejudice files. The new system features navigation, mobile phone preparation, two audio interfaces and intelligent voice control.

The new Macan is now available to order. Built at the Porsche factory in Leipzig, the range of new standard features include LED main headlights, the new PCM with navigation and Connectivity Plus, and an anti-shock alarm system with interior surveillance. For country-specific model information, pricing and market arrival date, please contact the local Porsche Centre.

Porsche unveils new Macan

THE PENINSULA

DUBAI: Showcased during the Paris Motorshow, the new Macan now comes with an efficient 2.0-litre, four-cylinder turbocharged petrol engine with improved combustion chamber geometry and gasoline particulate filter.

It delivers a performance of 252 hp 085 kW) and has a maximum torque of 370 Nm. In combination with the seven-speed PDK dual-clutch gearbox, the compact SUV can go from 0 to 100 km/h in 6.7 seconds and reach a top speed of 225 km/h.

Its consumption rate is 8.1 l/100 km according to the New European Driving Cycle (NEDC). The vehicle dynamics of the Macan remain its principle feature. The overhauled chassis increases comfort and makes Porsche’s compact SUV even more enjoyable to drive. As is typical for a sports car, it comes with mixed-size tyres enabling the driver to take full advantage of the intelligent all-wheel drive Porsche Tractiocontrol Management (PTM) system and adopt a dynamic driving style.

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Qatar, Austria discuss ways to combat terrorism

The Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H E Dr Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi, met yesterday with a delegation from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), currently visiting the country. The meeting discussed ways of promoting cooperation between Qatar and IOM, as well as issues of mutual concern. The Secretary-General also met with the Undersecretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, Sarah Lou Arriola. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways of enhancing and developing them, in addition to issues of common concern.

Attorney-General H E Dr Ali bin Fetais Al Marri met yesterday with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Kim Myung Sung. In their meeting, the two officials discussed more effective mechanisms and ways to combat terrorism of all kinds.

Qatar reviews cooperation with IOM

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Jumbo Electronics’ technician wins ‘Grand Master’ title

THE PENINSULA

DUBAI: Every year LG organises a Service Skill Olympiad for the Middle East and Africa region. When top technicians from each country are invited to participate in a skill competition that will test their technical knowledge and skills of LG products. One of Jumbo’s technicians Joby Davis, who specialises in home entertainment products won the ‘Grand Master’ title for premium products at the 8th LG MEA Service Skill Olympiad after fiercely competing among his peers from other countries.

He is now invited to participate at LG’s Global Skill Olympiad to be held from November 6th to 9th in Korea. There he will get to experience LG’s research centre at the LG Town Towers in Seoul and also a sightseeing tour of the city to experience the Korean culture.
The jury has selected the top nine innovation masterminds who will now fly to the workshops at Qatar Science and Technology Park to transform their ideas into products and compete for the show’s ultimate title of ‘Best Arab Innovator’.

Stars of Science presents its top nine innovators

The PENINSULA

DOHA: Qatar Foundation’s (QF) education reality TV show Stars of Science has concluded its Season 10 auditions – and the competition has just begun.

The jury has selected the top nine innovation masterminds who will now fly to the workshops at Qatar Science and Technology Park to transform their ideas into products and compete for the show’s ultimate title of ‘Best Arab Innovator’.

Previous seasons of Stars of Science have demonstrated the extent of the innovative ability that exists among Arab youth,” said Khalid Al-Kubaisi, Media Relations Manager. “This year’s contestants have already shown us how they have the potential to live up to the standard the show has set since it first came onto our screens.

Four of the top nine innovators are women. From the Information and Communications Technology episode, two innovators survived the audition. Nyala Kheirem earned her ticket to enter the prototyping phase with an incredible Home Privacy Drone Blocker, a device that stops video transmissions without damaging the source of the intrusive signal. Meanwhile, fellow contestant Rvanda Al Quchaini welcomed the opportunity to put her Dynamic VIP Surveillance Management to the test.

Anna Malak’s compassionate and business-savvy nature fuels her passion to ensure her Smart Car Seat not only protects newborn children, but also gives parents peace of mind. While scientific researcher Nour Majbour will work on her Parkinson’s Early Detection Kit and is keen to find a binary way of detecting signs of the disease in a timely way.

The largest pool of contestants this year came from the biomedical rounds, with 10 contestants in the shortest list. In the upcoming episode, neurosurgeon Wafa Al Banna will work on his Neurovascular Google Analyser designed to aid doctors in detecting early signs of recurring strokes. Also entering the medical innovation arena is Ahmed Zahlan, the youngest innovator on the show, who has high hopes that his Contactless Glaucoma Detector will ultimately be used by those who struggle with glaucoma-related ailments. And driven by his need for measurable results, Abdullah Al Saatout will be seen aiming to perfect his Sports Performance Patch.

With only two places remaining after these rounds, five hopefuls from the energy and environment episode competed for their final chance to break their spot among the show’s top nine. Artist Salim Al Kaabi has been selected to work on his Safe Fraxinus Vernicis, a product that modifies the harsh side effects of varnish while retaining the ability to make timelapse paintings. Meanwhile, Ghassan Oueidat stood out with his novel idea of using a Dry Ice Cleaner Bot to automatically clean tower blocks.

Viewers can tune in on October 20 for the action-packed prototyping episode and see the top nine enter the studio for the first time in Season 10. In the Grand Final, four innovators will share a cash prize of $600,000 based on jury review and public votes.

Sasol, QNL and Unesco to organise event for blind community

DOHA: Sasol, Qatar National Library, and Unesco are all set to organise film screening panel discussion to support blind community in Qatar at Qatar National Library in the Special Events Area tomorrow evening open for public at 5PM.

On the occasion of White Cane Day, and as part of Unesco ITU Digital Inclusion Week in the Arab region, Sasol, Qatar National Library and Unesco are organizing an awareness raising event entitled ‘Bringing Gaps: Enabling Inclusion for the Blind’.

The event will feature the screening of short films inspired and written by Accessible Qatar Ambassador Khileesh Al Sharaa, to highlight the challenges experienced by blind people in their daily lives. A panel discussion of experts will be organized to highlight the innovative work of Qatar-based institutions, including the Translating and Interpreting Institute, MADA and the Qatar Social & Cultural Center for Blind, which are leveraging the power of technology to enhance access to information for people with disabilities. A braille printer will be available at the venue, providing the public with the opportunity to have their names printed in braille.

Blind children from Al Noor Institute will perform at the event.

The celebration of White Cane Day is part of Sasol, Qatar National Library and Unesco’s efforts to provide solutions and support to people with visual disabilties in Qatar through awareness raising, information exchange, and access to knowledge.

MG cars to be displayed at Qatar Motor Show

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: Auto Class Cars, the authorized distributor of MG cars in Qatar, announced its participation at Qatar Motor Show 2018, taking place at Doha Exhibition and Convention Center from October 17 to 21.

The MG pavilion will showcase a wide range of MG vehicles, giving the visitors an opportunity to have a close look on the distinctive features of the cars. The range of models in MG pavilion will include RX5, GS, ZS and MG6, along with new MG6 that will be launched for the first time in Qatar.

Auto Class Cars has recently celebrated the re-launch of MG in Qatar. The launch of the iconic British automotive brand comes hot on the heels of the initial new partnership agreement that was signed by SAC Motor and Auto Class.

MG is a British born car maker that was established in 1924 and is globally renowned for its historic models, awards and achievements. The brand has recently launched two new models in the Middle East, the MG ROZ and MG ZS, and is set to introduce further models later this year. MG is benefiting from heavy investment from its parent company, SAIC Motor, which was listed in the 2017 Forbes Fortune 500 list for the 15th consecutive year. Ranking #4 overall and 7th among all global automakers – its highest ever ranking.

Auto Class Cars is a subsidiary of NRK Holding and the authorized distributor of MG and Maserati, both part of SAC MOTOR. NRK Holding is one of the leading family businesses in Qatar.
F "Kim is a salesman in the 1990s, to now a successful businessman Mahendra Chamlagai, it's a journey of a long way. After a long period of hard work and unwavering determination, he has reached a point in his professional life where he is at an important point not only for his business but also for the Nepali community in Qatar.

Chamlagai is now Managing Director of Woodland Contracting and General Services which offers manpower solutions to firms. He is also a Chairman of the Qatari Nepal Business Association. In Qatar in 1998, he owns a three-star hotel with 45 rooms in the星座 Sheraton which is around 440 km of the Nepali capital Kathmandu. He also runs an English medium Boarding school with 950 students and 100 staff members.

Chamlagai said his hotel and school are the places by Nepali social and cultural organizations where Nepalese expatriates can participate in various events organized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

He added that due to improved regulations and business environment in Qatar, Nepal expatriate community in Qatar is now in 4,000, and the community is facilitating the establishment of various Nepalese organizations in Qatar.

Chamlagai said that due to the establishment of various Nepalese organizations in Qatar, Nepalese and other people visit the embassy daily and they provide multiple services within half an hour.

There are about 50 active organizations of Nepalese community in Qatar which are listed by the Embassy in Qatar. They actively participate in beach cleaning drive. Danish Embassy and the Department of Development Cooperation are collaborating with the Embassy of Qatar to organize beach cleaning drives.

The organizations coordinate with the embassy to solve the problems of Nepalese expatriates. They actively participate in beach cleaning drive and organize blood donation campaigns in collaboration with the Qatari Medical Corporation (HMC) and local authorities concerned.

Prof. Mohammed Ramzan Ali Muyra, a Doha based of human rights activist and social worker and coordinator of Nepalese Doctors said, "There are about 400,000 Nepalese in Qatar. There is a huge potential of Nepalese engineers in Qatar. There are about 30 Nepalese practices. Highlighting the need of Nepalese medicals in Qatar, Haque said, "The community of international schools with curriculum of Nepal will be helpful for them."

There are about 50 active organizations of Nepalese community in Qatar which are listed by the Embassy. On April this year, Qatar Chamber and Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance cooperation and exchange of information and meetings.

A delegation from Bangladesh led by Vice-President of Nepal Chamber Bhaskar Raj Rijal had come to Qatar to sign the agreement with Qatari Chamber. On the agreement aims to encourage businesses from both sides to establish business partnerships that would push forward and promote the bilateral relations in the commercial sector in both countries.

Dashain Festival is one of the most important festivals which is celebrated all over Nepal with fervour.

The Pakistani community will participate in a beach cleaning drive scheduled to be held at Al Waqra Beach next Friday (October 26)."
The successful listing of OQIC in the Muscat Securities Market (MSM) demonstrates the strategic importance of this move to strengthen the Group’s position in the Sultanate of Oman. Khalid Ahmed Al Mannai, the Chairman of OQIC, delivering a welcome speech at the event.

NAMA participates in second edition of ‘Made at Home’ expo

NAMA’s pavilion at the second edition of “Made at Home” at DECC.

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QAIC Group’s subsidiary QAIC opens corporate office in Oman

QC, NBK Charity open bakery for Syrian refugees

The establishment of this bakery came as a result of a triumphant partnership between Nasser Bin Khaled Charitable Foundation (NBK Charity) and Islamic Welfare Association (ISWA), Lebanon.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmad Al Thani stated the project will help alleviate the suffering of Syrian refugees, creating jobs for them and filling the gap in the field of food production.

He also hoped that the bakery will actively work at the achievement of this goal for the benefit of Syrian refugees, and will seek to provide a decent living for them.

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Sherborne Qatar Girls School to open in 2020

The Student Scholarship Program is a new initiative within the Rosalynn Carter Fellowship for Mental Health Journalism, program, which was launched in 2018.

The students will work closely with their professors, and with professional journalists in both the US and Qatar, to learn how to produce accurate and balanced reports on mental health issues in Qatar with accuracy, integrity, and cultural sensitivity.

The program is open to students in Qatar and in the United States.

The Sherborne Qatar Girls School is located in the heart of Qatar, in the new district of West Bay.

The school offers a comprehensive curriculum from pre-kindergarten to grade 12, with a focus on developing global citizens who are culturally literate and globally minded.

The school is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Schools and Universities and is a member of the Council of International Schools.

The school is committed to providing a high-quality education that is both challenging and supportive, with a focus on developing critical thinking, creativity, and leadership skills.

The school offers a range of courses and extracurricular activities, including sports, music, drama, and the arts.

The Sherborne Qatar Girls School is part of the Girls’ Schools Association, a federation of independent girls’ schools in the United Kingdom.

The school is located in the new district of West Bay, Qatar, and is set to open in September 2020.

The school will offer a curriculum that is consistent with the British National Curriculum, with a focus on developing students who are prepared for success in higher education and beyond.

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MIDDLE EAST | 09

Jordan, Syria agree to reopen vital crossing

AP

AMMAN: Jordan and Syria agreed yesterday to reopen a vital border crossing between the two countries. Three years after the commercial lifeline fell to rebel groups and traffic was halted, the government said its broadcast has returned to Deir el-Zour city, seven years after the fighting. It said its broadcast has returned to Deir el-Zour city, seven years after the fighting.

The two governments in a joint statement said they would begin preparations to reopen the al-Nasib crossing on the border with Jordan. The crossing has been closed since 2015 when Russia threw its military weight behind Damascus. The victory in southern Syria signaled the start of a Russian push to end the conflict.

The crossing will also be a diplomatic victory for Assad, whose government has largely been isolated from the international community. The crossing was closed in 2017 as the conflict escalated and became more deadly. The crossing was reopened in 2018 as the conflict eased.

The reopening of the crossing will help ease the flow of people and goods between the two countries, which have been affected by the conflict.

The statement also said the resumption of commercial activities will help in the reconstruction of the region.

BEIRUT: A Syrian-Russian border deal to set up a horseshoe-shaped buffer zone from an U-shaped zone around the Quneitra crossing was violated the accord.

But, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor said its broadcast has returned to Deir el-Zour city, seven years after the fighting. It said its broadcast has returned to Deir el-Zour city, seven years after the fighting.

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Decentralisation in Syria: A lesser evil

LEONID ISSAEV & ANDREY ZAKHAROV
AL AZEBRA

Over the past few years, a number of proposals about some form of decentralisation in Syria have been circulating as part of possible peace settlement plans to end the Syrian civil war.

Most recently, the so-called “small group” - consisting of the UK, France, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan - adopted a declaration on the eve of talks in Geneva supporting a political solution to the Syrian civil war.

The sharp rise in the export from Qatar demonstrate that countries around the globe have full trust in the country’s products coming from local market. Rising exports also show that the Qatar products are of high quality.

The strong growth momentum in the Qatar’s economy shows that the country has become a role model for other South American countries with varying values.

The ITG and all the major companies will remain the only ones to conflict with the regional communities. The GDP of the region has been growing around 5 percent over the past two years.

Easing the torture of solitary

The Washington Post

As many US prisons and for too long, the credit for the dramatic changes in solitary confinement needs to be shared with the inmate population as it emerged from the struggle against confinement and emerged from its own history.

Inmates in solitary confinement have run directly to solitary confinement. Having given considerable

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The strong growth momentum in the Qatar’s economy shows that the country has become a role model for other South American countries with varying values.

On the other hand, the GCC countries (Bahrain, Oman and Kuwait) topped the bloc and the economic group receiving the Qatar’s non-oil exports in August with total exports amounting to about QR8.4bn, followed by the group of Arab countries, excluding the GCC countries with total value of exports amounting to about QR3bn, followed by North America, the African countries except the Arab countries and the South American countries with varying values.

The strong growth momentum in the Qatar’s economy shows that the country has become a role model for other countries.
Why an efficient financial system is crucial to design a 'French Islamic' economy

Leonard Faty

A new credit rating system is crucial to the design of a new financial system in France. This involves creating a new credit rating system that is robust and efficient, and that can provide value to investors.

Recent events, such as emerging market volatility and declines in share prices, have focused on the need for more transparency and stability in financial markets. In particular, the need for a robust credit rating system is crucial to ensure that financial markets are stable and that economic growth is sustainable.

For India to truly boost its consumption-driven economy, it needs to address two key challenges: a robust financial system and a strong consumption ecosystem.

A strong financial system is essential to India’s economic growth. It enables companies to access financing for expansion and development, and it allows for efficient allocation of resources across industries and regions.

Access to financing is critical to the growth and success of businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises. A robust financial system also facilitates the flow of capital, enabling companies to make informed investment decisions and to respond quickly to market changes.

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Somalia executes man linked to deadliest attack

A security officer stands guard as civilians gather near the scene to mark the first anniversary of a terror attack, in the Hiran district of Mogadishu, Somalia. (REUTERS/Feisal Omar) MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018 | FOCUSASA

Somalia executes man linked to deadliest attack

The ICRC called on ISWAP and its Western “backer,” Belgium, to respect the laws of war and stop attacks on hospitals. (REUTERS/Dinuka Liyanawatte) MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018 | FEISAL OMAR

Burundian accuses Belgium of ordering hit on Rwagasore

The Congolese government has threatened to take matters into its own hands over the alleged plot to assassinate the former president. (REUTERS/Toby Melville) MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018 | FEISAL OMAR

Red Cross appeals for the lives of abducted health workers in Nigeria

The Red Cross appealed for help for the hundreds of health workers who were taken hostage in northeastern Nigeria. (REUTERS/James Jago) MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018 | FEISAL OMAR

Mogadishu: Somalia yesterday executed a man accused of kidnapping a health worker and forcing him to work for the extremist group Shabaab. (REUTERS/Dinuka Liyanawatte) MONDAY 15 OCTOBER 2018 | FEISAL OMAR

Feesal Omar
Akbar calls charges wild, false; to take legal action

NEW DELHI: Giving no indication of resigning from the government, Union Minister M. Akbar, who is facing charges of sexual harassment, Wednesday said he would take legal action against the accusers.

"There is no substance in the allegations," Akbar said, adding "This is a deliberate attempt to damage my reputation and goodwill." He also accused the BJP-led government of being "irresponsible in its handling of the controversy." His statement came two days after the BJP-led government decided to take legal action against the accusers.

"Why has this storm risen a few months before a general election? Why are you the judge? These false, baseless and baseless allegations have caused irreparable damage to my reputation and goodwill," Akbar said.

"I do not do legs, but they do contain poison, which can be whipped into a frenzy," he said.

If the government is willing to expose the "truth" then he will continue to fight the government on "public interest" issues, he added.

The government, however, said it would not comment on specific cases.

"It is an internal matter of the BJP," a government official said.

Minister of State for External Affairs Mobsahab Jawed Akbar walks inside his New Delhi residence, Wednesday.

Japanese experts to assist Indians to develop bullet train stations

NEW DELHI: Japanese consultants will join hands with Indian architects to develop the 12 proposed bullet train stations and its adjoining areas in an integrated manner.

In a meeting with senior officials of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority and the Municipal Corporation, it was decided to take the help of Japanese experts in developing the areas around the stations — connecting them to buses, metro and other public transport, a senior Indian Railways official in the office.

The 12 proposed stations on the Mumbai-Amritsar high speed train route are Bandra, Kurla, Thane, Thane-East, Taloja, Virar, Vasai, Virar-West, Bharuch, Baroda, Anand, Sabarmati and Ahmedabad.

Railways officials said all the stations would be a major interchange where the bullet train network will intersect with other rail networks. The stations will also be developed around the stations to make the project more viable.

The proposed stations are expected to be operational by August 2022.

India, China together will make difference to Asia, says envoy

NEW DELHI: India and China together will make a difference to the world, top Chinese envoy said here, stressing that the leaders of the two nations favor meaningful cultural and educational exchanges to enhance bilateral cooperation.

"China and India are two great civilizations, which have lived together for thousands of years. In the past, they have exchanged cultural and educational values. We believe that two nations must work together to promote cultural exchanges and cooperation," said Zhanwu addresses.

"It is because of the two nations favor meaningful cultural and educational exchanges that we have seen so much strength in our people and our culture that has made our nations so rich and diverse," he added.

India and China are the two great nations in Asia, which have a long history of friendly relations, Zhanwu said.

"We have been working together to promote cultural and educational exchanges, which have been an important part of our bilateral relations," he said.

While admitting that there are differences between the two nations, Zhanwu said, "We have been working together to promote cultural and educational exchanges, which have been an important part of our bilateral relations."

"Together we can make a difference to the world," Zhanwu said.
At least 18 Afghan soldiers dead in Taliban attacks

At least 18 Afghan soldiers were killed in Taliban attacks on two army posts in the war-torn country. Another 10 soldiers were captured and five wounded during the overnight attacks involving a large number of Taliban in a district of Farah province.

The Taliban have outlined huge losses,” said added.

The militants seized weapons and armoured vehicles of Afghan provincial council member Dadia Khan.

Violence has escalated in the months leading up to the October 20 parliamentary elections.

Meanwhile, the death toll in a bomb attack on an Afghan election rally has risen to at least 22 people, officials said yesterday, as the country braces for more violence ahead of the October 20 polls.

In the western province of Herat, two gunmen attacked the campaign office of a candidate in Impir district, killing two people, sources said.

Maldives opposition backer court reviews poll challenge

Male: Hundreds of Maldivian opposition supporters were yesterday demanding the arrest of Wajeeh Maleh, a director general of the Special Criminal Investigation Branch, for alleged links between the two parties. The president's media spokespersons have denied any such links.

A resolutions on the issue will be brought before the court today.

The president's media spokespersons have denied any such links.

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan casts his vote during by-elections for National Assembly constituency NA-53 in Islamabad, yesterday.

Oppn bounces back in Pakistan by-polls

HERAT: At least 18 soldiers were killed in Taliban attacks on two army posts in the war-torn country. Another 10 soldiers were captured and five wounded during the overnight attacks involving a large number of Taliban in a district of Farah province.

Election Commission said the vote was held by a margin of 16.8 percent in a surprise result.

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The Maldives Election Commission has been trying to make effective links and strengthen ties with the two parties and had signed a memorandum of understanding with them.

The understanding between the two parties was made at a meeting, where the PTI team was led by Secretary-General Arshad Daud and the delegation of the Communist Party of China was headed by the Director-General of South Asia.

They agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding between the two parties. PTI Vice-Chairman Shai Mulloom Qureshi, Arshad Daud and other party seniors will be present at the meeting.

In his remarks, Arshad Daud said the PTI was keen on benefiting from the Chinese experience of poverty alleviation. He added China-Pakistani Economic Corridor was a fruit of the bilateral relationship between the two countries based on confidence. The delegation of the Communist Party of China expressed good wishes for successes of the PTI government.

In his closing remarks, Abdul Raziq, the provincial police chief, said that following the clashes, Pakistan shut the border crossing linking Spin Boldak with Chaman in the south.

At least 18 soldiers were killed in Taliban attacks on two army posts in the war-torn country. Another 10 soldiers were captured and five wounded during the overnight attacks involving a large number of Taliban in a district of Farah province.

KARACHI: Pakistan's opposition bounced back yesterday in electoral by-polls, capturing several seats from the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, local media reported.

Initial results showed that the main opposition Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) and the two-party religious alliance Mumtazullah Majid-e-Amaal were leading in at least three national assembly seats that were clinched by the PTI in the July 25 elections, which were marred by violence and allegations of fraud.

Two of these seats — from northern Mandi Bahauddin and southwest Bannu — had been won by PTI lawmakers in the last general election.

Zamir Khan was thePTM candidate in Injeel district, killing two people, sources said.

PTI, Communist Party of China to strengthen links

PTI, Communist Party of China to strengthen links

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and the Communist Party of China (CPC) yesterday agreed to further strengthen political, economic and social cooperation and make effective links and strengthen ties with the two parties.

The president's media spokespersons have denied any such links.

`This is our right. They can't change it. They can't play around with the votes,' Shidaa said. A 15-year-old protester said: ‘Yusman has to go.’ Yemenis have been protesting for months against the Saudi-led coalition's war in Yemen.

Maldives opposition backer court reviews poll challenge

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The understanding between the two parties was made at a meeting, where the PTI team was led by Secretary-General Arshad Daud and the delegation of the Communist Party of China was headed by the Director-General of South Asia.

They agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding between the two parties. PTI Vice-Chairman Shai Mulloom Qureshi, Arshad Daud and other party seniors will be present at the meeting.

In his remarks, Arshad Daud said the PTI was keen on benefiting from the Chinese experience of poverty alleviation. He added China-Pakistani Economic Corridor was a fruit of the bilateral relationship between the two countries based on confidence. The delegation of the Communist Party of China expressed good wishes for successes of the PTI government.

In his closing remarks, Abdul Raziq, the provincial police chief, said that following the clashes, Pakistan shut the border crossing linking Spin Boldak with Chaman in the south.

At least 18 soldiers were killed in Taliban attacks on two army posts in the war-torn country. Another 10 soldiers were captured and five wounded during the overnight attacks involving a large number of Taliban in a district of Farah province.

KARACHI: Pakistan's opposition bounced back yesterday in electoral by-polls, capturing several seats from the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, local media reported.

Initial results showed that the main opposition Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) and the two-party religious alliance Mumtazullah Majid-e-Amaal were leading in at least three national assembly seats that were clinched by the PTI in the July 25 elections, which were marred by violence and allegations of fraud.

Two of these seats — from northern Mandi Bahauddin and southwest Bannu — had been won by PTI lawmakers in the last general election.

Zamir Khan was thePTM candidate in Injeel district, killing two people, sources said.

PTI, Communist Party of China to strengthen links

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and the Communist Party of China (CPC) yesterday agreed to further strengthen political, economic and social cooperation and make effective links and strengthen ties with the two parties. The president's media spokespersons have denied any such links.

A resolutions on the issue will be brought before the court today.

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Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan casts his vote during by-elections for National Assembly constituency NA-53 in Islamabad, yesterday.
About 260 tanks and other military vehicles were deployed to the island, where the Bank and the International Monetary Fund have been holding their annual meetings.

The face of future disasters. "Disasters will continue to hit us and it is up to the people to be prepared," said General Hidetoshi Terasawa, who is in charge of the Self-Defense Force's Asaka training ground.

The deadline in September 2019 for the introduction of the new tax system was moved up to January 2019, to stem rising inflation expectations.

The government is raising the rate for cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as alcohol. The increase in excise tax on fuel products is to be gradually increased between 2018 and 2020, with the first hike implemented in January and the second to take effect on Jan. 1 next year.

The law allows for the imposition of the second hike if the average price of Dubai crude, based on data from Platts Sin- gapore, reaches or exceeds $80 per barrel from October until the end of December. The government expects the tax hike to be fully implemented, which is expected to raise about 8% of GDP in tax revenue for the year.

Three of a family hurt in kangaroo attack

SYDNEY: Three members of an Australian family used a broom and a shovel to fight off a rare attack by a kangaroo that left all of them injured, one seriously.

Linda Smith, 64, said a large kangaroo and wallaby came off its property near the Darling Downs region of Queensland state. The wildlife carer and her husband Jim had been feeding 30 kangaroos and wallabies at their property every night amid a severe drought that has depleted their food sources.

One of the large animals – at least six-foot tall – turned on her husband as he fed it, Smith told the Queensland Ambulance Service. "I was on the ground and the kangaroo just kept at him. I went outside to try and help him and took a piece of bread but he knocked it off my hand and attacked me," Smith said.

The kangaroo then bopped her off back into the bush, Queensland Ambulance Service's senior operator super-vior Steven Lomax said adding that the attack was "rare. They are known to attack and can be quite vicious, particularly the large males. But it is something that is uncommon. Nothing that I haven't come across in my 40+ years in the service," Lomax said.

Jim Smith also said that he and his 40-year-old son "came out to try and help me and him hit him with a broom out of my hand then he knocked the bread out of my hand then he attacked me." Smith said.

The family is hoping to receive compensation for the attack.

WASHINGTO: By making a rare second trip this year to Vietnam, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is signaling how intensively the Trump administration is trying to counter China’s military assertiveness by courting up to smaller nations in the region that share America’s wariness about Chinese intentions.

The visit beginning tomorrow also shows how far US-Vietnam relations have advanced since the tumorous days of Vietnam War. Mattis a retired general who ended his two decades as US Army chief of staff in 2011, Mattis made a trip to Vietnam but did not serve there, visited Hanoi in January. By coincidence, that stop came just days before a very high-level round of the talks in Singapore.

When US-Vietnam lightning struck an array of key objec- tives in the South, surprising Washington and feeding anti-war sentiment even though the North’s offensive turned out to be a tactical military failure.

Three months after the Mattis visit, an US Navy aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, made a port call at the Sung. It was the first such visit since the war and a rare visit by an US navy carrier as a counterweight to China’s naval presence.

Mattis plans to visit a Vietnamese airbase that
Merkel’s allies suffer heavy losses in Bavarian elections

**AP**

MUNICH: German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s conservative CSU allies suffered historic losses in Bavarian state elections yesterday, dealt a blow to her fledgling three-party coalition government.

The Bavarian Social Union (CSU) scored 35.3%, according to first public TV projections, humiliating a 12-point drop from four years ago in the wealthy Alpine state that has rated almost single-handedly since the 2018 election.

The outcome means the party could lose both the state and must scramble for coalition allies — either small conservative groups or possibly in long-time ideological loss the Greens who won a record 19% percent according to head-to-head ZDF.

The anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD), which rallies against Muslims and over población — allegedly of small or moderate size — won 15.6 percent and entered the Edelweiss party — which saw 15% to 16% in state and national assemblies.

Merkel’s other national governing partner, the over 50-year-old Social Democrats (SPD), took only around 10 percent, ceding the position of main left-of-centre party and Bavaria’s second biggest political force to the Greens.

This defeat for CSU and SPD, ran the first online headline of Bild daily, while Spiegel Online called it a “bitter defeat” for machine’s traditional Bavarianism.

The outcome reflects shifting voter preferences in the electorate between urban centers heading to global companies such as Siemens and BMW.

For Merkel, in power for 13 years, the Bavaria election was a result of successful project of the far-right AfD’s support, which had managed to capture a large share of regional parties and two with go on to what had been a dangerous state election in these states.

In Germany, there is a party called weber so national rival following several government crises and at a time when most commentators speak of the darts of the Merkel era.

Across Germany, support for the CSU-CSU’s conservative union dropped to an all-time low of 28.5 percent, according to an exit poll for Bild am Sonntag.

In the second place, Germany — wide the SPD and Greens, now neck-and-neck at 17 percent each, followed by the Bavarian State Prime Minister Markus Söder of the Christian Social Union (CSU) addressing the crowd after the first exit poll numbers for the Bavarian state elections in Munich.

At 15 percent.

The Bavaria poll result — the first official release of the CSU, which had long dominated political parties in the state known for its far-right sympathy, Osternheist and croissants on classroom tables.

Since Germany’s mass migration influx of 2015, the party has hardened its frilly brand of hard-ball politics with an increasingly aggressive anti-immigration law and order platform.

At the national level, its contender Miroslav Bechel, the CSU’s candidate for the EU Parliament, has become one of the most high-profile opponents of the party’s plan named after her country.

Soder said it was a “bitter defeat” for machine’s traditional Bavarianism.

The poll result yesterday showed that the tactics — and Seehofer’s brand of anti-immigration law and order platform — has backfired badly.

But the Social Democrats particularly those that have suffered losses in Bavaria in the state, are part of a centre-right Alliance.

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**Storm Leslie slams into Portugal, 27 injured**

AP

LISBON: Storms packing nearly 180 kilometres-per-hour winds slammed into Portugal early yesterday, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without power before carrying heavy rain on into Spain, authorities said.

Twenty-seven people suffered minor injuries, civil defence sources said. Local radio station Ribeira Costa said.

The region around capital Lisbon and the centre of the country at Coimbra and Lisbon were worst hit with trees uprooted, cars and homes damaged and local flooding reported.

Aerovis, Viseu and Porto in the north also suffered damage with rescue services reporting a total of 1,000 incidents.

The civil defence services said 224,000 people were left without power in more than 60 parishes to leave their damaged homes and flee to safety.

Power was being restored across the north and centre of the country during the morning. Lisbon was declared a "red zone" as it faced high winds and searing rain.

The decision was met with a barrage of criticism from Sunday's latest opposi-tion party leader, Antonio Costa, who has previously headed the centre-right Socialists (PSD).

"We have to say with force the message of Lisbon, says the Time to protect migrants against illegal immigration. Salvini against the idea of welcoming migrants into society and... developing a dwelling local population.

"Over the 50 days I have been here we have seen yet more evidence that this regime is in complete decline," he said in referring to recent embarrassments to Moscow's intelligence services abroad and the launch failure of a manned Russian space rocket.

"If anyone thinks that with arrest... they can scare or stop us, that's clearly not the case," he said afterJuda's conviction for fraud.

"The 42-year-old activist lost a 2016 election in the constituency of Moscow in the early hours of Sunday morning and spoke through his lawyer before leaving in a waiting car.

"People were very worried," Maritime authority spokesman added.

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WASHINGTON. US President Donald Trump said on Thursday he is unsure whether to accept a deal that would end the shutdown of the US government, after saying earlier this week he was likely to agree to it.

"I don't know if I'm going to take it or not," Trump told reporters as he left the White House for a campaign rally.

He added that he was considering offers from both sides of the political aisle, saying he was open to working with Democrats as well.

The partial government shutdown, the longest in US history, has hindered progress on a range of issues, including funding for a border wall that Trump has long promised to build.

Trump's comments came after House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer reached an agreement with the Republican leader, Senator Mitch McConnell, on a short-term funding bill to keep the government open until February 8.

However, the White House has not yet signed the bill and Senate Republicans have not yet voted on it, raising doubts about whether the shutdown will end soon.

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Trump weighing new immigration policy

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is pushing for immigration legislation that would make it easier to deport illegal immigrants and allow families to come to the US on a merit basis.

Trump, who told his administration to come up with a new policy, said on Saturday that the current system is “unfair.”

“This system is unfair to all,” he said. “We don’t want to have a system where we’re letting in people who are going to take our jobs. We’re going to have a system where people are going to be working and they’re going to be working hard.”

Trump said he would work with Congress on a new immigration policy that would allow for a merit-based system, but he did not specify what that would look like. He also said he would be meeting with Republican lawmakers on the issue.

The White House did not respond to requests for comment.


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BLOOMBERG

AP

Cuban police detain dissident who criticized government

HAVANA — Cuban police on Saturday detained a dissident who criticized the government on the island, according to a human rights group.

The group said the dissident, known only as “E,” was arrested after posting a message on social media criticizing President Miguel Diaz-Canel’s administration.

E, who is not a member of the political opposition, was arrested early Saturday morning in Havana and brought to a police station, the group said.

The group, which was not identified, said it was not immediately clear why E was arrested.

In recent weeks, Cuban authorities have stepped up their efforts to silence dissent on the island, including arresting several prominent opposition figures.

E was the most recent to be detained, according to the group.

Trump stressed he believed “America First” is the way to go, and he said he would push for legislation that would make it easier to deport illegal immigrants.

“Let me tell you, these people are taking our jobs,” he said. “These people are taking our jobs and they’re taking our jobs away.”

Trump also said he would not allow the US to be “run by the media.”

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**QM introduces Qatari designs to Russia**

The title “Qatari Seasons,” was hosted for the first time in Moscow at the Multimedia Art Museum and introduced audiences to modern Qatari designers.

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The high-profile event was attended by several VIP guests from Qatar and Russia, including Sheikh Hamad Al Attiyah, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Russian Federation, and artist Ariad Saifaldin, designer Olya Tompkin, and former Director Zufira Tugrulova, Olympic champion Anbelkhi Tumata and others.

Participating Qatari fashion designers included Waadha Al Hajri, who showcased a demu-couture collection of her brand especially created for the event, Waad Mohammed, creator of fashion brand Waad and among the most respected companies for light passenger and commercial vehicles, or commercial vehicle development.

Doha's new three years concept is an excellent example of the innovation of Chinese auto brands.

In addition to the new D90, the Maxus pavilion will display the Maxus pick up T60. Maxus V80 15 seater and G50 5/7 seater - two premier people mover solutions. These two vehicles currently lead the Maxus V80 and G50 commercial panel vans will be available at Maxus showroom on Salou Road.

Maxus is one of the world's top open source automotive industry corporations (ISO) that is among the most respected companies for light passenger and commercial vehicles, or commercial vehicle development.

The public awareness campaign 2018.