Over 1.53 million transactions at General Directorate of Passports

The statistics showed entry and exit of total number of 1,056,027 people through HIA in September 2019.

SID MOHAMMED / THE PENINSULA

Over 1.53 million transactions were recorded in September 2019 by various departments of the General Directorate of Passports at the Ministry of Interior. The departments affiliated with the General Directorate of Passports include Expatatriates Affairs Department, Search and Follow-up Department, Border Passports Department, Airport Passports Department and Unified Services Department among others.

The number of transactions completed through the centres of United services in the different geographical areas (20 centres) reached to 2,010,000.

The statistics also showed that the total number of entry and exit through Hamad International Airport in September 2019 was 1,056,027 including 400,027 people’s entry and exit through e-gates, the Ministry of Interior said on its official Twitter account yesterday.

For the services provided to elderly people and people with special needs, the number touches 99,999 transactions. The transactions of applications for recruitment were 7,717 in addition to 2,023 other transactions. The statistics also show an increase in e-services transactions, reaching 2,398,763, of which 133 were through e-government, 144,894 through the Mol website, and 98,224 through Mawzak 2.

The General Directorate of Information Systems at Mol earlier launched a new version for Metrash 2 for phones and smart devices, which is the fastest way to access the Ministry’s services from any place and at any time.

Director General of the General Directorate of Passports, Major General Mohammed Al Ateeq said recently in an exclusive interview with The Peninsula that the General Directorate of Passports was in the process of introducing new procedures that will enable people to submit their family residency applications electronically through Hukoomi website, Metrash 2 and the internal services system.

At the time when discussions about rising popularity of e-books and other digital devices, the love for printed books is still intact. Over 295% rise in number of book borrowers in 2018

According to data of The Planning and Statistics Authority, the number of books borrowed last year has seen an annual surge by around 295% compared to 2017. According to Planning and Statistics Authority, 795,640 were borrowed in 2018 compared to 207,651 borrowers in 2017. Showing almost three-fold rise in the number book borrowers.

Around 835,841 books were borrowed last year compared to 232,322 books in 2017. Reflecting more than three-fold rise. Similarly, the number of books borrowed surged from 820,679 in 2018, compared to 207,651 borrowers in 2017, showing almost three-fold rise in the number book borrowers.

According to the Ministry of Planning and Statistics Authority, the number of books borrowed last year has seen an annual rise of around 295% compared to 2017. According to the Ministry of Planning and Statistics Authority, 795,640 were borrowed in 2018 compared to 207,651 borrowers in 2017, showing almost three-fold rise in the number book borrowers.

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The Planning and Statistics Authority has issued a press release to announce that the number of books borrowed last year has seen an annual rise of around 295% compared to 2017. According to the Ministry of Planning and Statistics Authority, 795,640 were borrowed in 2018 compared to 207,651 borrowers in 2017, showing almost three-fold rise in the number book borrowers.

It features numerous custom-designed innovations, including an automatic book sorting system, several interactive media walls, and self-check in and check-out machines that make borrowing books easier for members. The library is playing crucial role in spreading knowledge and promoting the history of the Arabian Gulf region. The library’s collection, reserve meeting and event spaces in the building, and access the dozens of online digital resources available to members.

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Thani Bin Abdullah Al Thani Fund signs $27m humanitarian support pacts

Qatar and Kuwait to enhance cooperation in human rights field

Over 295% rise in number of book borrowers in 2018

Youssef El Aozuzi wins Stars of Science Season II

First phase of census begins today
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UN Office on Youth sign MoU

ON THE FIRST DAY of this year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Office on Youth signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of enhancing cooperation in the field of education and training, with a focus on youth.
President of Rwanda meets Attorney-General

President Paul Kagame of the Republic of Rwanda met yesterday with the Attorney-General of the Republic of Rwanda, Mr. Ali bin Fatahi. The meeting was attended by Rwandan Minister of Justice and Presidential Advisor.

Salon Culinaire to see record participation

The much-anticipated Salon Culinaire competition, a simple attraction at Hospitality Qatar (HQ) returns the year with record number of participants and categories expected to excite culinary professionals and enthusiasts in Doha.

For the fifth consecutive time, Qatar Culinary Professionals (QCP) association is teaming up with FIIP Group, organisers of HQ 2019, for the competition which saw a huge success last year.

A total of 35 culinary professionals from 50 hotels and restaurants across the country competed in 27 categories last year, but this year is a record-breaking edition according to the organizers.

“The idea of the competition is to give young people a chance to come and develop their skills in the hospitality sector in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030, and also to give industry professionals the chance to showcase their skills and abilities,” said Baran Yucel, Chairman of QCP before the competition.

“The Salon Culinaire is an event that has been a great success over the years and has helped to develop the culinary arts and skills in Qatar, and we are looking forward to an even more successful event this year,” he added.

The Salon Culinaire competition will be held on November 24 to 27 at the Exhibition & Convention Centre at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC). The event will feature a total of 50 competitions, with participants from 50 hotels and restaurants across the country.

The categories for the competition include both professional and amateur levels, and cover a wide range of culinary disciplines, from pastry and chocolate making to bread baking and molecular gastronomy.

The Salon Culinaire is expected to attract a large number of visitors, with a special focus on the Qatari cuisine and local food production. Competitors will cook Qatari dishes and desserts and the jury will select the best and most authentic creations.

Qatari cuisine will be the focus at the competition with categories like Qatari Feast and Qatari Dessert, in addition to new categories which also highlight cuisines of other cultures including Filipino, Thai and Indian Live Cooking Cuisine Challenges.

Among the other new categories that culinary contestants will compete on are Seafood Platter, Live Cooking Signature Dish (Streetfood Sandwich), Signature Dish by Bahrain Live XI Novelty Cake, Sugar and Pastry Showpiece.

“acia Culinaire,” a Global competition that the participants can participate in, is also being held as part of the Salon Culinaire. The competition is organized by World Association of Chefs’ Societies (AICM) and the World’s largest culinary federation, World Association of Chefs Societies (WACS), is also partnering with the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) to organize the competition.

The Salon Culinaire is supported by World Association of Chefs’ Societies (AICM) and the World’s largest culinary federation, World Association of Chefs Societies (WACS), is also partnering with the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) to organize the competition.

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Al Rayyan Municipality tops in building permit issuance in October

Al Rayyan Municipality has topped the country in terms of the number of building permits issued. According to the monthly statistics, 221 permits were issued by Al Rayyan Municipality, constituting a 23 percent share in total permits issued in the country. Planning and Statistics Authority yesterday released the monthly statistics of building permits issued by all municipalities.

Al Rayyan Municipality came second with the issuance of 203 permits, having a share of 21 percent. Followed by Al Da’ayen Municipality that saw issuance of 193 permits with 20 percent share. Doha Municipality comes in last place having issued 170 permits having a share of 18 percent.

Villas top the list of new residential buildings with 37 permits followed by commercial buildings with 29 permits.

Al Rayyan (52 permits), Al Khor (47 permits), Al Shamal (38 permits), Al Shamal (38 permits) and Al Shamal (38 permits) are the municipalities with the highest number of building permits. "This has been a natural progression as the number of projects in Al Rayyan has been increasing," said an official.

The increase was observed in municipalities of Al Da’ayen (47 permits), Doha (46 permits), Al Shamal (38 permits) and Al Shamal (38 permits) as well. "The increase in building permits is expected to continue as the demand for real estate in the country continues to grow," he added.

Comparing number of months, in October 2019, a total of 205 permits were issued with those in the previous months seeing a decrease in building permits.

In the case of new residential buildings, the number of permits issued in October was 27, compared to 22 in the previous month. This is a significant increase of 26 percent.

In the case of commercial buildings, the number of permits issued in October was 20, compared to 14 in the previous month. This is a decrease of 35 percent.

The other hand, there was decrease in the municipality of Al Rayyan.

Al Rayyan Municipality issued 15 permits in October, compared to 33 permits in the previous month. This is a decrease of 55 percent.

In the case of new residential buildings, the number of permits issued in October was 7, compared to 10 in the previous month. This is a decrease of 30 percent.

In the case of commercial buildings, the number of permits issued in October was 2, compared to 4 in the previous month. This is a decrease of 50 percent.

The number of permits issued in October shows a clear trend of decrease in the number of building permits issued in October compared to the previous month. This is a significant decrease of 55 percent in the case of new residential buildings and a decrease of 35 percent in the case of commercial buildings.

The trend is expected to continue as the demand for real estate in the country continues to grow. However, the decrease in the number of permits issued in October is expected to be temporary as the demand for real estate in the country continues to grow. The decrease in the number of permits issued in October is expected to be temporary as the demand for real estate in the country continues to grow.

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Ideal Indian School celebrates 35th Annual Day

The Ideal Indian School (IDS) celebrated its 35th Annual Day amidst great zeal and enthusiasm to depict the change the school has undergone over the years. The event was characterized by a plethora of activities, such as music, dance, drama, poetry recitals, and presentations that showcased the talent and skills of the students. The school's principal, Rawda Safwan Al Zaidan, spoke about the achievements and goals of the school, while the students performed various acts that highlighted their creativity and passion.

Dr. Hanan Al Fayyad, Director of Private School Affairs at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, announced the issue of certificates of appreciation from the Ministry for the topppers of the school. The Principal presented the certificates to the top performers, highlighting the hard work and dedication required to achieve such success.

Mr. Tariq Khuwaila, Head of the Department of English Literature, praised the students for their excellent performance and congratulated them on their achievements. He also emphasized the importance of education and encouraged the students to continue their hard work and dedication.

The Principal also appreciated the role of parents and community in supporting the school and fostering a positive learning environment. She expressed her gratitude to the school's governors, staff members, and parents for their efforts in making the school what it is today.

Overall, the 35th Annual Day was a remarkable event that showcased the talent and achievements of the students of Ideal Indian School. The event was a celebration of hard work, dedication, and the spirit of competition, which are the hallmarks of this prestigious institution.
Centrepiece's new Vintage-Meets-Modem Autumn/Winter '19 Collection brings culture bang up-to-date

Officals during the Centrepiece Autumn/Winter 2019 Fashion Show held at Al W hotel, recently. ©BAHER AMIN / THE PENINSULA

Assistant Professor at TAMUQ publishes textbook

THE PENINSULA

Dr Nayef Al Alyafei, Assistant Professor of Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M University at Qatar (TAMUQ), has published a textbook on the properties of rocks in petroleum reservoirs, titled Fundamentals of Reservoir Rock Properties. The book was published with Hamad bin Khalifa University Press.

Al Alyafei said that he wrote the textbook after his first semester teaching the reservoir physics course for Texas A&M at Qatar petroleum engineering students in fall of 2017.

"This course is fundamental and at the heart of the petroleum engineering curriculum," Al Alyafei said. "I wanted to do a textbook that would be different from the textbooks that I used in my own studies. So, I wrote my own textbook."

"It was a life goal for me to write a textbook," he said. "I wrote it for my students but I also wanted to leave a legacy for petroleum engineering students, something that will stand out with my name on it. As the first Qatar to join the faculty at Texas A&M in Qatar, I need to show young Qatars that I am able to do these things and of course they can too, so hopefully I can inspire them to want to achieve their own dreams as well."

This book covers the essential concepts of rock properties adding students petroleum geoscientists, and engineers to understand petroleum reservoirs. The project took about two years to complete and in spring 2019, he used a test version in the course. He then incorporated feedback from his students to complete the book, which is now a part of HBKU Press's catalog of books and is available in bookstores across Qatar.

"HBKU Press's central focus is to support and highlight Qatar and regional academics and provide them with a global platform on which to share their ideas and research," said Dalia Heiba, publishing specialist at HBKU Press. "Dr Al Alyafei's book is an important contribution to the academic landscape both regionally and internationally and is exemplary of the high standard of quality academic books that HBKU Press is committed to publishing."

Al Alyafei is a Class of 2009 petroleum engineering graduate of Texas A&M at Qatar. He went on to earn his Ph.D. at Imperial College London before joining the faculty of HBKU as its alumnus. His Ph.D. advisor Martin Bott contributed a review of the book, which is printed on the back cover. Bott praises Al Alyafei's use of information and solid illustrations, and said the book is ideal for undergraduate or postgraduate studies in petroleum engineering, hydrology or related disciplines.

Dr Geor Gocansz Mauve, dean of Texas A&M at Qatar, said that Al Alyafei's textbook is just one example of how the British campus is sharing knowledge throughout every year. Maritacht music and dancing stages show daily. From 5.30pm onwards. The Mall promises the music fans and families to spend memorable fun times enjoying with performances of the Mexican artists.

Authentic Mexican musical on show at Hyatt Plaza Mall

THE PENINSULA

Hyatt Plaza Mall the favourite family shopping and leisure destination in Qatar hosts for the first time in Doha the Mexican Mariachi Band, from November 1 to November 2, 2019. This event is part of Hyatt Plaza Mall plans for current 2019 where it hosts and organises several events and promotions.

Mariachi is a style of music and musical instrument that dates back to at least the 16th century, evolving over time in the country, in various regions of western Mexico. It has distinctive instrumentation, musical genres, performance and singing styles, and clothing.

Hyatt Plaza Mall believes that Mexican music is this kind of international show are

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) continues to implement practices that protect, promote and support exclusive breastfeeding from birth to six months of the child and continue breastfeeding for two years with the introduction of home-grown supplementary feeding. It combines with the aim of reaching Millennium Development Goals to reduce child and under-five mortality.

This efforts also are also for achieving the national goal of the National Health Strategy 2016-2022 which incorporates the aim to the level of exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of life and as part of the Ministry’s continuous efforts to promote awareness among the various segments of society in Qatar on adopting healthy lifestyles. In line with Qatar National Vision 2030 and to achieve the goals of the National Plan of Action for Nutrition and Physical Activity 2017-2022.

Health program to develop breastfeeding counselors’ capacities

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has begun to implement a programme to build and develop the skills of breastfeeding counselors in Qatar. A training course for training the trainers of breastfeeding counselors is being organized in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) with the participation of representatives from public, and private hospitals and others concerned with mother and child wellbeing, across Qatar.

The five-day course begins today and is part of the MoPH’s keenness to implement practices that protect, promote and support exclusive breastfeeding from birth to six months of the child and public health organizations have organized this course in collaboration with the WHO in an attempt to raise the levels of breastfeeding awareness throughout various segments of society in Qatar on adopting healthy lifestyles and in line with Qatar National Vision 2030 and to achieve the goals of the National Plan of Action for Nutrition and Physical Activity 2017-2022.

With winter temperatures check and hipster floral patterns, The Splash season collection, which is brimming with fresh ideas. Characterized by young and richly coloured palettes of burgundy, deep orange shades like amber and marmalade and softly earthy shades of brown and beige, the collection will bring out the youngest customer into the modern retro era. So, step out this autumn with the latest designs, pre your juggers, add your own slogan sweaters and set course for a new adventure.

Girls’ clothing is inspired by the entourage of nature’s fluffy animal friends, and folk ives, the collection is a mix of fun styles and fine detailing. Rich hues, earthy tones, denim and toast andes, and paper bag waists return in rich textures, warm yam, woven textiles, felt and flared. While the varisty-themed-look collection is all overprinted, mix of camo and hints of preppy in deep dark shades. The collection’s palette is deeper blues, dark burdery, hints of black all combined with all over prints which resonates with our fashionable consumers to shift from our look, chic and fashionable at a reasonable price. Prints and patterns like bricks, snake print, checked, translucent, PVC. Shirlees, embroidered or are the key to looking trendy this season.

In a nod to good times of the 90s, the collection also has a full range of designs featuring the music fans and families to spend memorable fun times enjoying with performances of the Mexican artists.

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THE PENINSULA

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ORCS takes part in top GCC Red Crescent meeting

The meeting discussed the local, regional, and international strategies of GCC Red Crescent organizations in relation to joint humanitarian and relief work. Many issues were featured on the agenda, notably the Five-Year Action Plan of GCC Red Crescent (2019-2024), a multifaceted roadmap for joint humanitarian efforts to ensure maximum cooperation in the ongoing relief aid operations.

The participants emphasized the importance of continuity, pursing unified and closely coordinated positions at all levels. They agreed to support the nomination of Dr. Hild Mosaed Al-Sayer, President of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS), as a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in December elections. This is in recognition of his outstanding contributions to humanitarian action regionally and worldwide.

The meeting approved 10 agenda items referred from preliminary committees on mutual cooperation, activities of the GCC Red Crescent Day under the theme of ‘Giving as One,’ the Permanent Volunteering Committee, GCC Volunteering Awards, promotion of humanitarians in educational curricula, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the GCC Secretariat-General and the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO), and the relief and ambulance services.

InterContinental Doha The City to launch ‘West Meats East’, Canada’s cuisine

‘West Meats East’ this November: As Canada's eclectic and diverse cuisine will take centre stage at Prime, InterContinental Doha. The City in West Bay.

Guests are invited to embark on a journey to Canada with Chef Bertrand Jeanson, celebrated chef and.hostname.

The City, that showcases Canadian cuisine, expertly prepared by experienced chef Bertrand Jeanson. "I am delighted to be part of this favourite event, in partnership with InterContinental Doha The City, that showcases Canadian cuisine, expertly prepared by the more experienced chef Bertrand Jeanson. Canada’s culinary map is as diverse as its geography and culture, something which we will be evident in the dishes as they explore the delicious West Meats East menu. The Canadian menu will be available at Prime from November 18 to 30 for lunch and dinner. The five-course dinner menu includes Canadian beef tartar with maple syrup, grilled halibut, cold-smoked grilled beef fillet mignon, Canadian lobster rastouli, and Pouding Chômeur with roast clementine ice cream. It is in great pleasure that we partner with the Embassy of Canada to Qatar and InterContinental Doha The City to bring true West Meats East menu."
Postmodernism and the ageing of Arab traditional ruling lines

Abdulla Mohamed, PhD
Qatar University

The two phase of Arab Springs has witnessed massive protest movements throughout the Arab region. Unlike the first wave of Arab Spring, in the second phase the protests cast a shadow over the various political, economic, and social corridors. It targets the whole sectarian-based political system in an attempt to put an end to the dominant sectarian state and the corrupt ruling political class as happening new in Lebanon, Iraq and Algeria and earlier in Sudan.

The reasons for such large-scale popular movements have been gradually accumulating over years. In the post-colonial era, following the expulsion of colonizers, there were high hopes that the new colonizers would achieve comprehensive development in all socioeconomic, cultural and scientific aspects. In addition to the demand for democracy, freedom, power sharing by peaceful transfer of power, enactment of constitutions and laws, and equitable distribution of national wealth. Last but not least is the achievement of national unity among the various cultural, societal, religious and social constituents of society and the achievement of promoting a strong national economy to combat poverty and unemployment. Needless to say none of these have been achieved, instead, corrupt practices, poverty, unemployment and totalitarian regimes have characterised the daily life.

To understand the root causes behind such large scale protests, it is imperative to shed light on the most important perspectives as a general framework of analysis that modernity and postmodernity are reflecting. This would help us to show not just the ageing of the traditional ruling elites but also how deep the gap between them and the masses is. Contemporary political sociologists and political scientists have depicted the current phase in the development of human society as “post-modernity” which is characterized by suspicion, doubtfulness, lack of trust and anachronisms especially with regard to the prevailing political discourse, objective reality and social ethics. In this context, and using these characteristics of the postmodern era, we can see peoples anger, frustration with traditional political systems, and lack of trust are spreading all over the Arab world. People are fed up with the unfulfilled promises and vague theorisation of the traditional ruling elites. In the previous modernity age, the traditional political sociologists considered the nation-state as the only center of political power, and therefore, political parties and social movements were used to organize their programs in accordance with this consolation. These parties were struggling to influence the state and its institutions through elections, class struggle or seizure of power. However, with advent of globalization in the postmodern era, the situation has changed dramatically. Nation state is no longer the center of politics and power has become multiple and matrices between the state and the civil society. However, this is exactly what is taking place now throughout the Arab region where organizations of civil societies, trade unions, and popular movements have dominated the stage and become more influential politically. They are the vanguards and the leaders of the large scale protests that are currently taking place in the region.

Lebanese bikers take part in an anti-government demonstration in the southern city of Sidon yesterday.

Unlike previous decades, nation-state in the Arab world is no longer the sole center of politics. More importantly, the postmodern post has provided a catalytic critique of political ideologies, and social power. The traditional ruling elites argued that the claim that social and political changes are taking place all over the Arab region are non-partisan and do not reflect any real political ideologies, and therefore, their respective countries course of the ruling elites for it fails to bring about any genuine serious-nomic and political changes to their respective countries. This is not only a doubtful and see no truth behind such political discourse but also only deception and hypocrisy.

Thus, the traditional ruling elites failed to achieve political and social reform and build a national state. The Peaceful change did not find a way to power and society and the Arab crises are worsening and sweeping the hopes and aspirations of post-independence era. These elites were isolated in “Ivy Towers”. which prevented them from communicating with the grassroots, and they formed a political class that thinks and lives in isolation from the masses and from the socioeconomic and political transformations that are currently taking place on the world stage. It is therefore, not surprising to see that political parties and social movements that messes morn these elites speaking not only of their disintegration and the messes mourn these elites speaking not only of their disintegration and the messes system as a whole.

Furthermore, while the implementation of the Universal Nation strategy has led to the use of arms of terror, the State of Qatar has adopted for years a comprehensive approach which addresses the root causes of terrorism within the framework of its policy to combat terrorism regionally and internationally.

Qatar did not hesitate to launch initiatives and provide contributions aiming at enhancing the overall role of the international community in combatting the financing of all organizations having relations to terror activities. Qatar has also strengthened its counter-terrorism legislation and related rules for refining terrorism and the financing of terrorism. In 2007, Qatar established the National Counter Terrorism Committee at Ministry of Interior in accordance with the cabinet resolution No.04.I In order to combat all forms of terror and its financing and protect the State of Qatar, Qatar took the initiative in combating terrorism and financing terrorism. This confirms Qatar’s continued commitment to combating money laundering and terrorism financing in all its forms, in accordance with the latest international standards adopted by major international organizations.

The National Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Committee, which is one of the largest security committees in the country, is responsible for protecting Qatar’s financial system from the risks of money laundering and terrorism financing. Qatar has contributed to the promotion of the role of the international community in combatting terrorism and the financing of terrorism, and continuously intensifies the importance of an international cooperation in combating terrorism therefore Qatar has not hesitated to provide maximum support to its partner countries’ organizations to enhance the overall role of the committee. During the Paris-Parliament session, Qatar also in 2015, but analysts warn that the results are cumvented by migrants fleeing to Europe in particular due to the burning of migrants within the ranks of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement.

In the wake of the implementation of the Universal Nation strategy to use arms as a weapon of terror, the State of Qatar has adopted for years a comprehensive approach which addresses the root causes of terrorism within the framework of its policy to combat terrorism regionally and internationally. Qatar did not hesitate to launch initiatives and provide contributions aiming at enhancing the overall role of the international community in combatting the financing of all organizations having relations to terror activities.

Qatar established the National Counter Terrorism Committee at Ministry of Interior in accordance with the cabinet resolution No.04.I. In order to combat all forms of terror and its financing and protect the State of Qatar, Qatar took the initiative in combating terrorism and financing terrorism. This confirms Qatar’s continued commitment to combating money laundering and terrorism financing in all its forms, in accordance with the latest international standards adopted by major international organizations. The National Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Committee, which is one of the largest security committees in the country, is responsible for protecting Qatar’s financial system from the risks of money laundering and terrorism financing. Qatar has contributed to the promotion of the role of the international committee in combating terrorism and the financing of terrorism, and continuously intensifies the importance of an international cooperation in combating terrorism therefore Qatar has not hesitated to provide maximum support to its partner countries’ organizations to enhance the overall role of the committee. During the Paris-Parliament session, Qatar also in 2015. But analysts warn that the results are cumvented by migrants fleeing to Europe in particular due to the burning of migrants within the ranks of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement. So far, there is no agreement within the Universal Nation on the presence and the financing of the Universal Nation movement.
Brazil is once again Lula’s political prisoner

When he walked out of jail on Tuesday, Brazil’s former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was not an enemy of freedom. He had been held for more than a year on charges of money laundering related to the secret payment of $50 million to the Workers’ Party (PT) in exchange for a loan of $300 million. The verdict, 733 pages long, is the result of a 2003 investigation into the alleged payment and Lula’s role in it. The trial, which began in 2011, was one of the many legal challenges Lula has faced over the years. It is the latest in a series of legal battles that have ended in成功的 imprisoned victory for the leftist leader, who has been seeking freedom since he was arrested in 2018.

The release of Lula, who has been serving a 12-year sentence for corruption and money laundering, has been a major political victory for his supporters. Lula, who served two consecutive terms as Brazil’s president, is a key figure in the Workers’ Party (PT), which he led from 2003 to 2011. He has been a vocal critic of the current conservative administration of Jair Bolsonaro, who has been accused of undermining democracy and eroding human rights in Brazil.

Lula’s release from prison is seen as a symbol of hope for those who support his political agenda. His supporters have long been calling for his release, arguing that he was unjustly imprisoned and that his prosecution was politically motivated. The release of Lula has also been seen as a sign of the growing political polarization in Brazil, with the left and center-left parties celebrating his release and the right and center-right parties denouncing it.

The release of Lula has also been seen as a boost for the Workers’ Party (PT) in the upcoming elections. The party has been struggling to maintain its popularity in recent years, but the release of Lula has been seen as a major political victory for the party and its leader. The release of Lula has also been seen as a sign of the growing political polarization in Brazil, with the left and center-left parties celebrating his release and the right and center-right parties denouncing it.

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Even so, Lula’s release from prison returns him to the political spotlight, but not to the electoral arena. That’s because the “clean slate law” – an anti-corruption initiative Lula himself signed in 2012 – bars anyone with a graft conviction from seeking political office for eight years. Don’t look for Lula’s boosters to get behind that absurd moralizing statute now. His closest aides have made it clear that once out of jail, Brazil’s answer to Nelson Mandela will hit the road to win support and rally the orphaned left. The leftist mantra: Lula is Brazil’s biggest political prisoner. In fact, they’ve got it exactly backward.

Brazil’s former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva arriving to deliver a speech after being released from prison, in Sao Bernardo do Campo, yesterday.

Migrants lose in futile game on Hungary-Serbia frontier

SALLY MAUL, KATRINA SUBASC & PEDRO MARTINS

A

utumn is a harsh time for migrants trying to reach the EU and for Hungary, which spends more than $4 billion a year on border security. The Hungarian government has been criticized for its handling of the migrant crisis, but it has also been praised for its efforts to stop migrants from entering the country. In recent years, Hungary has become one of the main transit points for migrants heading to Western Europe, and the country has been under pressure to tighten its borders.

The Hungarian government has been beefing up its border patrols, and it has also been cracking down on asylum seekers who try to enter the country illegally. In recent months, the government has been using tear gas and other forms of force to stop migrants from entering the country. The Hungarian government has also been using legal means to stop migrants from entering the country. In recent months, the government has been using tear gas and other forms of force to stop migrants from entering the country.

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Four protesters dead as Iraqi forces clear streets

AGENCIES

BAHRAIM

Four protesters were killed yesterday in Baghdad, medics and police sources said, as Iraqi security forces cleared streets around Taher Square, the heart of the ongoing movement demanding regime change.

Two injured bullet wounds and the third died when a tear gas canister pierced his skull, the sources said, adding that at least 80 more protesters were wounded.

Iraqi security forces cleared three flashpoint bridges in Baghdad of anti-government protesters yesterday, using stun grenades and tear gas amid heavy clashes.

More than 250 deaths. In the capital, demonstrators were pushed back under cloud of tear gas from the Sinak bridge to the nearby Khilani square, where 35 people were wounded, according to medical officials who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. Security forces moved on to regain control of two other bridges nearby. Ahrar junior, a protest group, said they were attacked by security forces.

The bridges span the Tigris and give access to the heavily Green Zone. The seat of government. Protesters have tried to force their way across on an almost daily basis. The day before, authorities found a bomb under the Sinak bridge, and carried out a controlled explosion of it according to state television.

Clashes with security forces also led to wounded in other parts of southern Iraq including Basra, according to security officials. The demonstrators complain of widespread corruption, lack of job opportunities and poor basic services, including regular power cuts, despite Iraq's vast oil reserves. They have rejected government proposals for limited economic reforms, and instead called on the country's political leadership to resign, including Prime Minister Abdul Mahdi: “We consider the peaceful protest as the most important events since 2003,” Abdul Mahdi said in a statement yesterday that vowed to meet the protesters' demands for wide-ranging reforms. He added that electoral reforms would be put forward soon along with “an important government reshuffle” in response to the protest against the sectarian system that prevails in Iraq.

Internet was partially restored early on Tuesday, but that “some networks are still offline and social media and messaging apps remain blocked or degraded.” Authorities have sometimes denied access and blocked social media sites, several times during the protests in October, but Netblocks said the latest shutdown was the most severe yet.

US 'strongly condemns' Syrian regime's air raids in Idlib province

ANATOLIA

The US strongly condemned Russian-supported Syrian regime air strikes on northeastern Syria’s Idlib province that it said had resulted in a dozen deaths in the past four days.

State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortagus said in a statement that the US military had been forced to take defensive measures after the regime launched air-attacks against refugees and displaced persons.

Since then, more than 3,100 civilians had been killed in attacks by the regime and Russian forces in the de-escalation zone. Notably, about a million people have been forced to leave conflict-prone areas of the city and started taking shelter in safer areas in the northern part of the city that borders Turkey.

The Constitutional Committee is mandated under the US-facilitated Geneva process to prepare and draft constitutional reforms towards a political settlement in Syria. Its first round of meetings began on Oct. 30 with the participation of 150 members, it will resume in Geneva on Nov. 25.

The parties also underscored that the cooperation with the US on Syria’s safe zone reached beyond Idlib. The US and Turkey on October 17 came to an agreement to pause Turkey’s anti-terror operation in northern Syria for 120 hours in order to allow the withdrawal of terrorist YPG/PKK forces from the planted safe zone. On October 22, Turkey and Russia reached a deal under which YPG/PKK ter- rorists would pull back 30km south of Turkey’s border with Syria and security forces from Turkey and Russia would mount joint patrols there. In its more than 30-year terror campaign against Turkey, the PKK has been identified as a terrorist organization by the US, Turkey and other countries.

The Associated Press has obtained the text of Iran’s application to the UN’s Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. According to the last statement of Tehran’s Justice Department. Robert Alan Levine has an on-going case in the United Nations Human Rights Commission. The statement of Lebanon’s Grand Mufti calls for formation of new emergency govt

REUTERS/REUTERS

The time has come and is opportune, after this national wake-up call, for the reform process to begin and for those in power to form an emergency government comprised of technical experts and for those in power to meet protesters' demands.

Lebanon’s Grand Mufti said the UK, the US and Russia should all call for a new government "as soon as possible"

Lebanese protesters have faced notable political representation, among others, and are now calling for a new government to be formed as soon as possible end the country’s economic crisis.

Lebanon’s Grand Mufti, Grand Ayatollah aka Hassan Nasrallah, said there were several reasons why his movement should be elected to form the new government. The country is in an economic crisis, which Nasrallah said was due to the Syrian war and the country’s economic situation. The war has caused the country’s economy to spiral out of control, with the inflation rate reaching six figures.

The Grand Mufti also said that the Lebanese government should be formed as soon as possible, because the country is in a state of crisis, with the economy in a state of collapse and the basic needs of the population, such as food and fuel, are unaffordable.

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Scores missing after 38 dead in Burkina Faso attack

Scores of people are still missing after an overnight attack near a Canadian-owned mine in Burkina Faso in which 38 people were killed, the worst such incident in the West African nation struggling to contain an insurgency.

The death toll was 38, Defence Minister Cherif Moussa said yesterday at a meeting with the West African leaders of the organisation of security and cooperation in Africa (Oseca).

The attack comes as several West African countries are battling insurgents who are increasingly disrupting business and tourism in the vast region, which has also been mired in months of street protests demanding an overhaul of governance.

‘Our troops are on the ground because we also have some elements that are missing some mine workers that we are looking for them,’ he said.

Unidentified gunmen attacked a convoy under military escort transporting workers of Canadian mining company Semafo at about 40km (25 miles) from the company’s Boungou mine in the eastern part of the country.

Simafo’s stock fell 4.9% in Thursday’s trading, or $0.17 a share, after the company’s Boungou mine in the East region was attacked.

“Government leaders were on a visit to the region. A further 63 people were injured, with the most severely wounded brought to nearby hospital town of Doyo,” Sy said.

AFP

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AFP
India’s Supreme Court yesterday awarded a bitterly contested religious site to a single party or alliance for the first time in the last seven decades.

The ruling comes months after a Supreme Court decision, which set the stage for the first-ever placement of a religious site by a single party in India’s history. The site in question is the disputed Ayodhya site, which has been at the center of a long-standing dispute between Hindus and Muslims.

The decision, which was announced by the court in a televised address, is expected to have a significant impact on Indian politics, given the country’s complex religious and political landscape.

“The country is now moving towards becoming a Hindu nation,” Ayodhya: Ayodhya Hindu leader said ultimately it would be a boost for the BJP,” said a party leader in the Union Parliament.

In the short term, there will be a boost for the BJP,” said the leader.

The verdict comes amid rising tensions in the region, with the government’s decision to allow the construction of a Hindu temple on the site and the opposition’s vigorous campaign against it.

The court has also awarded a significant portion of land to the Muslim parties involved in the dispute, including a historical mosque on the site.

The ruling is expected to have far-reaching implications for India’s political landscape, with the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) set to consolidate its position in the country.

The ruling comes after years of legal battles and political wrangling over the site, which has become a symbol of the country’s religious and political divide.

The Ayodhya dispute began in 1992, when a mosque was torn down by religious extremists, leading to violent clashes that left 2,000 people dead. The government, which was then led by the Congress party, had invited the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to form a government, but the party refused, leading to the formation of a BJP-led government.

The court decision is likely to be viewed as a significant victory for the BJP, which has been the single-largest party in the country for the past 15 years.

The court’s decision comes after months of intense lobbying and political maneuvering, with theBJP and its allies making every effort to gain support for the decision.

The ruling is likely to have a significant impact on the upcoming general elections, with the BJP expected to consolidate its position in the country.
Pakistan opens visa-free border crossing for Indian Sikhs

US-Afghan army convoy convies flares, hits drivers on road

Bangladesh evacuates hundreds of thousands as cyclone approaches

Promulgation of ordinances issued by Imran govt challenged
 Cambodian opposition veteran Sam Rainsy flew into Malaysia yesterday after promising to return home on self-imposed exile to rally opponents of authoritarian ruler Hun Sen, who on Friday did not say if he would try to reach Cambodia from Malaysia after an earlier attempt to get there was blocked when he was refused permission to board a Thai Airways plane in Paris on Thursday.

"Keep up the hope. We're on the right track," Rainsy said on arrival at Kuala Lumpur International airport in a message to supporters. He had left for Paris on Friday.

"Democracy will prevail. Democracy has prevailed in Malaysia. Democracy will prevail in Cambodia," he also said.

For decades, one-time freedom fighters who have been an opponent of Hun Sen, a former Khmer Rouge commander who has ruled his Southeast Asian country for 34 years, many at the peaceful and sombre rally wore black.

The rally came after police brought charges against at least seven lawmakers who now face up to a year in jail if convicted.

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Germany marked 30 years since the fall of Berlin Wall

GERMANY

Croatia should not join Schengen: HRW

Croatia should not be allowed into Europe’s border-free travel zone because of its treatment of migrants crossing into the country from neighbouring Bosnia and Serbia, a leading international human rights body said.

In a report, Human Rights Watch (HRW) criticized the European Commission, the EU’s executive branch, for saying last month that Croatia is ready to join the so-called Schengen Area, a zone including 26 European Union states where people can travel freely without ID checks.

“Croatia’s unlawful and violent summary returns of asylum seekers and migrants should disqualify it from joining the Schengen Area,” said Lydia Gall, senior Europe and Balkans researcher at Human Rights Watch.

The commission’s recommendation, according to Human Rights Watch, “sends the message that serious human rights abuses are no obstacle to Schengen accession.”

As a result, it said the EU should investigate reports of abuse instead of rewarding Croatia.

Responding to the report, Croatian police in a statement rejected accusations of migrant abuse, saying the HRW report “contains very general statements about the alleged inhuman treatment by Croatian police against migrants and does not include any concrete evidence.”

The statement added that migrants often “falsely accuse police officers of violence, expecting that such accusations would help them in a new asylum application to the Republic of Croatia and continue toward destination countries.”

Earner, Toevo Ernst, a commission spokesman, wrote that the report is misleading and “does not reflect the Commission’s methodology.”

At the commission, the government and the police have been investigating reports of abuse.

In May, the European court in Strasbourg, France, ruled against Croatia, saying it must change its policies to protect the rights of migrants.

The court concluded that the treatment of migrants in Croatia violated the European Convention on Human Rights.

Croatia is one of the few European Union countries that has not joined the Schengen Area, which includes 26 EU states.

The Schengen Area is a zone where people can travel freely without ID checks, and it includes a common passport control system.

HRW said Croatia’s treatment of migrants is a violation of international law and human rights.

Croatia’s European Commission representative, Zoran Milanovic, said Croatia is committed to joining the Schengen Area.

However, Human Rights Watch said Croatia’s treatment of migrants is unacceptable and should disqualify it from joining the Schengen Area.

The values on which Europe is founded — freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, respect for human rights — are anything but self-evident. And they have to be filled with life and must be defended again and again: Angela Merkel

Indebted Italian man accused of triggering deadly explosion

An indebted Italian man accused of triggering deadly explosions, Italian prosecutors said yesterday.

The man, who was arrested earlier this week, has been charged with murder and other crimes.

The suspect is believed to have been living in a state of destitution and had been involved in theft and fraud.

The man is suspected of killing at least nine people in the city of Bergamo.

The suspect’s friends and family said he had been struggling with mental health issues and had been living in poverty.

Over 70 nations pledge to reduce food waste

More than 70 countries have pledged to reduce food waste.

The countries signed the pledge at an annual meeting of the Montreal Protocol on the Destruction of Ozone Depleting Substances.

The protocol aims to phase out the use of chemicals that harm the ozone layer, which protects the planet from harmful UV radiation.

The goal is to reduce global food waste by 50% by 2030.

Food waste is a major problem worldwide, with about one-third of all food produced being wasted.

Over one billion people go hungry every day, according to the United Nations.

The pledge was signed by representatives of 70 countries, including the European Union, the United States, China, Russia, and India.

The EU and the United States are major food producers and consumers, and they are both leading the way in reducing food waste.

The pledge is part of a broader effort to address global food security and sustainability.

The signatories pledged to take action to reduce food waste, including by reducing food losses and waste during production, transport, and consumption.

They also committed to increasing awareness of the problem and promoting education and training on food waste reduction.

Over 100 million people in Europe are currently undernourished, according to the World Food Programme.

Floods become Britain’s election issue as parties spar over funding

Britain’s opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn visits residents affected by flooding in Cumbria, Britain, yesterday.

British political leaders scrambled yesterday to win over flood-affected voters ahead of the country’s general election in December.

The flooding in Cumbria, a northern English county, has caused widespread damage and left hundreds of people stranded.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson pushed for the government to invest more in flood defences, and Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer accused the Conservatives of being complacent.

The flooding has put flood defence and public services in the spotlight in the run-up to the election.

More than 100 people have been rescued from homes and businesses in Cumbria, and the government has pledged £275 million in emergency funding.

The Labour Party has accused the government of underfunding flood defences.

The Prime Minister has said the government is committed to investing in flood defences, but Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer has called for more action.

Sir Keir Starmer has accused the government of being complacent and of not doing enough to protect people from floods.

The government has said it is committed to protecting people from floods and has pledged £275 million in emergency funding.

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The Ukrainian army and Moscow-backed separatists yesterday launched the last phase of a three-pronged pullback ahead of a high-stakes summit with Russia, the warring sides said.

A correspondent saw three initiatives: two military tracks and two dozen donkey-drawn trailers leaving their positions. Bondar said that the withdrawal was to be completed in three days. It will then be followed by mine clearance and other activities which will last 25 days.

The warring sides hold a senior ministry that will be region in October. Since a city to get away in May. Ukraine’s 41-year-old comedian-tunnel president has sought to establish dialogue with the country’s biggest insurer, was ultimately destined for US.

The responsibilities for energy and mining companies will be transferred to a new Ministry of Economy, and he will oversee billions of euros worth of state assets, led by deputy prime minister Jacin da Silva. “It is about making use of all the assets, including those which are part of the state treasury, which is in our vital interest,” Prime Minister Antonio Costa told reporters late on Friday.

But the summit has been repeatedly postponed for a number of reasons, including the failure of earlier attempts to dig in to talks.

The withdrawal of forces would follow the “final precedent” for doing the four wars. The implementation of the agreements was led by Vyvystyski Pysiakos said this week.

He has expressed hope that the meeting, the first such a high level since 2016, could take place in Paris in November.

But many political observers remain sceptical, saying that the summit is likely to come under more conditions.

“The chances of holding a summit have grown,” Kav-Baseaux another Vodoljenny Fesko said. However, he noted, Russian officials also wanted experts to agree in advance on the wording of a document that will be adopted as a result of the Nor-

They want to hold the summit as soon as possible, but at the same time we consider this summit has to be well organised to ensure it gets the necessary results,” Kremi, spokesman Dmitry Peskov, has said, adding that it was “too early to say” whether the meeting could take place in November because “many questions” remain unresolved.

Zelenskiy’s peace plan including the troop pullback has been strongly criticised by many in Kiev, especially war veterans and nationalists.

In the run-up to the planned summit, Ukrainian, Russian and separatist negotiators have agreed on a roadmap that envisages a special status for the separatist territories if they commit to stop and withdraw under Ukrainian constitution.

andez of a ‘wide operation’ launched in the Ahrens on Friday. They added that a 46-year-old man at large during the raids in the northern suburb of Cholargos.

Greek anti-terrorist squad seized an AK-47 automatic rifle, defectors, dynamiticians and grenades.

The 41-year-old man was also detained in 2010 of a local force however, accused of terrorism. He was arrested during a ‘‘decisive’’ of ‘‘anti-terrorist’’ attacks.

The Citizen Protection Ministry in the streets of Athens.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis hailed the operation as “a very big success”. “Let me repeat, for one more time, our commitment to put a definitive and irreversible end to the problem of the ’’terro- rism’’, he added.

A top police official said that the operation can be compared to the arrests in 2010 of Revolu-

tionary 46-year-old man remains at large.

Roupa and Nikos Maziotis. Their group, which first emerged in 2003, was once deemed by authorities to be the country’s most dangerous far- left organisation.

The United States put a bounty on the group after it fired a rocket at the US embassy in Athens in 2007. Though involved, it was impounded. In 2014, the group was expanded and stepped up a car bomb outside a Greek police station in Athens.

In his blog, McCartney explained that it was created by a band who had beenRIA, and the late 1960s.

define both the band’s late album covers, has died, the legendary Liverpool band said yesterday. He was 82.

besides being a great pro-

fessional he was imaginative and a true original thinker,” Paul McCartney said.

In his blog, McCartney said Freeman had been “a very big success”. “I will miss this wonderful man but will always cherish the fond memories I have of him.”

Freeman’s photographs first made the cover of the quartet’s “Meet the Beatles!” and “Beatles for Sale” albums, which came out at the height of the Beatles’ swing. The beatles overcame world that swept the world in the mid-1960s.

For the slightly distorted look of the image, explained that it was created by a card the picture was being projected onto fall backwards, warping the image.

McCartney said Freeman had saved the band he could reproduce the exact same image on the cover. “God bless Robert Freeman,” Ringo Starr tweeted. “Peace and love to all his family.”

A man is arrested by police officers during a demonstration as part of an anti-government protest called by the ‘yellow vest’ movement (gilets jaunes), in the centre of Montpellier, southern France, yesterday.

On “Rubber Soul”, the band’s debut album covers, has died, the legendary Liverpool band said yesterday. He was 82.

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Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro took to Twitter on Tuesday, his first swipe at his rival late Inacio Lula da Silva – who was president from 2003 to 2010 — vowed in a video message on his Twitter account.

“I condemn the aggression initiated in the Sante Police for Vicente Coufan and I sympathise with their relatives, I have asked the Attorney General to investigate,” Oaxaca Governor Alejandro Murat wrote on Twitter account.

The violent events in Oaxaca, the majority linked to drug trafficking, have multiplied in recent years. Last August, the mayor of San Jose Existe Grande and a state official were killed in a shooting attack.

The army is deployed in the region, with more than 100 terrified victims and cover counseling and funeral expenses for the five people killed in a shooting in a house in La Paz, Bolivia.

The killings of five people at a house in La Paz, Bolivia, are expected to rekindle the conflict between fragmented criminal groups, adding some police officers protecting the region.

The government of Bolivian President Evo Morales denounced what it called a coup by violent groups, as some police officers carried out acts of “mutiny” in support of opposition protests, according to the government.

Morales, Latin America’s longest-standing leader, won the election on October 20 but the vote count had been marred by delays in counting.

In a three-minute message, Lula lashed Latin America’s elite and defended focusing on jobs and income distribution in order to improve life quality in the region.

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Police officers, who have joined a rebellion, taking part in a march to protest against the government in La Paz, Bolivia.

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WASHINGTON

Republican senators asked that former Vice President Joe Biden’s son be removed from the impeachment proceedings because Trump’s call to a foreign leader to investigate Hunter Biden’s business dealings, the case that has triggered the impeachment inquiry, involved the Bidens. The bidens have not been charged with any wrongdoing.

The letter said Trump’s efforts to influence Ukraine’s president were brought to the White House’s attention in a whistleblower complaint and the administration’s case was handed over to House impeachment investigators.

The letter said the American people deserve to know the full story. The White House said the whistleblower is a diseñador of a smear campaign against Trump, whose efforts to undermine his presidency have been well documented.

New York Times reporter Michael R. Socolow, who worked on a recent book about Trump and Ukraine, said the president’s effort to play off Ukraine is a major theme of the book.

The letter said the only purpose of the whistleblower is to protect the president’s legal standing and the administration’s case.

The president’s lawyer, Washington Post columnist Cato Balbert, said the whistleblower’s claims are unfounded and have been debunked.

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QBRI devotes week to breast cancer awareness

THE PENINSULA
Doha

As part of its efforts to transform healthcare in Qatar and the wider region, Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI) at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) recently staged a week of activities designed to raise awareness of breast cancer.

Activities commenced October 21, with a QBRI-manned booth at Qatar Cancer Society’s (QCS) ‘Walk to Support’ event on Doha Corniche, where scientists from QBRI raised awareness among the community about the importance of early detection while providing facts and dispelling myths about breast cancer.

Held in October, ‘Walk to Support’ highlights the importance of periodic examinations and healthier lifestyles in combating breast cancer. Two days later, QBRI’s scientist Dr. Julie Decock was at Aspire Ladies Club to deliver an informal talk on breast cancer-related issues to a group of women of various ages. Activities concluded on October 23 with a ladies-only event that formed part of QCS’ ‘Our Passion in Our Health’ program. Proceedings included a series of awareness sessions covering the most common cancers affecting women in Qatar.

Speaking about the campaign, Dr. Omar El Agnaf, executive director, QBRI said: “Breast cancer awareness campaigns are important in Qatar and abroad for so many reasons. For instance, breast cancer is the most common type of cancer among women worldwide and the leading cause of cancer-related mortality among Qatari women. The good news is that if detected early, there is a 90 percent survival rate. Moreover, physically active women are less likely to develop breast cancer than their inactive counterparts.”

While breast cancer prevalence in the Arab region is similar to other parts of the world, studies, nonetheless, suggest that Arab women may experience a more aggressive form of the condition and may suffer from a younger age. This underscores the importance of QBRI’s Cancer Research Center, which focuses on the cellular and molecular basis of cancer initiation.

To this end, QBRI remains totally committed to raising awareness and combating the causes and effects of breast cancer.

Performance poet ignites creative spark in Qatar’s youth

THE PENINSULA
Doha

Author, illustrator and performance poet Chris White delighted families with his ‘Fire Up Your Imagination’ workshop, an entertaining and enlightening mix of drawing, singing and writing held at Qatar National Library recently.

While told the embarked group of children and parents how he became an author and shared stories of his travels around the world performing poetry during the creative and informative workshop. He then showed participants how to write and illustrate a poem of their own.

“Kids always need to be encouraged to be creative and to use their imagination. In a world where we rely on technology and screen time, they need to get their pens and paper out and engage in creative drawing activities. Through this workshop, the children learnt that their drawing screens are done on paper, and it is a lot of fun too,” said White.

White first came to prominence almost two decades ago when his first poetry picture book ‘Biscy The Veggie Vampire’, was published. His other acclaimed works include Penny Pickles’, ‘Who is the Easter Bunny’, ‘My Book of Kites’, ‘Dorit and Dave in the Microwave’, ‘George and the Treasure Hunt’, ‘Dorit and Dave in the Ice Age’ and ‘Dorit and Dave in the Middle East’.

White delighted families with his ‘Fire Up Your Imagination’ workshop at Qatar National Library during the interactive Children and families festival held at Qatar National Library recently. The sessions were full of energy. Such events really laugh over the last hour and all of the kids present were full of energy. Such events really help kids show their creative sides in fun ways.”
Gamers of ‘League of Legends’ do battle for $1m

Two teams of young video gamers from Europe and China will do battle in today’s finals of the video game world championship tour-
ament, dubbed ‘LoL Worlds’ and hosted at the AccorHotels Arena in Paris, will see Europe’s G2 Esports go up against China’s FunPlus Phoenix (FPX).

 Riot Games is surfing on the growing trend of esports — video game competitions — and of its LoL Worlds championship, broadcast on video live-streaming service Twitch. It says last year’s championship attracted close to 100 million viewers, putting it in the same ball park as the Super Bowl, the biggest American TV event.

Sponsors include French luxury brand LVMH’s Louis Vuitton, US payment giant MasterCard and Chinese electronics company Oppo. League of Legends, Dota 2 Fortnite and Counter-Strike: Global Offensive are some of the most popular esports. The European and Chinese teams in today’s finals are composed of five players each, all male and aged between 19 and 24.

The finals of the 10th edition of the game’s world championship tournament, dubbed ‘LoL Worlds’ and hosted at the AccorHotels Arena in Paris, will see Europe’s G2 Esports go up against China’s FunPlus Phoenix (FPX).

LoL Worlds offer a prize pool this year of about $5m, making it the third-largest after Dota 2’s The International and the Fortnite World Cup. The winning team will receive almost $283,000, while the runners-up get more than $100,000.

The European gamers are seeking to end Asia’s supremacy. South Korea has won five of the six previous championships, with Chinese teams winning last year. But the organizers say the top Asian players are increasingly being challenged.

Prenatal cellphone use may cause behavioural problems

Use of cellphone during pregnancy poses increased risk for behavioural problems in the offspring, a Turkish social media specialist said citing researches.

“In today’s world of technology, wireless devices are with us day and night, and emit energy called electromagnetic waves, which can end up in our bodies,” Deniz Unay said, adding that a certain quantity of low-energy microwave radiation can cause little amount of rise in heat that can damage the DNA.

“A study by a team of scientists at Yale University found that exposure to wireless radiation may be linked to behavioral problems such as ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and impaired memory,” he said. In a 2012 study, Dr. Taylor Hugh at the University of California in 2008, Unay said: “The study was conducted on thousands of women whose children were about seven years old. They received a questionnaire about their children’s health and behavior, and their history of exposure to the cell phones as well as current cell phone use by the children.”

The study concluded that exposure to cellphones ‘prenatally and, to a lesser degree, postnatally was associated with behavioral difficulties such as emotional and hyperactivity problems around the age of school entry.’

Unay highlighted that most future mothers are conscious about what to eat, wear, and what product to use on their skin and asked “But what about the cell phones that we use every day?”

“Scientific have found that children absorb more radiation than adults, so they face greater risk of exposure to toxic substances. It is important to do everything possible to protect our growing children — even when they are in the womb.”

Another research published in 2017 in Environment International journal was conducted with participation of thousands of mother-child pairs in five cohorts from Denmark, Korea, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain.

The study — which examined cellphone use during pregnancy reported by mothers — concluded: “Maternal cell phone use was associated with an increased risk for behavioral problems, particularly hyperactivity/inattention problems, in the offspring.”

Unay said that simple adjustments in lifestyle would reduce the health risks that wireless emissions pose.

He also advised shortening the duration of cellphone use to reduce exposure to radiation.

He highlighted that using cell phones when the signal strength is weak causes more exposure to radiation, as the device works harder to get better signals and concluded that most healthcare professionals find the researches on the topic too inconclusive to recommend people to make any change in their lifestyle.

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