Amir's speech reflects Qatar's achievements: Cabinet

The Prime Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, who chaired the Cabinet meeting, directed the Ministers to implement the directives of His Highness the Amir in his speech and prepare the necessary plans and programmes.

Prime Minister meets Finland's Minister

The Ministry of Public Health announced that 60,000 people of different age groups have been vaccinated against seasonal influenza within a month since the beginning of national vaccination campaign on October 7.

61,000 receive seasonal influenza vaccination within a month

The Ooredoo ONE Smart Wifi powers up to 50 devices in your home!

Qatar praised for labour reforms at ILO Governing Body meetings

The State of Qatar took part in the meeting of the 137th session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva with a delegation from the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs headed by the Minister of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, H.E. Yousef bin Mohammed Al Ghani Fakhroo. The ILO Governing Body renewed the legislation and procedures carried out by Qatar in the labor market.

Al Jazeera is one of the most popular channels on YouTube

Al Jazeera channel has received the "YouTube Silver Shield" in recognition of the YouTube company for the most popular, fast and growing channels.

Hotel occupancy rates on falling room rates

Qatar's hospitality sector has posted strong performance in August with hotels witnessing significant increases in their occupancy rates, helped by reduction in room rates.

The occupancy rate in hotels across Qatar increased to 65 percent in during/January-August period in 2019 compared to 58 percent in the same period previous year according to Planning and Statistics Authority data.

"The major reason behind improvement in occupancy rate is reduction in room rates. Occupancy rates is inversely related to room rates. Lower room rates increase occupancy while high room rates reduce occupancy on hotel," Marketing Manager of a hotel told The Peninsula.

The reduction in room rates was visible across all the categories of hotels. According to Planning and Statistics Authority data, the Average Daily Rate across all star categories on average declined 1 percent year-on-year till August 2019.

Bunch number of tourists who visited the country was another supporting factor which worked in favour of hotels. Qatar welcomed 1.35 million visitors during the first eight months of 2019 posting an annual increase of 8 percent.

Visitor numbers have showed improvement over past months. Around 119 million visitors came to Qatar during the first seven months of 2019, reflecting a 10 percent increase, compared to the same period in 2018. Two-star and one-star hotels reported the biggest beneficiaries in terms of attracting more guests. These hotels witnessed highest increase in occupancy as their rates jumped by 14 percent during January-August period this year, compared to 6 percent during same period in 2018.

Three-star hotels also saw significant rise in occupancy. The occupancy rate for such hotels increased to 79 percent during January-August this year compared to 69 percent in same period previous year. The occupancy in four-star hotels increased to 60 percent from 59 percent while five-star hotels saw their occupancy rising to 59 percent from 56 percent in first eight months of this year, compared to same period in 2018.

The Peninsula
Baladna

Initial Public Offering

Final day of subscription period

Baladna is a unique Qatari growth story with strong potential to continue its journey. This IPO gives Qatari nationals an opportunity to support the national development and share in the future success of Qatar’s leading dairy and beverage producers.

**Key IPO Facts**

- The Baladna Q.P.S.C. IPO is offering 1,425,750,000 Shares at an Offer Price of QAR 1.01 per Share
- New, strategic investors already committed to 23% of shares
- Up to 52% of share capital available to eligible individual and corporate investors
- Existing owners to retain 25% ownership; no sale of existing shares
- Proceeds will be used to strengthen the company’s balance sheet
- A fatwa has been issued declaring that subscription in the shares of the Company is sharia-compliant

**Key investment highlights**

- Baladna is a self-sufficient dairy company established to become the #1 Qatari dairy and beverage company
- Baladna has a strong operational performance and potential cash flow generation capacity with strong margins
- Baladna has state of the art production facility and infrastructure with fully deployed capital investments
- Baladna has strong support from major stakeholders
- Baladna is a premium branded and well-recognized household name in Qatar with the dominant market share in dairy and beverage products
- This is a once in a kind opportunity to establish a local market leader in the fresh dairy market and contribute to Qatar’s 2030 Vision and the National Food Security Program

**How to Subscribe?**

1. Check you are eligible to participate
2. Learn about Baladna at our website and via the prospectus
3. Check you have all of the required documents to allow you to subscribe
4. Submit a subscription form at participating banks before 7th November 2019

**Eligible Investors**

The IPO is open to Qatari citizens and Qatari companies with a commercial registration certificate issued by MOCI.

For more information about the IPO visit:

www-baladna-com
baladnaco
baladnaco
The Speaker of the Shura Council, H E Ahmed bin Abdullah bin Zaid Al Mahmoud, in his capacity as Chairman of Global Organis ation of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GO PAC), has participated in the meetings of the ILO in Geneva, Switzerland. The speaker was invited to attend the meetings by Dr. Fadi Zon, the chairman of the organization. The meeting reviewed the functions of the organization and called for fighting corruption. Following the meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Qatar’s hosting of the organization’s seventh conference on December 8 and 9 was signed. The organization includes par liaments from 60 countries and 55 national branches around the world. The MoU was signed for the Shura Council by H E the Speaker and for the organization by Dr. Fadi Zon.

Qatar’s hosting of this important conference comes in recognition of the role of the State of Qatar in combating corruption and in support of the great efforts of Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Tham in the fight against corruption and the establishment of transparency and good governance.

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME) announced its service achievements for the third quarter of this year, 900 trees were fer tilized in the parallel street with a quantity of (3600) kg of processed waste, 6,164 tonnes of household waste, 14489 insect control patrols in public places, and cutting about 222,200 m2 of trees. Ongoing work included 234,494,020 gallons of sewage, and implemented 3,774 requests for insect control, 520 requests for rodent control, 6,182 requests for control patrols in public places, and 1148 rodents were controlled. The efforts of the gardens department in the services department in the Municipality of Umm Salal reached in planting 35 trees of various types and cutting about 232,200 m2 of the green areas in the gardens and streets of the municipalities in addition to responding to 621 requests for the service of pruning trees in the municipalities and distributing 900 trees of various species for a quantity of 46,000 kg of processed waste in the form of pulverized wood waste were carried out in this sector with an area of 600,000 m2.

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Justice Ministry launches 2nd level of programme to prepare legal trainers

The Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at the Ministry of Justice launched the 2nd level of the legal and judicial training program for a number of employees in various governmental institutes. The programme aims to prepare legal trainers in various legal and judicial fields, and to develop their skills by providing them with advanced and modern skills and by introducing them to the basic concepts of training and objectives.

The programme will provide them with the knowledge to enable them to prepare, implement and evaluate the training program, enabling them to set training goals and design courses on scientific bases with high-level skills. In order to develop the skills of participants, practical modules for the training sessions were designed including setting the training timeframe, the time spent on the training session, the objectives of the training session and the main activities involved, and how to conduct the training activities and put them in the training manual. On the other hand, the Center also organized a specialized course in the field of administrative investigation and investigation records, for a number of legal officers in government entities and institutes. This course aimed at developing the skills of participants in the field of carrying out administrative investigation tasks, and to demonstrate the necessary requirements to identify the administrative investigation methods, controls and formulation, the procedures and the management skills of the administrative investigation. It will develop the trainers’ abilities and skills.

298 applicants for Scientific Excellence Award 2020

Qatar National University (QNU) announced the total number of applicants for the Scientific Excellence Award 2020 in its 13th edition reached 218 for all 9 categories, covering all educational levels, public and private schools and teachers.

The CEO of the Award and Secretary General of Qatar National Commission for Education, Culture and Science, Dr. Hamad Hassan Al Sulaiti, explained that the number of students applying for the student distinguished category for the primary stage reached 81, 37 students for the preparatory stage, 41 students for the category of high school graduates, and 12 students for outstanding scientific research, and the number of university graduates applying for the university student category reached 38, of which 28 graduates from Qatar University and 10 students from private and military universities. Al Sulaiti added that the evaluation and admission of the files will be during the period from November 10 to December 12 by the various arbitration committees, and winners will be announced during the month of January, while the ceremony will be held on March 3, 2020.

The Award is a pillar of the educational system in Qatar. It aims to honour the distinguished Qatari students, and it is a pathway that fosters creativity and innovation among students and educational institutions.

The award works to deepen the concepts of excellence and creativity through the adoption of international standards, the implementation of specific programmes and integration of individual and institutional efforts to improve the outcomes of the educational process.

Prince of Monaco receives Qatari Ambassador

HSN Prince Albert II of the Principality of Monaco received the credentials of Sheikh Ali bin Hamad Al Thani, the ambassador of Qatar. In his capacity as Non-Resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Qatar to the Principality of Monaco, the ambassador conveyed his greetings to HSH the Prince and his wishes of more prosperity and progress to the people of Monaco. He also wished the Ambassador success in his new duties.

Hamad Al Thani’s greetings and thanks were conveyed to the people of Monaco.

State of Qatar and the Principality of Monaco.

Qatari air hostesses and cabin crews celebrated the anniversary of the 8th of March, the International Women’s Day at the airport of Doha. In a statement issued yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated the firmness of Qatar’s position regarding women’s issues and the role played by Qatar in the struggle of the women of the world towards equal rights. The statement affirmed Qatar’s full solidarity with the Government of Jordan and its support for any measure it takes to maintain security. The statement expressed Qatar’s wishes of a speedy recovery to the injured.

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QNA

QNA
Amir’s speech reflects Qatar’s achievements: Cabinet

The Cabinet then approved its draft decision to add the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Terrorist Financing Unit to the units comprising the Ministry of Justice and to define its competencies.

The Cabinet moreover approved the following: A draft memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the field of charitable and humanitarian work between the Regulatory Authority for Charitable Activities (BACA) in the State of Qatar and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor in the State of Kuwait.

A draft agreement between the governments of the State of Qatar and Hungary for cooperation in the fields of youth and sports. A draft agreement on cultural cooperation between the governments of the State of Qatar and Hungary.

Alizer that the Cabinet reviewed the letter of H E the QCB Deputy Governor and Chairman of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Committee on the proposal to criminalise the smuggling of migrants in accordance with the UN Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the criminalisation of the Ministry of the Interior in this regard and took the appropriate decision thereon.

61,000 receive influenza vaccination in a month

The Ministry pointed out that the high rates of immunisation coverage comes in light of the great efforts exerted by the Ministry and all relevant authorities, whether in the government or private sector to ensure the arrival of vaccinations for the entire population.

In addition, there is a high level of awareness among the population of the importance of vaccination and its effectiveness in the prevention of seasonal influenza and their knowledge gained during the past years of its levels of safety. Vaccination teams also carry out several vaccination campaigns for workers in many institutions, authorities, universities, educational institutions, private companies and hotels.

Al Attiyah meets US Defence official

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs, H E Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed Al Attiyah, met with the Director of the Office of the Robert Abrams in the Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, DC, yesterday. The meeting discussed the bilateral relations in the intelligence and security field and ways of enhancing them. The meeting was attended by the Qatar military attache in Washington Brigadier General Nawaf bin Mubarak Al Thani.

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**Safeguarding Qatar’s intangible cultural heritage highlighted**

RAYNALD C RIVERA
THE PENINSULA

Vital elements of Qatar’s intangible cultural heritage need to be urgently preserved and safeguarded, and their continuity ensured amid the rapid development the country witnesses, a panel of national experts has stressed.

This was underlined during a panel discussion organised on Tuesday by Qatar Museums (QM) and University College London (UCL) at the National Museum of Qatar, which brought together leading Qatari experts including Hamad Al Muhannadi of Ministry of Culture and Sports, Dr. Mariam Ibrahim Al-Hammadi of Qatar University, and Dr. Abdulla Mohammed Al Sulaiti of Qatar Museums.

Moderated by Fernando Brugman of Unesco Regional Office, the panel on “Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Qatar: Current Scenarios, Challenges, and Future Perspectives” was introduced by Prof. Federico Lenzneri of University of Siena, Italy. who said appropriate safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage is also necessary for the State to preserve its own cultural inheritance and the value of multiculturalism and cultural diversity.

In 2008, Qatar ratified the 2003 Unesco Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and since then three elements of Qatar’s ICH have been inscribed on the ICH Representative List of the ICH of Humanity — the Majlis, a cultural and social space; Arabic coffee, a symbol of generosity and Falconry, a living human heritage.

Al Hammadi said important elements of the country’s intangible cultural heritage should be identified and safeguarded, and their continuity within the community should be ensured.

“We should raise awareness on the meaningful and importance of our intangible cultural heritage and their relationship with the community and how it is vital to identity,” she said, adding safeguarding both tangible and intangible heritage is not only the responsibility of the state but also a social responsibility.

Safeguarding and preserving cultural heritage is not only the responsibility of the state and governmental organisations but also of individuals. However, that effort needs campaigns to raise awareness of its importance. Furthermore, we need to be miners to safeguard them in a structured way,” she stressed.

She said there is some intangible patterns of pure Qatari heritage that have been forgotten because they are not anymore linked with Qatar society because they were once practised back in the day for particular reasons and since they are not anymore practised by Qatari youth to exist. “She added.

Al Sulaiti, on the other hand, stressed “education in the museum should be of paramount importance” when it comes to preserving and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

He said replicas of artefacts related to intangible cultural heritage that are kept and displayed in museums must be created for students to experience and appreciate their importance.

He also suggested collaboration among entities to integrate the concept of intangible cultural heritage in school curriculums.

Al Muhannadi said they have worked on the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage of Qatar and hoped there would be awareness of this national inventory through gatherers and meetings involving the community.

The meeting was attended by Mohamed Al Emadi, Director of Qatar Science and Technology Secondary School for Boys, Fahad Mona Al Ali, Deputy Director of Administration, and RamiMohammed Al Torn, Deputy Director for Academic Affairs.

The purpose of the meeting was to explain the policy and aspirations of the school, policy of student assessment, distribute test scores to parents of the second batch of students. The parents toured the school’s laboratories to see the place where their children spend one third of their day.

Registration for Qatar Science and Technology Secondary School for Boys will open after the end of the first semester examination.

Parents urged to support children in their studies

The PENINSULA / DOHA

Fatwa Al Khater, Assistant Undersecretary for Educational Affairs at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, has said that every student enrolled in Qatar Science and Technology Secondary School for Boys is outstanding and parents should support them in their education from all aspects.

Fatwa Al Khater was speaking in a meeting with the parents during her visit to Qatar Science and Technology Secondary School for Boys yesterday.

She said new student are able to successfully experience the unique scientific environment and need to build confidence in themselves and win the trust of their parents by proving their abilities in all stages of study.

“I am proud of the large presence of parents, and this shows the excellence and interest of parents and their eagerness to meet with us and listen to us for the benefit of their outstanding children,” said Al Khater. She highlighted the need for parents to monitor their children on a regular basis and deal with them with love, and help them in becoming a responsible person.

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Qatari artist Faraj Daham brings inspirations from India to Qatar

RAYNALD C RIVERA
THE PENINSULA

Qatari artist Faraj Daham (pictured) opened his solo exhibition titled “See the Unseen” yesterday at the Fire Station Artist in Residence, following his month-long residency at “What the Unseen” yesterday at the Fire Station.

Daham’s exhibition addresses the concept of historical concealment and exclusion through a qualitative approach between what is visible and non-visible, and religions, beliefs and ethnicities, cultural geography. A pattern of races and identities allows art to be introduced to new perspectives, styles and ideas.

The dozens of Daham’s mixed media artworks on show are made of local materials such as Chinese fishing nets from locals in India, handmade paper, hemp pigment and branches of the Indian jujube tree.

Through his choice of materials, the artist draws his concept such as the use of Chinese fishing nets alongside handmade manuscript to hide the intangibility of history.

“During my residency in Mumbai, and through visits to Konish, I find the chance to look at the sea coast from a historical perspective. Horizontal here, means a chronological and enriching accomplishment of human patterns of cultural geography. A pattern of races and religions, beliefs and interactions, identities and languages distinguishes India from other continents. I conducted a field research through which I saw the visible and invisible presence of the history of man and what remains in the path of the Silk Road. This renowned naming of the ancient East trade uncovered human existence through distant times,” he said.

Daham’s month-long residency came as part of the Qatar-India Year of Culture which aims to provide mutual understanding, recognition and appreciation between the two countries through various programmes and initiatives. During his stay, Daham was provided with an individual studio space, professional networking opportunities and an individually stimulating environment for dialogue on visual arts practices for artists and curators.

The collaborative nature of residencies allows artists to be introduced to new perspectives, styles and ideas. This helps them expand their horizons. We are ready pleased to have collaborated with “What about Art?” to create an opportunity for exchange for one of our most talented artists,” said Aisha Al Naimi, Qatar Museums’ Head of Years of Culture.

Daham’s contemporary work is inspired by the transformation of the world around him and the rapid changes experienced in Qatar society. His work was displayed at Katara, Mathaf, QM Gallery, Al Khor, and Al Mathar Gallery, among others.

The “See the Unseen” exhibition by Qatari Artist Faraj Daham opened at the Fire Station, yesterday. PIC: BAHER AMIN / THE PENINSULA

**FROM LEFT: Prof. Federico Lenzneri of University of Siena, Italy; Dr. Abdulla Mohammed Al Sulaiti of Qatar Museums; Hamad Al Muhannadi from the Ministry of Culture and Sports; and Dr. Mariam Ibrahim Al-Hammadi of Qatar University during the panel discussion at National Museum of Qatar. PIC: ABDUL BASIT / THE PENINSULA

**Al Hammadi meets Finland’s Minister for Educational Affairs**

FROM LEFT: Prof. Federico Lenzneri of University of Siena, Italy; Dr. Abdulla Mohammed Al Sulaiti of Qatar Museums; Hamad Al Muhannadi from the Ministry of Culture and Sports; and Dr. Mariam Ibrahim Al-Hammadi of Qatar University during the panel discussion at National Museum of Qatar.

The Minister of Education and Higher Education, H.E. Dr. Mohammad Abdul Wahed Al Hammadi, met yesterday with the Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Finland, Ville Stenman, and his accompanying delegation on the occasion of their visit to the country. During the meeting, they discussed the most important issues of common interest and ways to support and develop them, especially those related to educational fields.

Registration for Qatar Science and Technology Secondary School for Boys will open after the first semester exams.
This new addition is part of Loyola’s programme to ensure that every child who needs to enrol in a school has an available place as close to home as possible and in suitable accommodation.

Loyola International School rents new campus in Ezdan Oasis

Loyola International Schools in Qatar has announced signing of a new tenancy agreement with Ezdan Real Estate to boost student capacity for nearly 1,000 students, by offering the current KG to Grade 6 as well as Grades 7 to 11.

This new addition is part of Loyola’s programme to ensure that every child who needs to enrol in a school has an available place as close to home as possible and in suitable accommodation.

The Loyola International School in Doha’s Al Wukair Phase 1, opened by the Executive Officer of DFI, said: “This new addition of Loyola’s campus at Hamad Al Thani, ‘Loyola International Schools have continued to grow in quality, reputation and standards over the last five years and we are very proud to expand our relationship with Ezdan Real Estate to offer world class infra-structure to students who seek higher education as well as to parents who prefer to have their homes closer to the schools.”

The Loyola International Schools is committed to being part of the Education goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030 by ensuring world class facilities campus with next generation classroom, extensive laboratories and state of arts amenities with the new agreement at Campus in Ezdan Oasis.

Also speaking at the event, Loyola International Schools Chairman of the Board, H.E. R. V’Nikan, has expressed his immense gratitude to Ezdan’s management for placing their trust and never-ending support to Loyola, indicating the continued growth and expansion of the school.

“Loyola is committed to bringing a difference in the way education is offered at its institutions through differentiated learning, activity oriented education and in teaching that we will introduce an extensive curriculum after school initiatives, in the areas of sports, integrated curriculum for students aspiring to join the IBs, AECE, NEET etc. for higher grades,” said Rao.

Ezdan Real Estate, a major real estate project in Al Wukair phase 1, Wadi Mushaireb Street, Doha, Qatar, has offered a set of different residential units with brand new furniture, in a complete package, including fitted kitchen, Cales, restaurants, pharmacies and bakeries 5 features vast areas of green lawns.

OICDRC and HBKU’s College of Law sign MOU

Opening new avenues to mutual support and collaborative exchanges, Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Center (OICDRC) and Hamad Bin Khalifa University’s (HBKU) College of Law signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 6th November 2019.

The signatories thereby confirm their shared commitment to advance Qatar’s legal environment by building the pillars of Qatar National Vision 2030.

OICDRC’s Chief Executive Officer, Faisal Al Sahouti, and Dean of HBKU College of Law, Dr. Fawaz Idrissi, signed the three-year agreement in the presence of representatives from both entities.

Notably, the newly established centre is intended to foster and launch a Centre of Excellence.

The launching event was opened by the season’s foremost higher education institutions that share our dedication to the law and its central role in society. As home-grown professionals, we follow a fundamental drive towards the development of a diversified, knowledge-based economy for our country’s future, as we are entrusted with the mentorship of the next generation of legal professionals.

Commenting on the signing of the MoU, Dr. Saeed Al Karan- man, Dean of HBKU College of Law, said: “The MoU builds upon the already strong rela- tionship between HBKU’s College of Law and the OICDRC. We are particularly excited about having OICDRC judges and officials as guest lecturers at the College of Law. Their knowledge, based on a lifetime of experiences, will undoubtedly expand the horizons of our students. Collaboration through conferences and workshops will also help to promote the rule of law in Qatar – a goal shared by both organisations.

Since its inception as the Court of College of Law & Public Policy in 2014, the HBKU College of Law has taken an innovative approach to the JD legal education. Its unique cur- riculum, based on international business, commerce and dispute resolution, contributes to an advanced legal ecosystem in Qatar and beyond.

OICDRC consistently seeks new national partnerships to establish Qatar as a commercial hub and world leader in the application of the rule of law in the area of dispute resolution. The latest MoU agreement effect- ively marks the signatories’ mutual commitment to furthering national legal capabilities as pre- scribed by Qatar National Vision 2030.

Secret Notes Boutique launches Oriental Leather

Secret Notes Boutique has launched the prestigious platform of the luxurious fragrances, which includes a select and limited number of the famous and rare international perfumes, the new fragrance ‘Secret Notes Oriental Leather’.

In coordination with the QICDRC, Executive Officer of DFI, said: “The new addition of Loyola’s campus at Hamad Al Thani, ‘Loyola International Schools have continued to grow in quality, reputation and standards over the last five years and we are very proud to expand our relationship with Ezdan Real Estate to offer world class infra-structure to students who seek higher education as well as to parents who prefer to have their homes closer to the schools.”

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Oriental Leather is born under a patchouli star, inspired by the sky of Oman. A vibrant and luxurious composition as a mosaic of oriental essences.

Oriental Leather expresses notes that embody choice, dreams, feelings, captivating the charm of Oman’s Wahiba Sands. At nightfall, the Wahiba Sands of Oman cast a unique glow onto the skybelow. The sun has waned and the moon takes the form of a crescent in the darkening sky, the emblem of the sahara. It shines just as bright as this small sword, slipped into the leather belt of men who wear it. It’s the leather that the traditional costume.

The heaviest perfume lights up the path to Wahiba Shait, a lush paradise, freezing forth like patchouli. A majestic Oud

meets the eyes. Oriental Leather bears its secrets and whispers them to Orison, whose constellations hangs in the might like a charm on a bell. Amber and leather notes reveal themselves in full day-light, amongst whispering scents of lavender, cinnamon and benzoin vanilla, juxtaposed on the trunk, taking you to a world full of vitality, passion.

T here was no suggestion of truce, this was war. The traditional Oriental Leather notes, patchouli and leather, giving you an exceptional distinctive scent. The new fragrance oriental leather meets the eyes. Oriental Leather bears its secrets and whispers them to Orison, whose constellation hangs in the night like a charm on a bell. Amber and leather notes reveal themselves in full daylight, amongst whispering scents of lavender, cinnamon and benzoin vanilla, juxtaposed on the trunk, taking you to a world full of vitality, passion.

Partial closure in one direction of Abdul Aziz bin Ahmed Street

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has announced a partial closure of Abdul Aziz bin Ahmed Street in one direction Effective from Wadi Mushaireb Street to the Al Shorouq Roundabout.

In coordination with the General Director of Traffic, this change will be implemented from tomorrow for a period of 3 months, and aims to enable expansion and upgrading works on Electricity intersection and installation of new traffic lights as part of the A-Ring Road Development Project.

During this time, road users of Abdul Aziz bin Ahmed Street wishing to head towards Electricity roundabout is required to use Al Diwan Street and Al Aroubah Street to reach their desired destinations, as shown in the attached map.
Qatar University (QU) hosted the Science for Sustainable Development 2019 Conference (CSD 2019), where scientific advancements in sustainable development were covered through four dedicated sessions focusing on food, water, waste management, water management, and renewable energy.

The conference focused on assessing how these resources can be actively integrated in order to enable sustainable resource management, considering that the conference officials attended the conference include QU President Dr. Hassan Althaibi; QU Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Omar Al Ansari; QU Vice-President for Research & Graduate Studies Professor Mariam Al Misfeed and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Professor Ibrahim AlKhaibi.

Prof. Ibrahim AlKhaibi said that, “Sustainable development is considered a strategic way to achieving economic prosperity and environmental sustainability in local and international communities.

“This year’s conference reflects the QU’s vision to promote the culture of scientific research as an effective tool in addressing challenges.

In addition, the conference connects researchers and students with their counterparts locally and internationally and introduces new research trends that contribute to sustainable development. Our goal is to shed a spotlight on the efforts – both locally and internationally – towards achieving the vision of sustainable development, which is the vision of our nation Qatar, and the goal of the United Nations.”

QU Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Omar Al Ansari said: “From this point of view, this conference focuses on innovative ways to solve developmental challenges in the areas of food and water security, and renewable energy.

’Our goal is to shed a spotlight on the efforts – both locally and internationally – towards achieving the vision of sustainable development, which is the vision of our nation Qatar, and the goal of the United Nations.”

Ooredoo marks most successful QITCOM in history

Ooredoo, the region’s leading enabler of digital business innovation, announced that it saw a rise in mobile data traffic, with historic partnerships, supported by hosting senior delegations, and exchanging knowledge at the eGovernment and workshop sessions.

A brief explanation was given about the Qatar Government’s theme “Safe Smart Cities”. Ooredoo, the strategic Sponsor, led a consortium that won the Ministry of Interior’s Communications TASMU Smart Central Platform, the digital foundation for the TASMU Smart Qatar Program.

In the Qatar National Vision 2022, Ooredoo, as the company’s partner, took center stage at QITCOM’s conference programme. Nusairi posted a presentation on “Cybersecurity Challenges in the IoT: Enabled City,” and Omri Touma holds a workshop on how organisations can optimise the Ooredoo Azure Stack Public Cloud.

MoC recalls Mercedes-Benz V Class 2018 model

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in cooperation with Nasser Bin Khaled Automobiles, dealer of Mercedes-Benz in Qatar, announced the recall of Mercedes-Benz V Class model of 2018 due to a crack in the right sliding door of the centre carrier.

The recall campaign comes within the framework of the Ministry’s continuous efforts to protect consumers and ensure that car dealers follow up on vehicle defects and repairs.

MME holds workshop on draft health regulations

The Ministry of Health and Population (MME) said the Ministry of Municipalities and Environment (MME) is drafting draft health regulations.

The workshop aimed at introducing the draft of new health requirements that refer to the highest international food safety management systems. The workshop’s aim was to be familiar with the main concepts and develop the regulatory framework.

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Stars of Science welcome newborn to the family

In a series of many firsts, Stars of Science welcomed a new face into their midst as season 11 finalist Noha Abu Yousef delivered a healthy baby boy while participating in Qatar Foundation’s premier innovation TV programme. The Jordanian doctor’s accomplishment shatters stereotypes and demonstrates that women can pursue both a career in science and raise a family.

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Noha said that giving birth at Sidra Medicine – a member of QF – and a top-tier women and children’s hospital, allowed her and her newborn to receive the best possible care.

“Designed to promote health and provide outstanding services and research, Sidra Medicine acts as a beacon of learning and is a part of our commitment to contribute to the advancement of innovative healthcare,” said Dr. Michel Makhlouf, Act. Chair of Women’s Health.

“We are pleased that Noha chose Sidra Medicine to have her baby and we are honored to have another woman in our rolls of Science history.”

Stars of Science is just one of the many QF initiatives that empowers and encourages Arab women to take on careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields and face the many challenges in their communities.

The organization also values and safeguards the health and wellbeing of women throughout the region with the establishment of many institutions like Sidra Medicine.

The three finalists – Abdulrahman Salah Khameis, Noha Abu Yousef, and Youssef El Azouzi – represent eight institutions that issue food safety management standards, including ISO, GSO, CEN, as well as introducing the GSO and QF. The workshop covered introduction of initial programs of food safety management systems such as Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Good Storage Practices (GSM), Good Distribution Practices (GDP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hygiene and Personal Hygiene Practices, Presentation of Equipment and Equipment. Post Implementation of QF, the three firsts – Abdul-
EDITORIAL

Destination Qatar

Qatar’s tourism sector is witnessing boom helped by proactive measures taken by the government. Recent figures have once again confirmed that efforts taken by the government are yielding results.

The latest statistics showed that the State of Qatar welcomed 1.3 million visitors during the first seven months of 2019, representing a 10.7 percent increase, compared to the same period in 2018. The increase in number of travellers in the country shows that Qatar has emerged as a favourite destination for global tourists. Qatar has identified tourism as one of its five priority sectors for achieving economic diversification and several steps were taken to increase tourist inflow in the country.

The tourism sector has recently undergone rapid development after the opening of QNTC representative offices in the major exporting markets of the States. Britain, France, Italy, Turkey, Russia, India, China and Southeast Asia. This coincides with the announcement of the World Tourism Organization that the State of Qatar has become the most open country in the Middle East and the 8th most open in the world. The cooperation between the National Tourism Council and the World Tourism Organization has been developed to include support for several global initiatives, while the Council has worked to develop and regulate the tourism sector, as well as the skills and competencies of workers in the sector, in addition to developing the form and content of tourism events and festivals.

The Council is actively seeking to attract the right investors to implement projects related to the tourism sector. The Council has also worked to strengthen the State of Qatar’s position as a global business destination and to collaborate with Qatar Tourism Authority (QTA) partners to attract more exhibitions and conferences, as well as supporting companies organizing local exhibitions and events and giving them the opportunity to launch the sector.

The QNTC also launched an e-notification system in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior for those wishing to organize exhibitions, as well as supporting companies organizing other events. A 2020 trade show in Dubai will be Ennahda’s latest initiative to show the country’s political power is so diffuse in the country, where every action is watched by the public, and every decision is made with due consideration for the interests of the population. Tunisia’s head of state last week, but the country is not just a small country - it is a region with a small population of almost the entire population. But even in Tunisia, the Muslim Uighur minority there is subjected to searches of electronic devices at the border and is a mark of Tunisia’s ability to follow through. "This is a challenge for us, but it’s something we can handle," she said in a recent interview. "And we can share our experience with others." But Tunisia will need to work more on partnering with two of its nearest competitors - a secularist leader, whose coalition is led by the Ennahda movement, which is made up of a league of secularists, leftists and Islamists. Since 2011, Tunisia has embarked on rounds of political crises, assassinations, mass protests and the worrying departure of hundreds of its citizens to join the ranks of the Islamic State, Iraq and the Levant. While real ideological divisions exist between Ennahda - which, like its Egyptian ideological cousin, the Muslim Brotherhood, has been replaced by one after the other - and the Islamic State, Iraq and the Levant, there is a sense of shared identity among the country’s politicians.

"Tunisia very clearly demonstrates that democracy is possible in this part of the world, something completely compatible with the Islamic values," said LAU. And LAU’s work has been supported by the United States, agencies have become more aggressive with warrantless searches of electronic devices at the border and are becoming a target of fierce criticism. In some places in the Arab world, the country’s support for not solving the country’s political crisis, and its contempt for the nation’s traditions, is identified as a possible political crisis. The country’s long-ruling dictator in that process took place a few weeks ago, when Kais Saied, a retired law professor and winner of the country’s presidential election, has been working on the country’s previous government, was in Washington for meetings. His name has come up as a possible prime minister. "Tunisia today is not too late to aim for a better Year 10," predicted the respected WWII historian. "It’s not too late to aim for a better Year 10."
Symposium on Islamic Art to open at VCUarts Qatar

One of the world’s most prestigious events on the Islamic art and architecture calendar, the 11th Biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Symposium on Islamic Art, will take place at Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar (VCUarts Qatar) in Education City on November 10 and 11.

The Symposium takes place every two years and this year’s theme is “The Seas and the Mobility of Islamic Art.”

It will include eminent scholars such as Artemis Shalem, the Riggs Professor of the arts of Islam at the Columbia University; Rita Black, Associate Professor of African Art History at New York University; Esa Al Amin, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at Cornell University; Jennifer Hallett, the Curator of the Early Modern and Islamic Art at the Cloisters; Nelly Gazzaniga, Curator of Islamic Art at the Rijksmuseum; and Jennifer Chiu, Associate Professor of Islamic Art at New York University.

Panel discussions will take place on subjects such as Islamic Art in 11th-14th century Chinese port cities, Muslim-centred design, and architecture in the 20th and 21st centuries. Ibn Battuta’s maritime adventures, pilgrimage and transfer of craftsmanship from South Asia to the Hijaz, Islamic connections between India and China during the Song and Yuan Periods Islam and identity in new master-planned cities.

The Symposium co-chairs will be VCUarts Qatar Art History professors Dr. Radha Dalal (left), Dr. Jochen Sokoly (centre), and Dr. Sean Roberts.

Al Wakrah beach clean-up drive held

As part of the celebration of Qatar Sustainability Week 2019, Ginger Camel in partnership with Back 2 Business, Quantum Network, and Environment, and the wonderfull private citizens, who spared their weekend for nature. It was good participation to end Qatar Sustainability Week 2019 with so much fun under the sun. But also the efforts must continue in keeping our home clean and green, even after the celebration of sustainability week.

45 Indian companies to take part in ‘Hospitality Qatar 2019’ expo

Around 45 prominent Indian companies engaged in the food & hospitality sectors will be participating in the 4th edition of Hospitality Qatar 2019 exhibition organised by IFF Qatar from November 12 to 14 at Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC).

The Indian pavilion is coordinated by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) in partnership with the Embassy of India, Doha.

The TPCI delegation will be exhibiting their Food & Beverages products during the Exhibition in the following categories – rice, pulses, confectionery, grocery, dehydrated vegetables, Indian ethnic products, packaging machines & materials and linen for the hospitality Industry.

In the 2018 edition, the Indian pavilion comprised 20 companies. The increase in participation from India at Hospitality Qatar 2019 reflects the growing interest of business communities of both the countries to promote trade and commerce in this sector. India-Qatar bilateral trade and investment body recognized by Ambassador of India, P Karaman.

Around 45 prominent Indian companies have already booked participation at Hospitality Qatar 2019. The growth of Indian industry with global investment & trade opportunities. The Council provides strategies for expanding business internationally by organizing specialized business events. The Indian pavilion will be inaugurated by Ambassador of India, P Karaman.

The opening reception will take place on November 11 at 5pm and the exhibition will run until December 7, 2019.

Volunteers during the initiative to clean-up Al Wakrah beach.

Indian exports of F&B to Qatar were US$246.76m in 2018 and were US$234.74m from April to August 2019. The top ten food and beverage products exported from India to Qatar include rice, vegetables, poultry and meat, dry fruits, mango pulp milk products, snacks, seafood, fruits and pickles. The volume and value of Indian export of these items is likely to increase in the years to come.
**World Bank urges Lebanon to form new govt quickly**

**AFRIPRESS**

The World Bank urged the Lebanese government yesterday to form a new government quickly, warning of the threat of an economic downturn that would deepen poverty and worsen unemployment.

The warning came as anti-government protests continued to see rallies of hundreds of schoolchildren in the southern city of Sidon yesterday, as the Lebanese government announced it would no longer provide social security benefits to the unemployed.

The World Bank said in a statement that the government needed to take action to defuse a crisis following the protests.

“Without quick steps to address the crisis, about half of Lebanon’s population could fall into poverty and unemployment could rise sharply,” said the World Bank, which warned the situation was becoming more acute.

In its statement, the World Bank also warned “we expect the recession to be even more significant” than previously, meaning a contraction in economic activity was expected.

Tourists among 8 wounded in Jordan knife attack

**AFP/Reuters**

Eight people, including four tourists, were wounded in a knife attack yesterday at the famed archaeological site of Jerash in northern Jordan, a security spokesman said.

Four tourists – three Mexican and a woman from France – were wounded, along with a Jordanian tour guide and a security officer who tried to stop the assailant.

Representatives of the Washington-based Jordanian tour guide Zouheir Zreiqat. He said others started to shout for help and he, along with three other guards, managed to stop the assailant.

Zreiqat said he and his security colleagues had been “transported to hospital for treatment”.

He said the assailant had been arrested, and expressed his satisfaction with the response to the incident. He said the attacker had not been identified as yet.

The attack took place around noon (0900 GMT) at the Roman ruins of Jerash, a popular tourist destination.

A plane carrying a tourist, who was injured in a stabbing, is seen at King Hussein Medical Center in Amman, Jordan, yesterday.

In December 2016, in Karak, home to one of the region’s biggest Crusader castles, 10 people were killed in an attack that also left 30 wounded.

Seven police officers, two Jordanian civilians and a Canadian tourist were killed in the attack. The attacker was detained by the Islamic State group and sparked concern over its impact on tourism, a key sector of the Jordanian economy.

Two of 1,062 people who were evacuated from the site were wounded and taken to hospital.

A long list of grievances have exacerbated anti-government demonstrations across the country, refusing to return to class before the demands of the protest movement are met.

In Beirut, a 12-year-old schoolgirl who had been sent to school with her class without being sent to class on Monday in Sidon, asked for help and she was sent back to class.

In a school in the resort town of Byblos, according to NNA and other Lebanese media reports.

The head of the UN agency that runs three refugee camps in the southern city of Sidon, yesterday, said the head of the UN agency that runs three refugee camps in the southern city of Sidon, said the agency would not pay for the construction of a new refugee camp.

The stunt was part of a wave of protests against the government’s decision to close a refugee camp near the southern city of Sidon, where thousands of refugees have been living in makeshift tents for months.

The UN refugee agency said it would not pay for the construction of a new refugee camp because it had no funds available.

A magnitude 5.4 earthquake struck Iran province of Sistan and Baluchestan yesterday afternoon, according to the country’s seismology centre.

The center’s website said the 5.4 magnitude quake struck at 11:00 a.m. local time, some 123 kilometres (76 miles) west of the port city of Bandar Abbas.

It was the second earthquake of the day, with a 5 magnitude shock hitting just before the first.

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Two Jordanians detained by Israel return home after handover deal

**REUTERS**

Two Jordanians, whose detention by Israel led Jordan to recall its ambassador, were yesterday in a handover deal that defused a diplomatic crisis, official sources said.

Hiba Lahad, 24, was arrested on Monday after crossing the occupied West Bank to attend a wedding. She subsequently went on a hunger strike and was hospitalised after her health deteriorated.

Separately, an army officer who served in the West Bank to visit relatives.

The Jordanian government had earlier demanded the release of a Palestinian prisoner held in Israel, which prompted the government to recall its ambassador.

The asylum seekers want to remain in Jordan, where they have been living for several months, awaiting the outcome of their asylum applications.

Jordan has been under pressure to sign a peace agreement with Israel, which it has rejected, saying it would not recognise the Israeli government.

In November, in the southern city of Jerash, killing three tourists and a security guard, sparking concern over its impact on tourism, a key sector of the Jordanian economy.

The attack was one of several violent incidents that have struck the country in the past year, including a suicide attack in June claimed by ISIS that killed seven Jordanian border guards near the frontier with Syria.

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The protesters complain of widespread corruption, a lack of job opportunities and poor basic services, including regular power cuts despite Iraq’s vast oil reserves.

Iraqi security forces fired into the air in Tahrir Square, on the eastern bank of the Tigris, and in the Martyrs’ Bridge, north of the capital, where security forces killed at least three people as they dispersed the protest. Days earlier, marked 11 years after the US invasion, thousands of Iraqis gathered to protest the coronavirus pandemic and economic hardships, demanding an end to corruption and improved living conditions.

The US Embassy in Baghdad called on the government to “avert any ‘upheaval that might take place that might increase the suffering of the Iraqi people’.”

In Sudan, the government has made reaching a peace deal to end the conflict with rebel groups dependent on presidential elections within three months. The government had said it would delay the elections by at least a year to address the economic crisis and political instability. The Sudanese Revolutionary Front said it would continue fighting until the government agrees to a peace deal.

Zimbabwe police yesterday blocked government workers from marching to protest for better salaries, a day after they demanded more pay in the face of rising costs. Police in trucks and on foot outnumbered the protestors. The workers are calling for their salaries to be indexed to the US dollar, arguing that Zimbabwe’s escalating inflation rate and the devaluation of the currency are eroding their salaries so much that many can no longer afford basic needs. The average monthly salary of a civil servant is about US$60. On Tuesday, the government said it had fired seven public hospital doctors who had been on strike for seven months and arrested six of them.

The protesters trudged into town on Wednesday with their own coffins, dressed in black as they returned to work. The police opened fire on a demonstration in the suburbs of Tripoli on Wednesday. Two people were killed and eight were wounded.

The military called on the protesters to stop blocking roads and ports, saying they had cost Iraq $6bn, and it vowed to arrest anyone trying to block roads. An attack on a weekly protest march in Harare, Zimbabwe police stopped protest march by civil servants in Tafara on the outskirts of Tripoli, yesterday. Two Libyan protesters were killed in an air strike on a police station in the suburbs of Tripoli, the Libyan-recoynised GNA said.

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India voices concern over objectionable elements in Kartarpur visual

**India voices concern over objectionable elements in Kartarpur visual**

**IANS**

NEW DELHI

Two days after the highly-anticipated inauguration of the cross-border Kartarpur Corridor, India yesterday voiced concerns over the presence of three Sikh separatist leaders, including Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, in an official photographic video of the inauguration held in Pakistan and has raised the matter with Islamabad.

The video shows postures by Sikh leaders, including photos of Prof-Khalistan leaders-hard-nosed chief Charanjit Singh Tavil and his military advisor Shalog Singh, who were killed during the Operation Blue Star in 1984. Sikhists for Justice is a banned outfit, which is seeking for law enforcement.

The video was released on Monday, ahead of the November 9 inauguration ceremony of the Kartarpur Corridor, which will connect the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Punjab with the Kartarpur shrine in Pakistan where Guru Nanak Dev spent his final days.

Several states have raised the issue with Pakistan and expressed their displeasure over the visual.

Indian government sources said on Wednesday that India had raised the presence of anti-India, objectionable elements in the video as asked for removal of the visual.

**Malabar Gold & Diamonds opens showroom in Pune**

NEW DELHI

Schools reopened yesterday in the Indian capital with tier-3 level compliance with mid-week order of less than half since authorities declared a health emergency last weekend.

With strong winds blowing ash out of the city, the air quality index at the US embassy in New Delhi stood at 55 as compared to over 500 over the weekend that was 10 times the recommended WHO level.

Air pollution in New Delhi peaks around November 1 due to smog from festival fireworks and burning of agricultural waste.

**Russian, Indian defence ministers meet in Moscow**

**ANATOYA**

NEW DELHI

The defence sector is one of the leading areas of cooperation between Russia and India. Russian defence minister met his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh in the capital Moscow.

According to the minister, the two countries strengthen military cooperation by expanding communications between the general staffs and the armed forces, joint military exercises and educational exchanges. He also mentioned Russian-Indian interactions within the framework of the international organizations, including in the Shanghai Co-op Organization (SCO).

For his part, Rajnath Singh said that India restituted its peacekeeping force and is planning to aim to expand the military cooperation role and the role of India in the economy.

The employment situation in the country is critical, said the minister. "It's important that the employment in the tribal districts. It's important that the employment in the concerned districts. It's important that the employment in the concerned districts."
Protection of environment top priority: Imran

Prime Minister Imran Khan has said the protection of Pakistan’s natural resources is a matter of the government.

Addressing the 7th Asian Regional Conservation Forum of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Islamabad yesterday, the prime minister said Pakistan was a downstream country and the Pakistan has twelve ecological zones from desert to Himalayas and marine in the world.

The prime minister added that the population growth and the lack of interest for protection of environment in the past has devastated our wildlife and forests.

The PTI-Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the first government which took the first major step to deal with the climate change by launching the billion tree Tsunami project, the prime minister said.

He said the magic formula of the success of this initiative was that local people including women were involved besides the government.

PM says after success of the ‘billion tree Tsunami’ project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, his government has now embarked upon an ambitious plan of planting ten billion trees in the country.

The PTHC (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the first ever government which had taken the initiative of planting one billion trees with the slogan of ‘two trees for each citizen’.

The prime minister said that the federal government of PTI has now embarked upon an ambitious plan of planting ten billion trees.

He added that this year we will launch massive tree plantation drives across the country as the necessity of planting trees and forest management was developed in the first year.

The prime minister added that the youth and the soldiers of the Pakistan Army were playing a role in this drive.

Debt inquiry commission yet to find fowl play

Commission of Inquiry constituted by Prime Minister Imran Khan to look into the case of corruption in the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has failed to make any headway.

Informed sources said that the commission has also not found so far any concrete evidence regarding the fraud.

It is said that the 15 years old K-4 project was hardly 10 percent complete but the recent rains in Karachi washed away the work done so far and the project cost has risen from Rs80m to Rs308m because of the delays.

The K-4 water project is a multipurpose infra structure project being set up in the region near provincial and federal government, to check the city’s daily water supply.

The estimated cost was approximately Rs5.5 billion while the project is designed to provide 50mn gallons of water daily to Karachi in three phases.

The K-4 project was supposed to be completed by December 2018, but was delayed because of the floods in Karachi through the drainage canals.

The mega-project has seen constant delays with the cost of construction rising manifold.

The Commission sources said that so far the loan cases were not yet cleared and the money was received in the Federal Colonies account known as Account No 1.

The provinces have also maintained their own Account No 1 and they too have been receiving their receipts in the same account.

Thus the impression that the loan money whether local or foreign could be credited by any person on his personal account or could be paid in cash does not carry any weightage.

According to a former finance secretary, the government could not argue this because those who have understanding of the government working know that categorization of accounts are supposed to go to Account No 1.

Informed sources said that there are cases where the money received in the same Account No 1 was transferred to other project, for debt servicing or to bridge fiscal deficit.

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The K-4 water project is a multipurpose infra structure project being set up in the region near provincial and federal government, to check the city’s daily water supply.

The estimated cost was approximately Rs5.5 billion while the project is designed to provide 50mn gallons of water daily to Karachi in three phases.

The K-4 project was supposed to be completed by December 2018, but was delayed because of the floods in Karachi through the drainage canals.

The mega-project has seen constant delays with the cost of construction rising manifold.

The Commission sources said that so far the loan cases were not yet cleared and the money was received in the Federal Colonies account known as Account No 1.

The provinces have also maintained their own Account No 1 and they too have been receiving their receipts in the same account.

Thus the impression that the loan money whether local or foreign could be credited by any person on his personal account or could be paid in cash does not carry any weightage.

According to a former finance secretary, the government could not argue this because those who have understanding of the government working know that categorization of accounts are supposed to go to Account No 1.

Informed sources said that there are cases where the money received in the same Account No 1 was transferred to other project, for debt servicing or to bridge fiscal deficit.

Debt inquiry commission yet to find fowl play

Commission of Inquiry constituted by Prime Minister Imran Khan to look into the case of corruption in the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has failed to make any headway.

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15 dead in suspected rebel attacks in Thailand's south

AFP  YALA, THAILAND

At least 15 people were gunned down in an ambush by a group of militants in Thailand’s violence-ravaged south, an attack officials said yesterday, one of the bloodiest days in the 15-year conflict.

Thailand’s three southern provinces have been in conflict for 15 years and a conflict that has killed more than 7,000 people and displaced tens of thousands, officials said.

Despite the high toll, violent attacks carried out by armed guerrillas garner little international attention.

The region is heavily controlled by the military and police forces, with residents and rights groups accusing them of committing abuses.

Villages trained and armed by the military are often accused of launching attacks in the region carried out by the rebels.

A senior Thai official said yesterday that military drills would push the conflict to “unprecedented levels”.

Korn was part of the Thai delegation at the working level nuclear talks with the US in Sweden last month.

A senior Thai official cited a number of occasions in which the joint military drills would force them to reconsider the important steps that they had already taken, he said.

“While critics said the application is aimed at preserving the war against drug trafficking, the Cabinet stood in the dock of the internationally ceremony in which it sold 150,000 weapons.

Duterte offered the post to a Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte’s deadly anti-drug campaign as a top post yesterday to help manage an armed conflict in the country in the ex-Soviet region, Tajikistan, the poorest

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Xi, Macron say Paris climate pact ‘irreversible’

AP

BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping and French President Emmanuel Macron declared yesterday that the Paris climate pact was “irreversible,” showing a united front after Washington formally withdrew from the accord this week.

The joint declaration came at the end of Macron’s second visit to China, which started on Monday in Shanghai and included talks on trade and the Iranian nuclear issue.

The French leader also said Xi there was need for dialogue to resolve disputes in Hong Kong.

But Xi and Macron found common ground on climate change.

Major powers expressed regret and concern in Paris after President Donald Trump announced he would withdraw from a 2015 nuclear deal with Iran.

Johnson hit by Cabinet resignation

AP

LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was yesterday argued that voting for the Conservatives was the only way to end delays over Brexit, as he officially launched an election campaign aimed at winning a majority in Parliament.

Johnson said the poll was Britain’s last chance to end the political impasse over Britain’s departure from the European Union.

Johnson also slammed his main rival, Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, comparing him to former dictator Joseph Stalin and – erroneously – to a 2017 London apartment block which was locked.

Checkpoint Charlie

A view of Checkpoint Charlie, a former checkpoint connecting the former US sector with the Soviet sector in then divided Berlin is pictured in Berlin on November 05, 2019.

PRAGUE

A 46-year-old Iraqi man was yesterday charged with spying for Iran by gathering information on Iranian refugees in Sweden, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Prosecutor Hans-Jorgen Hanstrom said the man “explores the choices made by others” as he sent to Xi following the talks at the imposing Great Hall of the People in the Chinese capital.

But Xi wants to look at them as marginal choices,” Macron said.

The two leaders also committed to trying to “understand others’ views and to have respect for their firm support for the Paris accord which they regard as one of the foundations of the stability of our world.”

The document includes a commitment to restoring almost a third of degraded land as well as eliminating fossil fuel subsidies in the medium term.

The two sides also committed to signing by January 31 a contract for the construction of a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in China, which would involve French energy giant Areva.

On Iran, Macron said the two countries agreed to deepen joint efforts to convince Tehran to “fully respect its obligations” under the 2015 nuclear deal with major powers.

In a joint written statement, Xi and Macron reaffirmed “their firm support for the Paris accord which they consider as an irreversible process and a compass for strong action on climate.”

French President Emmanuel Macron shakes hands with Chinese President Xi Jinping following a signing ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, yesterday.

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Johnson hit by Cabinet resignation as UK election campaign kicks off

AP

LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is yesterday taking his campaign to win the December 12 election, which is set to decide whether the UK leaves the EU at the end of the month, with thousands of activists and volunteers holding rally across the country.

Johnson said the Conservative campaign was worth fighting for because it was “a choice between the status quo and a clean break”.

The Conservative campaign has said it would need to win at least 500 seats to form a majority government.

Johnson, 56, has promised a “hard Brexit” if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Johnson argued yesterday that the referendums of 2016 and 2017 had “shown that the British people want us to move away from this failed system and a new relationship with the EU.”

Johnson also slammed his main rival, Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, comparing him to former dictator Joseph Stalin and – erroneously – to a 2017 London apartment block which was locked.

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**French govt toughens stance on immigration**

**The French Prime Minister said the 20 new measures on immigration his government unveiled yesterday were the mark of a “France that is open but is not naive.”**

The Prime Minister called for higher wages after being on strike for nearly a month. The unions are demanding pay increases for other employees in Croatia’s government.

**Sweden's Crown Princess Victoria and her husband Prince Daniel meet children during a visit in an IT company in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, yesterday.**

**Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said he was able to talk to US President Donald Trump for including Kosovo, which is still a member of the Western military alliance.**

**Poles can travel visa-free to US starting November 11**

Duda thanked President Donald Trump for including Poland in the visa-waver program.

The decision comes after months of negotiations with the right-wing government and Trump administration. The US lifted visa requirements for the refusal rate dropped to the required level of under 3 percent of visa requests.

The US-UAE and one of its closest partners in Europe, Poland, has been waiting to be included in the visa waiver program since the 1990s, after it toppled the communist regime, and the long wait was frustrating.

**Sri Lanka: UN chief says peace talks between Tamil and Sinhalese sides are necessary.**

The Sri Lankan government and Tamil separatists are ready to talk to re-establish peace and end the 30-year war.

**Dutch man shot at in German border town in targeted attack**

A Dutch lawyer living in a border town was shot and seriously wounded after he had been targeted in an attack on an immigration officer. The attacker has been arrested.

**French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe (second right) leads a meeting focused on immigration at the Ministry of Interior in Paris.**

The French government has announced a series of new measures to tackle the country's immigration problem, as the current situation as a “historic moment” over the bloc's approach on migrants since 2011 triggered a migrant crisis in Italy, Britain and Sweden.

**French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has been a targeted attack on towns was shot and seriously wounded. The lawyer, but said he was able to talk to authorities after the attack.**

A photo from the scene showed medical tenders attending to the victim in a suburb of Toulouse. The attacker is still at large.

**French govt toughens stance on immigration**

The French Prime Minister said the 20 new measures on immigration his government unveiled yesterday were the mark of a “France that is open but is not naive.”

The Prime Minister said his new measures on immigration would be stronger than the previous ones.

**EU Parliament head urges for Balkan membership talks**

The head of the European Parliament said there is still hope for countries to join the European Union, and urged for membership talks to restart with the two countries.

**Dutch attorneys’ organisation have been a targeted attack on lawyers. The attackers are not yet known.**

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**Earlier this year, a Dutch man shot and seriously wounded in the German border town of Enschede was targeted.**

The incident occurred in the early hours of the morning.

**Serbia set to buy Russian missiles amid US sanctions hint**

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**House to begin Trump public impeachment hearings**

**BLOOMBERG**

House Democrats are opening the public phase of their impeachment inquiry of Donald Trump this week, with some of the central witnesses who have demonstrated the president’s pressure on Ukraine to investigate a political foe.

The public hearings will begin November 13 with William Taylor, the current U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, who described the conditions the Trump administration placed on Ukraine for it to receive military aid and a coveted White House meeting.

The Intelligence Committee, which will lead the public hearings, will call the State Department’s political envoy to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch on November 17. The investigation should end in December.

**Opponent to offer Bolivia ‘resignation letter’ signatories’ sign**

**AP**

A group of over two-dozen opposition Bolivian politicians have vowed to maintain court challenges against the government, which has been compared to a “dictatorship” after the November 16 elections.

The opposition has challenged the government’s victory and the decision to hold a referendum on a new constitution.

**Mexican probe narco group ‘La Linea’ in Mormon murders**

**AP**

Mexican authorities said yesterday they believe a drug cartel called “La Linea” was responsible for the murder of nine Mormon women and children, saying the massacre was committed with American involvement.

The three women and six children, who had fled the U.S. to escape Mexican citizenship, were killed in the early morning of Monday as they drove on a rural road between the states of Sonora and Chihuahua, which border the United States.

Eight other children managed to escape and were wounded – a case that has caused shock on both sides of the border and prompted President Donald Trump to call for a “war” on Mexican cartels.

The head of the Mexican military, the Army’s joint chiefs of staff, Homero Mendoza, said authorities now believe the massacre was perpetrated by La Linea (The Line) – a drug cartel based in Chihuahua.

He said investigations indicated that the attackers were a squadron to the lawless drug lord Joaquin Guzman Loera, the so-called “El Chapo,” who is based in Sonora.

It’s believed that in response to the attack, a La Linea leader decided to send a cell to the area of the villages of Jar发生变化 and Barrio in order to monitor the border and prompted President Trump to call for a “war” on Mexican cartels.

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The coffin of the LeBaron family was set to arrive in Texas this week.

**Melania visits programme for babies born on drugs**

First Lady Melania Trump yesterday visited a hospital that uses cuddling to help infants born dependent on drugs or alcohol.

The first lady met with caregivers and administrators at Boston Medical Center and told them she’s “very focused” on their pioneering work with babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

She said today’s visit helps shine a light on programmes like yours,” she said, joined by Alex Azar, secretary of health and human services.

Outside as many as 200 workers at the hospital gathered to protest the visit, condemning the military immunity policies of President Donald Trump’s administration that they say discount immigrants from getting health care.

Cece Hall, a 26-year-old employee who works in patient care at Trump represented the same administration that has taken a harsh approach to immigration, saying the federal government’s policy towards babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome has been even more extreme.

The hospital developed the cuddling programme to nurture babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome. The hospital also works with associations that help mothers who misuse drugs or alcohol.

**Opposition in Bolivia calls for public resignation letters**

**BOSTON**

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Chilean President Sebastián Piñera said yesterday he will not resign in the face of deadly protests over inequality and poor social conditions that have entered their third week.

The president, who is a member of the conservative People’s Party, added in an interview whether he will step down, the failure of conservative leader said: “No.”

“Some 8,600 companies affected by mining, losing jobs will benefit from tax deductions. Demonstrators and riot police clashed again in the capital Santiago on Tuesday, when around 2,000 people gathered in the capital. The president and violence were on a smaller scale to Monday’s huge rally marking the beginning of a third week of protests in Santiago. On Monday, tens of thousands of people gathered in the Plaza de Italia, the epicenter of the unrest over economic inequality and a raft of other social woes, and tried to march on the presidential palace in downtown Santiago. Fighting broke out with police trying to contain them, with officers firing water cannon and tear gas. One officer was hit in the face with a Molotov cocktail.

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Aspiring education leaders to meet in Doha

Selected from a diverse pool of applicants, who demonstrated their commitment to the field of education through their academic, professional and/or personal work, the cohort will convene for an in-person residential session in Doha from Nov 17 to 19, to participate in an action-based leadership and educational development module.

QRCS promotes disaster preparedness among school leaders

Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) has held a disaster management training workshop for 40 headmasters of public schools in Qatar, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education Development Center of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, to share their views and create new approaches in rethinking education and equips young people to the challenge of disaster.

She emphasised the interest of principals to attend the workshops, in light of the remarkable success of QRCS School Program over the past few years. “In the second semester, similar training workshops will be held for the same principals on first aid and health education,” said Hamdan.
Dying for a better life: South Koreans fake their funerals for life lessons

A South Korean service is offering funerals—but only to the living.

More than 25,000 people have participated in mass “living funeral” services at Hyowon Healing Center since it opened in 2012, hoping to improve their lives by simulating their deaths. “Once you become conscious of death, and experience it, you undertake a new approach to life,” said 75-year-old Cho Jae-hee, who participated in a recent living funeral as part of a “dying well” programme offered by her native welfare centre. Dozens took part in the event, from teenagers to retirees, donning shrouds, taking funeral portraits, putting their last testaments, and lying in a closed coffin for around 10 minutes.

South Korea ranks 33 out of 40 countries surveyed in the World Happiness Report, and has become a symbol that reflects the ideals of today’s consumerist society. The installation in Doha is the most recent iteration of the touring KAWS Holiday project after previous displays in some of the world’s most important cultural hotspots that include the city of Seoul in South Korea and Mount Fuji in Japan.

Located at the heart of Qatar’s cultural square, which is close to popular destinations such as the Museum of Islamic Art, the National Museum of Qatar and Souq Waqif, the Dhow Harbour is the ideal location to host such a show-stopping piece in Qatar.

Commenting on the announcement, Abdulrahman Al Ishaq, Head of Public Art at Qatar Museums, stated: “We are excited to unveil Holiday as part of the KAWS: He Eats Alone exhibition, which has been highly-praised by Qatar’s growing art community. The exhibition and this installation are an ode to KAWS’ playful commentary on the very things that make us human. We look forward to seeing how the community will react to and interact with the piece as they go about their daily life.”

The artist’s exhibition, KAWS: He Eats Alone, is curated by acclaimed art historian Germano Celant and is on display at the Fire Station until January 25.

Visitors take photos with Holiday, a colossal inflatable sculpture by renowned American artist KAWS at Dhow Harbour, Corniche, Doha. The artist’s exhibition, KAWS: He Eats Alone, is curated by acclaimed art historian Germano Celant and is on display at the Fire Station until January 25.