Emir patronises opening of US-Islamic World Forum

The Forum has been working to build bridges of understanding between US and Islamic world and create a strong network of relations between US and Islamic leaders at all levels of government and civil society.

Qatar Post unveils new identity

Under its transformation process to keep up with the digital age and diversify its portfolio of products and services, Qatar Post yesterday launched its new identity, unveiling new logos.

The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, Minister of Transport and Communications H E Jasim bin Saif Al Sulaiti, Minister of Energy and Industry H E Dr Mohammed bin Saleh Al Sada, Minister of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs H E Dr Isha bin Saeed Al Jafari Al Nuaimi, Minister of State of Defence H E Dr Khalid bin Mohammad Al Attiyah, and Foreign Affairs Minister H E Sheikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Sadi.

The new logo of Qatar Post represents a new chapter in the achievements of the modern State of Qatar and an important step in realising Qatar National Vision 2030 under the wise leadership of His Highness the Emir.

Qatar to purchase 24 fighter jets from Britain

The Minister of State of Defence Affairs H E Dr Khalid bin Mohammad Al Attiyah and the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom, Michael Fallon, yesterday signed a Letter of Intent at the Ministry's headquarters in New York.

The Letter of Intent, which attaches particular importance to the ICT sector and considers it a basis for Qatar's vision of building a knowledge-based society and a diverse digital economy that will cater to the needs of future generations and advance social and economic wellbeing, was signed by the UK Secretary of Defence, Sir Michael Fallon, at the Emir Diwan, yesterday.

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Over 100 UAE firms shift operations to Qatar

Mohammad Sheeb
The Peninsula

Qatar condemns Afghan attack

QATAR has strongly condemned the bombing of a local market in southeast Afghanistan, causing a number of deaths and injuries.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated its firm position opposing violence and terrorism regardless of motives and reasons.

Qatar urges application of comprehensive IAEA safeguards to all nuclear activities in the Middle East

Qatar Social Work Foundation provides services to over 400 beneficiaries from siege countries

Foreign Minister : US-Islamic World Forum ‘important’ for addressing conflicts, political and ideological divisions worldwide

Siegé: Qatar gains global support for wise policies

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The Foreign Minister called upon the countries of the Islamic world and the United States of America to work to deepen relations based on permanent and open dialogue on the basis of respect and mutual understanding which must be established as principles for dealing among all parties.

The Minister stressed that the State of Qatar is making continuous efforts to consolidate dialogue among civilizations and coexistence between different religions and cultures, where national institutions such as the Doha Center for Interfaith Dialogue, as well as the annual Doha Forum, have been established and many conferences and meetings have been held to strengthen this trend.

H E Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani added that this Forum was established in 2002 under the name of the Doha Conference on American Relations with the Arab and Islamic World, as part of the global efforts to address the consequences of the events of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

The Minister, in his speech at the Forum which witnessed the participation of a number of ministers and senior officials in the State, said that the previous meetings have witnessed an increased manifestation of interest and misunderstanding of religion and linking it to terrorism, stressing that religions are innocent of extremism and that extremists exist in all societies and countries and belong to different religions.

He added that there are social and economic reasons and ideological factors for the emergence of terrorism, noting that relations between the US and the countries of the Islamic world can affect and be affected by them.

The Minister said that the international community needs more channels of communications and dialogue platforms such as this Forum to build bridges and strengthen cooperation between peoples and countries as well as tolerance between the manifesto of different religions and sects and sects and cities to address the division caused by the hypocrisy and ignorance and extremism.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani added that the distinguished relationship between the Islamic world and the US faces a major challenge of settling the Palestinian issue and ending the conflict in the Middle East, referring in this regard to the continued failure to achieve peace because of selective policies in the implementation of international legitimacy resolutions and double standards, preferring to impose a policy of fait accompli on the principles of justice and equity to achieve short-term narrow interests.

Talks during the meeting covered a number of issues of mutual concern, mainly the most important topics listed on the Forum’s agenda. The 10th annual US-Islamic World Forum was convened this year under the theme “Crisis and Compromise.”

The two-day forum will touch on several issues related to the relations between the US and the Islamic world, ending civil war in the Middle East and North Africa region and rebuilding afterwards, the future of the Middle East and its relations with the West and the Islamic world and discussing current issues, in particular the vision of the State of Qatar, highlighting the bright future of Islam and Muslims and redress the stereotypical or false concepts. Sheikh Al-Thani added that the forum pointed out that the “US Islamic World Forum is organized for the first time in the US, bringing together a selection of world leaders and intellectuals.”

The 12 editions of the US-Islamic World Forum were all held in Doha, with the exception of the one that was held in Washington in April 2001.
Complaints continue to pour in over siege

A majority of people have lost their real estate assets due to the blockade. Some of these assets were for personal use while some were part of their investment. These countries were encouraging people to invest in their real estate.

Sidi Mohamed The Peninsula

The Compensation Claims Committee which was established to protect the rights of residents continued to receive complaints from people affected by the ongoing illegal blockade on Qatar. The committee has so far received 6,297 complaints.

Until now, the committee has received more than 6,000 complaints and hundreds of calls from affected residents asking about the process of filing their complaints," an official at the Committee told The Peninsula.

The committee has also received 197 complaints from Qatar Chamber, and it is expected to receive more in the next coming days, because the Chamber has received over 600 complaints from companies.

It has evaluated the damages and has legal experts to study every case. It has also sent its reports to the authorities and the cases are sent to an international law firm. Most of the cases the committee has received have been transferred to the law firm, the source added.

A weekly meeting was held recently by the Committee to study the cases and remove any obstacles. The Committee is still receiving documents at its headquarters at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC).

It will continue to receive all cases of residents affected by the blockade and its closure will be announced through official gazettes.

A few people still come to register their cases, because most of the affected citizens have already submitted their complaints in the first weeks after the Committee was set up.

A majority of people have lost their real estate assets due to the siege. Some of these assets were for personal use while some were part of their investment.

A high percentage of the complaints is from residents who have lost their properties, because many people had invested in these countries. These countries were encouraging people to invest in their real estate. The investors never expected such problems to happen. They thought that any political dispute will be solved amicably and residents would not be pulled into the controversy, said a visitor to the Committee who didn’t want to give his name.

The second category which was affected more by the blockade is students who have been banned and are not allowed to complete their studies in the siege countries. They were banned to take any papers related to their studies. Qatar University and other universities have received those students.

Also, animals owners have lost hundreds of their camels and their loss is estimated to be in millions of riyals.

The statistics say that there are more than 22,000 camels and other livestock seized in Saudi Arabia, and their owners are not allowed to take them from Saudi Arabia. They are also barred from sending fodder to their camels.

Many of the citizens have tried to bring back their animals but their efforts failed as the Saudi government denied entry to them.

Citizens are saying that these animals are living in danger because no one is there to take care of them. At the Committee headquarters, the Peninsuladet a citizen who said that he had around 100 camels and two vehicles and he didn’t know anything about them. He had to come to the headquarters to submit his complaint.

And the most important thing is the families which were separated for no reason due to the unjust blockade.

The Compensation Claims Committee so far has received 6,297 complaints & hundreds of enquiries.

Qatar Chamber has received 600 complaints from companies, of which 197 have been transferred to the committee.

Most of the complaints the committee has received have been transferred to an international law firm.

More than 3,000 files from the Qatar National Human Rights Committee (QNHRC) have been transferred to the committee.

The second category of most affected people are students, followed by livestock owners and there are more than 22,000 camels and other livestock seized in Saudi Arabia.

Several families were separated for no reason due to the unjust blockade.

Free legal consultation

A group of lawyers have decided to offer free consultations to the affected persons. Isa Al Sulaiti, who is offering free consultation, said that around 15 lawyers were providing free legal consultations to residents on how to submit their documents.

‘We have received about 30 calls from people affected by the blockade asking different questions about how to file their cases and we still welcome it’, he added.

He also said that ‘people must get their rights and should get compensation even if the dispute is solved because the political issue and legal issue are different.'
Qatar to purchase 24 fighter jets from Britain

Continued from page 1

During a visit to the Gulf state today, Sir Michael Fallon and his Qatar counterpart Khalid bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, signed a Statement of Intent concerning Qatar’s proposed purchase of 24 Typhoon aircraft.

The UK and Qatar share a close and longstanding Defence relationship, and today’s Statement of Intent furthers reinforces this, deepening military cooperation between the two and the opportunity to further enhance the security of all partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said: “After a number of years of negotiations between our two countries, I am delighted to have been able to sign today with Qatar’s Defence Minister, this Statement of Intent on the purchase of 24 Typhoon aircraft by Qatar. “This will be the first major defence contract with Qatar, one of the UK’s strategic partners. This is an important moment in our Defence relationship and the basis for even closer defence cooperation between our two countries. We also hope that this will help enhance security within the region across all Gulf allies and enhance Typhoon interoperability across the GCC.

“Not only will the purchase of Typhoon aircraft further strengthen this strong bilateral relationship, it will benefit Qatar’s military capability, and increase security co-operation and interoperability between the UK and Qatar and other GCC Typhoon partners.”

The Typhoon is a multi-role combat aircraft that has long-term potential to act as a force in front of air power for many years and today’s Statement of Intent demonstrates continued confidence in Typhoon and British manufacturing.

In addition to supporting Royal Air Force operations protecting the UK in the skies above Britain and globally, the Typhoon has been engaged by the US and to lead and industry teams within this region (GCC). It is becoming a leader in the country and on a global scale.

Minister meets US official

Minister of Culture and Sports H E Salah bin Ghanim Al Ali met yesterday with acting Charge d’Affaires of the US Embassy in Doha, William Grant. During the meeting, they reviewed cooperation and means of enhancing them in the fields of culture and sports.

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani met yesterday with Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom, Michael Fallon, signing the Letter of Intent yesterday at the Ministry’s headquarters. The Letter aims to strengthen cooperation and mutual support in the military and technical fields. BELOW Officials during the meeting.

Qatar Post unveils new identity

Continued from page 1

Minister Al Balawi underlined all the strategic elements to achieve the ambition in developing the quality of postal services and its communication sector in general in line with Qatar Vision 2030.

He stressed the commitment to provide full support to Qatar Post to complete all the necessary requirements for transformation to the business system to enhance the economy of the sector and increase the quality of services according to international standards.

Addressing the event Fahad Al Naemi, Qatar Post Chairman and Managing Director highlighted the importance of the organisation’s transformation process saying “Qatar Post’s modernisation process is under way at full speed and is stimulating all levels of the organisation. This journey has just begun, and we will continue to invested in order to build a sustainable postal sector. Modern life is nurturing the development of world-class products and services and is the pillar of our leadership in the postal sector. It is both a pledge and a responsibility for Qatar Post to build a connected society in Qatar and to connect our Nation in the world.”

Today marks a new beginning for the postal services of Qatar.

The transformation of Qatar Post is based on three strategic priorities: To enhance service portfolio & customer experience; to build best-in-class postal operations with automated postal equipment; and modern IT systems; and to nurture organisational capabilities for employees by building an effective work environment.

“AQatar is moving towards a knowledge-based society and a diversified economy as laid out in the National Vision 2030. Qatar Post is revolutionising the postal industry by streamlining its operations, upgrading the postal network, expanding into new areas of growth, and diversifying the postal products and services while delivering a unique customer experience,” said a statement issued by Qatar Post.

This modernisation process is profoundly impacting the way Qatar Post is operating through-out the entire value chain of the postal services. Qatar Post’s new identity reflects its core values of reliability, honesty, innovation, modernity and excellence. Qatar Post is fully embracing the digital age and diversifying its products and services portfolio while investing in e-commerce and teaming up with key business partners both in Qatar and globally. Qatar Post recently boosted its Digital Mailrooms and expanded its Global Priority service to both retail and corporate customers in partnership with UPS network. Its e-commerce service CONNECT was recently streamlined to reduce the cost of shipping for the benefit of customers. Earlier this year, the organization launched Home Delivery now available to all customers already registered with a POD Box, a first in the history of postal services in Qatar.

In the months to come Qatar Post will be expanding its footprint in Qatar with the opening of new branches, kiosks and smart lockers as well as launching new offers for both social and corporate customers. Following the signature of strategic partnerships with UPS, Turkish Post, Qatar Civil Aviation Authority, Aspire Zone and Al Meera, discount are under way with new partners in Qatar and globally. Qatar Post is streamlining the way the national postal services are delivered in Qatar. The ultimate goal of this holistic transformation is to transform Qatar Post from a branchless, in-class postal services to each citizen’s and each business’ door step and to position Qatar Post as a leader in the country and on a global scale.

New Hijri year on Thursday

According to accurate astronomical calculations by Qatar Calendar House (QCH), the new crescent of the Hijri month ‘Al Moharram 1439 H’ will be born on Wednesday 29 Dhul Hijja at 8.30am. The time set of the new crescent over Doha sky will be 21 minutes after sunset and the moon will set after sunset time by different countries at the west of Greenwich. The new crescent over Doha sky will be 21 minutes after sunset and the moon will set after sunset time by different countries at the west of Greenwich. The new crescent will be possible to observe over almost of Arabic and Islamic countries sky by using astronomical telescopes.
Hamad Port begins two new shipping lines

The Peninsula

T he Director of Hamad Port, Abdul Aziz bin Ali Al Yaafiri, has announced the inauguration of two new shipping routes linking the Hamad Port to the Southeast Asia ports (Shanghai), while the other connects the port to the ports of the countries of the Mediterranean basin, and each will take one trip a week during 2013.

“Hamad Port is expected to receive more than 1,000 vessels by the end of this year and about one million TEUs in the same period,” Al Yaafiri said while addressing a press conference on the eve of inauguration of the new shipping routes. He added that the new services are being added to the corporation’s fleet in line with the highest levels of perfection, accuracy, and professionalism to practically apply precision medicine, based on our belief in demonstrating its importance in all areas of health care, which enables the participants, especially Qatar, to benefit from these experiences and equip it to serve the citizens.

QGP raises knowledge level among interns in genomics

The Peninsula

Q atar Genome Programme (QGP) recently concluded its second annual summer internship, a programme designed to enhance the knowledge of healthcare providers with the latest genome-related issues related to the medical sector.

The two-week internship titled ‘Genome Interpretation: from Sequencing to Counselling’, was attended by a group of resident physician and nurses at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), as well as biomedical graduates and pharmacists from Qatar universities.

The internship aims to develop the skills of interns in genomics to help them understand the effect of precision medicine, with Qatar being one of the pioneering nations in this area. The course included an in-depth discussion on a number of issues from genome data, genomic reports, and some clinical issues related to precision medicine.

Professor Asma Al Thani, Chair of the Qatar Genome National Committee, said, “This internship aims to support workers in various health sectors to open up to the future of precision medicine, and to demonstrate its importance in all different stages of research, analysis, and treatment options, as well as genetic counselling, as both genomic research and medicine will play a key role in the future of healthcare worldwide.”

Dr. Said Ismail, Manager, QGP, said, “In Qatar, we aim to create a medical community that is ready to integrate with genomic advancements, to provide optimal and specialized healthcare, based on our belief that all medical institutions should be combined to practically apply precision medicine.”

Fifteen interns were selected through a competitive screening process, due to high demand, including resident physicians, nurses, and graduates from pharmacy and biomedical sciences faculties across Qatar universities.

It was a unique experience. The subjects and the selection of lecturers were distinctive, and the best part was our sense of mutual benefit, since each of us learnt from a different background,” said Dr. Sumayya Abdul Aziz, who was selected for the programme.

Dr. Iman El-Ezzouani, a researcher at Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar, said the best part was “our sense of mutual benefit, since each of us learnt from a different background.”

Another intern, Dr. Ahmad Al Ghulam, a resident at the programme, shared his experience, saying, “I hope that all healthcare providers become aware of the applications of precision medicine, to provide better care for patients." The interns were mentored by a group of experts in Qatar, comprising members of various national institutions.

International Primary Health Care Conference in November

The Peninsula

The International Primary Health Care Conference will be held in Doha on November 17 and it provides an opportunity for primary healthcare experts to share knowledge and network with other professionals in a global and diverse platform, says a senior official.

Hamad Al Wadihi, Executive Director of Corporate Communication at the Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC), said that the significant preparations are being made within the Corporation to ensure that the conference is delivered with the highest quality and to practically apply precision medicine, with Qatar being one of the pioneering nations in this area.

“Hamad Port is expected to receive more than 1,000 vessels by the end of this year and about one million TEUs in the same period.” Al Yaafiri said while addressing a press conference on the eve of inauguration of the new shipping routes.

Al Yaafiri said that the new lines will achieve economic gains for the country, especially as the Republic of China is the largest source of goods in all countries of the world, adding that the direct lines with China will increase the volume of exports destined to the State of Qatar, which includes all types of goods and products. He stressed the Port’s commitment to providing all facilities available to compa-

ies, adding that the Port is ready to receive all types of shipments from different regions of the world.

He pointed out that Hamad Port began to reap the economic gains since the start of its work, where it had launched about 15 direct lines so far, that contributed to reducing the cost and shortening the time, which is in the interest of importers whose goods have arrived directly from the port of origin to Hamad Port without the need for intermediation.

Qatar backs IAEA efforts to safeguard N-activities

QNA

The State of Qatar called for supporting the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the early application of the Agency’s comprehensive safeguards agreement (CSA) to all nuclear activities in the Middle East as a fundamental step towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone.

Addressing the IAEA Governing Council meeting, H E Qatar’s Ambassador to the Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and International Organization in Vienna Sheikh Ali bin Jassem Al Thani said that the State of Qatar believed that the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East that would accelerate international efforts to achieve a peaceful and lasting solution in the region and to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

H E Qatar’s Ambassador to the Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and International Organization in Vienna Sheikh Ali bin Jassem Al Thani said that the State of Qatar believed that the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East that would accelerate international efforts to achieve a peaceful and lasting solution in the region and to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

Qatar expressed regret over the lack of implementation of the international resolutions on the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East that would accelerate international efforts to achieve a peaceful and lasting solution in the region and to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

NOTICE

Road Diversion

Al Wakra Road

Due to the construction of the Doha Metro Project, Al Wakra Road will be closed for 22 September 2017 to 22 August 2019. As a result, all traffic using Al Wakra Road will be diverted to alternate routes.

Vehicle Traffic

To enable safe access for construction vehicles and traffic moving in the northern direction, an additional road diversion will be implemented.

Northbound Traffic

Northbound vehicles will be diverted to northbound diversion via Khor Al Batah, westbound to Khor Al Batah, southbound to Khor Al Batah, and eastbound to Khor Al Batah.

Southbound Traffic

Southbound vehicles will be diverted to southbound diversion via southbound diversion via southbound diversion via southbound diversion via westbound to Khor Al Batah, eastbound to Khor Al Batah, and northbound to Khor Al Batah.
Event to broaden assistive technology services in schools

Qatar residents will also get an opportunity to learn about this field of ‘assistive technology’ as it also aims to train qualified professionals to establish training programs on ‘assistive technology’ as an integral part of their educational programs. The programme targets people who have special educational needs and teachers in primary and secondary schools. The training programme will be conducted through workshops that are planned to be held in all the regions of Qatar, with the aim of equipping teachers and staff with the necessary skills to support special needs students to participate in academic environments with their peers. It also develops the teachers’ skills and knowledge needed to support students with special needs in the field of ‘assistive technology’.

The programme will be implemented in the following ways:

1. Establishment of on-site workshops for teachers and students in government and private schools.
2. Establishment of an assistive technology resource center at QU.
3. Establishment of an assistive technology resource center at QF.
4. Establishment of an assistive technology resource center at Hamad Medical Corporation.
5. Establishment of an assistive technology resource center at private schools.

The programme will be conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Mada for Cultural Diversity, Qatar National Council for Persons with Special Needs, Qatar University, and Hamad Medical Corporation.

OU goes green as it calculates carbon footprint

A digitised carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) footprint was calculated for the QU campus carbon footprint over the same period, which was 3.33 metric tons of CO2e. This is an opportunity for the prospective buyers to plan their purchases of carbon credits in order to neutralize the emissions of CO2e.

The QU Environmental and Sustainability Services Department, in coordination with the Facilities and General Services Department, has developed a system to quantify carbon footprint, called the QU Sustainability Net (QUSN). This system will provide the necessary information to QU’s Faculty and General Services Department, QU’s Environmental and Sustainability Services Department, QU’s Facilities and General Services Department, and QU’s Sustainability Section.

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OU goes green as it calculates carbon footprint

AQU Castor Love (AAB), a member of AAB, recently launched a campaign in Qatar to coincide with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the needs of people with disabilities and to promote the importance of including them in society.

The campaign is called “AQU Castor Love”, and it will run from December 1 to December 10, 2017. The campaign will be launched in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Mada for Cultural Diversity, Qatar National Council for Persons with Special Needs, and Hamad Medical Corporation.

The campaign will focus on raising awareness about the rights of people with disabilities, promoting their inclusion in society, and encouraging people to support them.

The campaign will include a series of events and activities that will take place in various locations across Qatar. These events will include workshops, seminars, and exhibitions that will provide information about the rights of people with disabilities and the services available to support them.

The campaign will also include a series of public service announcements (PSAs) that will be broadcast on television and radio to raise awareness about the campaign and its goals.

The campaign is being led by a team of specialists who have developed a comprehensive plan to ensure its success.

The campaign is expected to reach a wide audience and to raise awareness about the needs of people with disabilities in Qatar.

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The three panelists shared their analysis on the causes and consequences of the crisis, what prompted Saudi Arabia and the UAE to impose the illegal blockade on Qatar. They also highlighted the measures Qatar has taken in response politically, economically, and diplomatically as well as how the country has successfully defeated the blockade.

Qatar has overcome the unjust blockade imposed by a group of countries and gained global support due to wise political, diplomatic and economic policies adopted by the leaders. Qatar has shown resilience under the illegal siege, said experts sharing their insights about the blockade. Discussing the crisis held yesterday at Georgetown University in Qatar, Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS), Dr. Ghabra, referred the blockade quoting Winston Churchill’s saying as, “We are at the end of the beginning.”

Dr. Ghabra added, “Qatar has shown extreme resilience under the siege and has shaken the expectations of the other four countries. “Qatar has followed a high moral and have an ethical approach to study the state of relations between modern societies, especially in the Gulf region at Arab countries and societies, human sciences in particular in the disciplines of social and political sciences at Kuwait University and Dr. Gerd Nonneman, professor of international relations and Gulf studies at Georgetown University in Qatar, shared their analysis on the causes and consequences of the crisis, what prompted Saudi Arabia and the UAE to impose the illegal blockade on Qatar. They also highlighted the measures Qatar has taken in response politically, economically, and diplomatically as well as how the country has successfully defeated the blockade.

Katara to host Sudanese Forum

Katara will host a Sudanese economic and cultural forum between October 17 and 20. The forum is scheduled to entail a wide range of events including exhibitions highlighting the Sudanese folklore, photography and architecture. An economic exhibition will also be scheduled and will feature 20 local and international companies showcasing their products. The forum will also include a series of cultural seminars, poetry evenings and musical nights, which will be held with the participation of Sudanese writers, poets, and artists.

The forum in Doha will hold this forum as an effort to strengthen the cultural cooperation between both par- ties through hosting events that highlight the Sudanese civilization and to introduce the audiences to all the different Sudanese cul- tures. This cooperation was agreed on during the meeting between His Excellency Representative of the UN Secretary General of Civilizations and the Director of the Institute for Afro-American and Intolerance, welcomed the faculty. "We hope that your choice to join the Doha Institute will lead to fruitful discussions and posi- tive results." He added.

Katara host Sudanese Forum

Call for cooperation to fight terrorism

The executives Vice President of the Brooking Institution Martin Indyk said that the Forum was held in the wake of the 9/11 attacks and brings together international leaders to discuss differences and build bridges. He noted that the Forum has gathered in 13 sessions, leaders on the issues we face, including devastating wars, international terrorism, refugee issues and policies that bring the Muslim world to a lesser level of terrorism", stressing that there is no more pressing task than these issues. He said that the Brooking Institute, which organises the Forum in cooperation with the State of Qatar, is dedicated to independent research. It has gathered a large number of researchers at the current ses- sion for enriching the Forum’s deal with crises, pointing to the need to listen to scholars and build bridges as all are affected by the issues that the world is experi- encing, he added.
Sachin Khan Chawla/ The Peninsula

The two-day event aims to support Qatar’s local manufacturing industries involved in providing electricity, water and recycling services.

E xpo helps companies to expand business

Sachin Khan Chawla

Companies participating in the exhibition have lauded the initiative organised by Qatar Development Bank (QDB) in collaboration with Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation (Kahrama). They said the event helped Qatar’s local suppliers, buyers to companies and manufacturers within the country.

QDB and Kahrama to promote local manufacturing

Kahrama offers QR1bn investment opportunities

Over 100 UAE firms shift operations to Qatar

Minister of Energy and Industry, H E Dr Mohammad bin Saleh Al Sada (centre), and other officials during a tour at the exhibition ‘Buy Local Products 3’ to support Qatar Local Manufacturing at DECC yesterday. Pic: Baber Armin / The Peninsula

The third edition of Buy Local Products exhibition began yesterday at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre.

Dr Khalifa Al-Khalifa, (left), Dean, College of Engineering, Dr Ahmed Al Emadi, Dean, College of Education (CED), Dr Taher El Shabib, Assistant Professor of Food Technology and Human Nutrition, during the press conference at Qatar University yesterday. Pic: Abdul Izz / The Peninsula

Dr Khalifa Al-Emadi said: “By achieving academic accreditation, CED reinforces its position among the best engineering schools in the region through its accredited status. It reflects QU’s commitment to advance the level of its graduates, and the achievement of the ACEND accreditation is a testament that QU has built with the labor of all of its accredited status.”

CENG was awarded removal of a five-year accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for seven of its undergraduate programs – Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Systems Engineering. ABET accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology.

Kahrama offers QR1bn investment opportunities

ONa

The President of Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation (Kahrama) Essa bin Bilal Al Kwari said that Kahrama has aimed to increase investment opportunities, most of which target the domestic market at about QR1bn by the end of 2020, which is a direct purchase, a priority for the local market, while direct contracting contains the same period about QR1bn, considering these figures are a good opportunity for national companies to enter the sector.

The details about the bidding were given by QDB officials in a press conference held yesterday to announce the academic accreditation of QU’s colleges of Education (CED), Engineering (CENG) and Health Sciences (CHS). The press conference was attended by QU CEO Derham Al Azhari, Dean of Ahmed Al Emadi, CED Dean Dr Khalifa Al-Khalifa, and QDB Governmental Affairs Director Omar Al-Ameen. Al-Ameen, QDB officials, faculty and staff, as well as the representatives of the local media.

Qu receives accreditations for 11 programmes

The Peninsula

Dr Derham said: “The new academic accreditation adds value to QU’s colleges’ numerous achievements. It reflects QU’s commitment to advance the level of its programs and the University’s ongoing efforts to strengthen links with the industry. Accreditation is a very important process to improve the learning outcomes and to ensure that they align with the needs of the labor market. I applaud the efforts of the dean, faculty, and staff in contributing to this achievement."

CENG was awarded removal of a five-year accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for seven of its undergraduate programs – Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Systems Engineering.
Anadolu said the deployment of equipment to Syrian border "is encouraging news." However, he cautioned that "we want to see that happening on the ground before we move to the next step."
While the diplomatic process remains largely frozen between Israel and the Palestinians, by moving forward together to solve our water problems we can chart a course forward that will safeguard the vital resource of water for the future of both peoples.

**Politics of water: Stealing Palestinian resources**

Dr Shassad Attiti
Al Jazeera

The announcement in July of a water prices agreement between Israel and the Palestinians has been hailed as a model of Israeli-Palestinian cooperation as well as a major achievement of the Trump administration’s efforts to broker a comprehensive peace deal in the Middle East. Both the agreement and the process that yielded it, however, reveal a very different reality.

The water prices agreement is part of a larger Red Sea-Dead Sea concept project by Israel. Jordan and the PA to build a conduit to move Red Sea water over mountains and down into the Dead Sea basin, with three outputs: the generation of increased hydroelectric power, more desalinated water for the parties, and an increase in water for the Dead Sea.

For more than a decade, this project has been the subject of intense diplomatic negotiations. From a Palestinian perspective, this negotiation process has been one of continuous fighting to be treated equally and fairly with the other two states. Despite the fact that Israel maintains overall control of occupied Palestinian land. Even when the parties were agreed to proceed in principle on a project, Israel used its power to force Pal- estinians to accept less than what is fair.

The fact that the three parties agreed in December 2013 to a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a water project indicates that the Palestinian people have been one of the biggest impediments to achieving Palestinian dreams. Instead of uniting against their common enemy, which is united against them, they spent their time and energy fighting to weaken the other and consolidate their power. The current reconciliation bill must be the result of a realization of the failure that they have waged for years against the Palestinian society in general and the Palestinians in particular.

The Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) is the body that administers the country’s water sector. The PWA is responsible for developing, managing, and utilizing the country’s water resources, ensuring the availability of water for all sectors of society.

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The PWA is funded primarily through government allocations and foreign aid. However, due to the ongoing conflict and political instability in the region, the PWA has faced significant challenges in implementing and maintaining its programs and projects.

The PWA has implemented a number of projects to improve access to clean water for Palestinians. These projects include the construction of water supply systems, the rehabilitation of existing systems, and the provision of water treatment facilities.

The PWA has also implemented a number of projects to promote water conservation and efficiency. These projects include the installation of water meters, the optimization of irrigation systems, and the implementation of water-efficient technologies.

In addition to its work in the West Bank, the PWA operates in the Gaza Strip and provides water services to the Palestinian refugees in the Jordan Valley.

The PWA has faced significant challenges in implementing and maintaining its programs and projects due to the ongoing conflict and political instability in the region. However, the PWA continues to work hard to improve access to clean water for Palestinians.
Germany’s far-right party is about to be stronger than ever

By Alfredo Ortega Franco
Al Jazeera

Guatemala is on the verge of a major crisis

By Bethany Allen-Ebrahimian
The Washington Post

The work of local prosecutors in cooperation with the ICC as a result of the ICC's decision to launch an investigation against General Ríos Montt has been crucial in providing evidence of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during his tenure. This investigation was made possible by the efforts of local and international human rights organizations, as well as by the support of the governments of several countries, including Spain and the United States. The Spanish government, through its embassies in Guatemala and El Salvador, has been supporting local organizations working on the ground to gather evidence and provide legal assistance to victims and their families. The United States has also provided funding to support these efforts.

The political situation in Guatemala continues to be unstable, with frequent protests and violence. The government has faced criticism for its slow progress in implementing reforms to address corruption and poverty. The country has also been struggling with a high crime rate and a lack of justice for victims of crime. The situation is further complicated by the presence of armed groups, including drug cartels and paramilitaries, which operate with impunity.

The upcoming presidential election in 2021 is critical for the future of Guatemala. The current president, Alejandro Giammattei, has faced criticism for his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately affected vulnerable populations. The country has been struggling with a high poverty rate and a lack of access to basic services such as healthcare and education. The upcoming election offers an opportunity for the people of Guatemala to take control of their own future and chart a new course for their country.
P M Narendra Modi inaugurated the ambitious $13 billion Narmada Dam project yesterday, bringing to a close the decade-long battle for its completion. The dam, which is the world’s second largest, will provide water to more than 300 million people in the western states of India.

The project, whose foundation stone was laid on April 5, 1961, by India’s first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, is expected to benefit Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Other than water, the hydro power project at Narmada dam produces 1.450 MW of power too.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurating the Sardar Sarovar Dam project in Gujarat yesterday.

New Delhi

Wishes poured in for Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 67th birthday yesterday being observed by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as ‘Sewa Divas’ or day of service. As the Prime Minister inaugurated the Sardar Sarovar project at Kevadia in Gujarat, BJP leaders and members across in line and online campaigns. On his 67th birthday, wishing Prime Minister Narendra Modi a long and fruitful term, the nation’s President Ram Nath Kovind tweeted.

Ministers picked up brooms and swept the streets in Delhi promoting Modi’s Swachh Bharat Bhumi. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman took part in a cleanliness drive at Gajraj Banarasi Cantonment area. Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan hosted an eco-friendly camp and took part in cleanliness drive.

Lok Sabha Speaker Nirmal Kumar and Home Minister Rajnath Singh greeted the Prime Minister. ‘Sewa is the best way to celebrate my birthday’, said the Prime Minister Ram Nath Kovind tweeted.

New Delhi

Railways reducing sleeping time in train

The railways have declared their plans to cut the sleeping time for the passengers. From April 1, this year, passengers in lower and middle berths in train coaches are allowed to sleep only between 10 pm and 6 am. This is claimed to be an effort to reduce the official sleeping hours to its trains by an hour. According to a circular released by the Railway Board in August 2017, the passengers allotted to the lower berths in the reserved coaches can only sleep between 10 pm and 6 am and must allow those allotted middle or upper berths to sit there for the rest of the time.

Activists want Yamuna cleaned

AGA (Alliance for Ganga Action) yesterday demanded in some states to renovate and rejuvenate the Yamuna river. Braj Mandal Heritage Conservation Society President Saurabh Sharma said there was an urgent need to construct a barrage some 138.68 meters across the state through the dam. A total of 57.70 lakh hectares of land across 3,125 villages would be irrigated with Narmada dam waters, with flood control benefits in 30,000 hectares.

New Delhi

President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday led the nation in mourning the death of Marshal Arjan Singh. Arjan Singh, the first five star officer of the IAF and Chief of Defence Staff, passed away last week in New Delhi.

President Kovind, also the Supreme Commander of Indian Armed Forces, said he was ‘extremely saddened to learn about the passing of our great and extremely respected’.

Nirmala Sitharaman laid a wreath at Kevadia in Gujarat, BJP leaders and members across in line and online campaigns. On his 67th birthday, wishing Prime Minister Narendra Modi a long and fruitful term, the nation’s President Ram Nath Kovind tweeted.

New Delhi

Nation mourns death of hero Marshal Arjan Singh

Tributes from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other leaders were in. "He never forgot his discipline," said Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

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**High stakes in Myanmar ahead of Suu Kyi's TV address**

**Philippines: President likes rights chief to child abuse**

**BEIJING bans workers in winter to improve air quality**

**Army chief urges unity over Rohingya**

**Rain and evictions add to Rohingya misery**

**BEIJING**

Heavy monsoon rain has ease[d] monsoon rain yesterday on hundreds of thousands of Muslim Rohingyas stuck in makeshift camps in Bangladesh after fleeing violence in Myanmar, as authorities started a drive to force them to a new site.

With food and water shortages already making life tough, torrential rain brought back swarms-like conditions to many parts of the border town of Bazar which has become a magnet for the Rohingyas. About 7,500m of rain fell in 24 hours and more is predicted in the next two days, the Bangladesh Weather Department has said.

Bangladesh authorities, who have already issued travel restrictions on the Rohingyas, launched an operation last Saturday to get them off roadside camps and hillside shanties into a giant new camp.

The United Nations says 400,000 Rohingyas have already overwhelmed Cox's Bazar since August 25 when the military in Buddhist-majority Myanmar launched operations in Rakhine state. As existing camps are already full with Rohingyas fleeing earlier violence, many of the Rohingyas have been forced to live in the open amid flimsy muddy sheets.

Police toured streets with loudspeakers ordering exhausted refugees to go to the Balukhali camp in Cox's Bazar, which is being cleared to build new shelters.

We are shifting them from the places where many of them have been staying,” Aung Min Aung, a government spokesman for Cox’s Bazar district, told AFP.

Mamduh, a government spokesman for Cox’s Bazar, said that the military had to do this to prevent the eruption of violence and repression.

Rohingya militants once called “Bengalis” and deny the existence of a group that has endured years of persecution and repression.

Mamduh said that soldiers were still searching for the Rohingyas who fled across the border, accusing those refugees of having links to the militants.” Those who fled the villages made their way to the other country for fear of being arrested as they got involved in the violent attacks. Legal protection will be given to the villages whose residents did not flee,” the government’s Information Minister said.

Public attorneys allege that police also murdered the other teenager. The Commission on Human Rights responded in Duterte by saying “remarks such as these are unhelpful and deviate the attention away from critical human rights issues.”

The death of children concerns us all as they are especially vulnerable and need state protection,” the statement from commission spokesman Jacqueline de Guia said.

Duterte won last year’s presidential election on a law-and-order platform in which he promised an aggressive campaign against illegal drugs in society by killing up to 100,000 traffickers and 5,000 drug war criminals.

Mamduh has already issued travel restrictions on the Rohingyas who fled across the border, accusing those refugees of having links to the militants who fled the camps.

Duterte also insisted that killing children was not exceptional, as he accused the rights chiefs and other critics of using the teenagers’ deaths as part of a political opposition campaign.

It is all politics. Why can’t you move on to other issues that are far more pressing, said Duterte, referring to an insurgency conducted by Islamists in the south of the country. “There is no need for a kid to be killed,” that happened yesterday,” he added.

The policemen involved in the teenagers’ deaths initially said they killed them in self-defense. However, the National Bureau of Investigation said the policemen murdered one of the teenagers after planting a gun on him and are still investigating the death of the other teenager.

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Duterte won last year’s presidential election on a law-and-order platform in which he promised an aggressive campaign against illegal drugs in society by killing up to 100,000 traffickers and 5,000 drug war criminals. The day after he was sworn in, he made a decision to suspend the annual budget of the Commission on Human Rights, a body mandated under the constitution, from $13.5m to just $20.
**Ex-Pakistan PM’s wife set to win bypoll**

Lahore

A P

The wife of former Paki-

Ex-Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was on course to win a parliamentary by-election for her husband’s seat in Punjab when he was ousted from office earlier this month. The Supreme Court named Sharif’s tenures as prime minister and banned him from holding public office in July following an investigation into corruption against him and his family, triggering the election in the Lahore seat.

Sharif’s daughter Maryam led the campaign on behalf of her mother Kalsoom, the candidate, who is being treated for thyroid cancer. The seat has long been controlled by Sharif and his allies, but the by-election was seen as a test of the popularity of his party. Pak Sarzameen Party and League Nawaz.

According to unofficial results from most of polling sta-

Students sent home from Islamic school

Jakarta

B R

Students at an Islamic school that Indonesian police linked to Islamic State returned home after villagers nearby demanded that the school be closed, a school spokesman said yesterday.

A Reuters investigation published this month found at least eight staff and four students from the Taman Mulya school in Sukajaya, West Java, either traveled or tried to travel to Syria to join the phalangist group between 2015 and 2016.

Spokesman Jamali told Reuters the school was left after the local police chief said the school had failed to comply with the closure demands would lead to a “demonstration” by residents from five sur-

Thai investigators train funds to nail down wildlife traffickers

Bangkok

A P

In most cases, the conviction of Thai men trafficking rhino horns through a seine net that involved hiring women to pose as trophy hunt-

Philippines unrest

Man dies in ‘Buried Alive’ haunted house

Hong Kong

A man has died in a haunted house attraction dubbed “Buried Alive”, as Hong Kong’s largest amusement park prepared to kick off its annual Halloween festival.

The 29-year-old man, sur-
mounted to be 14-18 hours, exit the attraction. Osaka Park chief executive Matthew Li said on Saturday, expressing “deep sorrow” over the tragedy. He was confirmed dead in hospital police said. “Buried Alive” is part of a popular franchise, produced by the operator, located in the city’s Minato Ward. The park is designed to allow visitors to experience being sealed in a coffin through a stage area that simulates a burial chamber. Visitors are warned that the experience can be distressing and that it may not be suitable for those with a fear of heights, claustrophobia, or a fear of death.

The attraction, “Buried Alive”, is a haunted house attraction that has been running for several years. It involves participants being sealed inside a coffin and experiencing simulated death. The attraction has been popular in Japan and has faced some criticism, including reports of participants feeling distress or discomfort during the experience. In recent years, there have been several reports of visitors experiencing physical distress, hyperventilation, or even fainting. In response, the attraction has implemented new safety measures and procedures to ensure visitor safety. It operates under the supervision of medical professionals and is equipped with emergency facilities. However, despite these measures, the attraction remains controversial and has faced criticism from some quarters. It is unclear if the incident will affect the future operation of the attraction or the park.

Japan PM considers snap vote in October

Tokyo

J apanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is considering call-

Philippines unrest

Up to 3,000 people are commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Nanjing Massacre, an event that claimed the lives of approximately 300,000 people in the Chinese city. The massacre, which occurred in December 1937, marked the beginning of Japan’s brutal occupation of China and the last years of the War.

A generation of Chinese people has grown up with little knowledge of the event, which is seen as a symbol of Japan’s aggression and its treatment of China.

A government report released last year stated that the Nanjing Massacre was a “barbaric event” that shocked the world and should never be forgotten. It also criticized Japan’s official history textbooks for downplaying the event.

The 100th anniversary is being marked with various events, including a ceremony at the Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall, a museum dedicated to the event, and a series of lectures and discussions. In addition, the Chinese government has urged Japan to take responsibility for its actions during the war and to apologize for its historical aggression.

However, the issue of the Nanjing Massacre remains a source of tension between Japan and China. Japan has consistently refused to fully acknowledge its role in the massacre, and some Japanese politicians have suggested that the event was an exaggeration.

In recent years, there has been an increase in public interest in the event, with many Chinese people calling for a more thorough investigation and a better understanding of the facts.

A recent study by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences found that more than 90% of Chinese people agree that Japan should apologize for its role in the Nanjing Massacre. The study also found that a majority of Chinese people believe that the event should be taught in schools as an important part of China’s history.

The 100th anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on the past and to work towards a better future. It is a time to remember the lives lost and to ensure that such atrocities never happen again.

Philippines unrest

Smoke billows from houses after aerial bombings by Philippine Air Force planes on Islamist militant positions in Marawi City on the southern island of Mindanao, yesterday.

Rise in suicide numbers among Afghan women

Kathu

A n Afghan woman has died in a suicide attack in the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, which is located in the northern province of Balkh. The attack occurred on September 18th, and was one of several incidents that have taken place in the country in recent years. The woman, whose identity has not been disclosed, was killed when a bomb was detonated near her home.

In recent years, there has been a rise in suicide attacks in Afghanistan, particularly in the northern provinces. The attacks are often carried out by male suicide bombers, and are aimed at military targets or civilian areas.

The latest attack comes just weeks after another suicide bomber targeted a military base in the city of Kunduz, killing several soldiers. In the same region, a female suicide bomber reportedly killed at least 10 people in an attack on a police station.

Afghanistan is one of the most dangerous countries in the world for women, with high rates of violence, poverty, and political instability. The country has been engulfed in a long-running conflict, which has led to widespread displacement and displacement. In recent years, there has been a rise in the number of women who have been forced to flee their homes, and who are now living in camps or in temporary shelters.

The latest attack is a reminder of the ongoing violence and instability in the country, and highlights the urgent need for a political solution to the conflict. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of supporting women’s rights and freedoms in Afghanistan, and of the need for international support to help ensure their safety and well-being.
US ratchets up pressure on Pyongyang

Haley threatens North Korea with destruction

Somerset

Trump tweeted yesterday that he and South Korean President Moon Jae-in discussed North Korea during their latest telephone conversation on Saturday.

North Koreans watch news report showing North Korea's Hwasong-12 intermediate-range ballistic missile launch on electron screen at Pyongyang station in Pyongyang, North Korea. (AP)

AP

US ratchets up pressure on Pyongyang

AP

Haley threatens North Korea with destruction

Washington

D omond Trump's administration ratcheted up the pressure on North Korea yesterday ahead of a week of high-stakes diplomacy at the United Nations, warning Pyongyang would be "destroyed" if it refuses to end its "reckless" nuclear and ballistic missile drive.

Washington's ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, kept up the rhetorical pressure ahead of the upcoming meetings in New York, assuring that if the North should pose a serious threat to the US or its allies, "North Korea will be destroyed." As the US and its allies emphasise the diplomatic track, South Korea is also deploying a state-of-the-art US missile defence system. In their latest call, the White House said Trump and Moon had committed to "take steps to strengthen deterrence and defence capabilities" of South Korea, offering no details of how it might do so.

Analysts say that in the event of hostilities, millions of people in the Seoul area — as well as the 30,000 US troops in South Korea — would be vulnerable to attack by the thousands of artillery pieces the North has positioned near the border, with potentially staggering casualties. So far, every effort to persuade the North to back away from its fast-developing nuclear and missile programmes — including its most powerful nuclear test yet on September 3 — has proved futile, at times even seeming to prompt new acts of defiance from Pyongyang.

In separate talks with his South Korean and Japanese counterparts, US national security adviser H R McMaster had already provided a "punish in the gap" to Pyongyang but that strict enforcement was crucial. "Separately, Trump and national security adviser H R McMaster are on the table," he added. Haley also warned of a tougher US response to future North Korean provocations, saying the Security Council has "pretty much exhausted" all of its options and that she would be happy to turn the matter over to Defence Secretary Jim Mattis "because he has plenty of military options." Mattis said after Kim tested a hydrogen bomb earlier this month that the US would answer any threat from the North with a "massive military response, a response both effective and overwhelming." Trump has threatened to rain "fire and fury" on North Korea if the North continues with its threats. Haley said that wasn't an empty threat from the president but she declined to describe the president's intentions. "If North Korea keeps on with this reckless behaviour, then the United States has to defend itself or its allies in any way. North Korea will be destroyed and we all know that and none of us want that," Haley said. "None of us want war. But we also have to look at the fact that you are dealing with someone who is using nuclear weapons, irresponsible and is continuing to give threats not just to the United States, but to all their allies, so something is going to have to be done." McMaster also addressed published reports that Trump has changed his mind about drawing the US from a global climate agreement. He suggested that Trump's bomb attack in London could lead Trump to introduce a stronger trade deal.

The Wall Street Journal and others reported Saturday that Trump administration officials, speaking at a climate meeting in Montreal, discussed a compromise that would involve staying in the deal but revising US climate change goals. The White House denied Saturday that Trump had reversed position. McMaster also said the US is working to introduce a stronger trade deal to leave the Paris climate accord because "it had for the American people and the environment that the president's ears are open" to possible participation in a new agreement that adds something to the current COP21 deal. Trump tweeted the North would have a "very bad day" if it went on this year when he announced his decision to withdraw.

File picture of White House National Security Advisor H R McMaster looking on as UN Ambassador Nikki Haley speaks at a press briefing at the White House.

White House

Food for thought: Eatery innovates

Tokyo

Diners have no complaints about the service at a pop-up restaurant in central Tokyo, where the 17 waiters and waitresses all suffer from dementia.

The "Restaurant of Order Makers" — a play on a title of a classic Japanese children's book "The Restaurant of Many Orders" — is the brainchild of NHK television director Shiro Ogino. (AP)

AP

Pedestrians walk on a crossing as rain falls due to weather patterns from Typhoon Talim in Tokyo yesterday. A powerful typhoon ripped into southern Japan, dumping torrential rain, grounding hundreds of domestic flights and halting train services.
UK lowers terror threat level after second arrest

London, Reuters

Britain's foreign minister Boris Johnson accused of ‘backseat driving’ on Brexit.

Boris Johnson was accused of ‘backseat driving’ on Brexit by Britain’s foreign minister in comments that roamed widely beyond his ministerial brief.

Johnson on Saturday published a 4,300-word newspaper article that roamed well beyond his ministerial brief. Johnson, however, said she did not want to extend the negotiation with the EU, saying, “It is the job of the rest of us to make sure that Johnson was still quoting a ‘very useful’ article but is ‘absolutely clear to everyoneations. The pair — Ronald Jones, 71 — have been honored for their work with children in the last 40 years.

An explosion in the Lon- don subway early Friday injured more than 20 people. Trump on Twitter blamed ‘sick and demented people who were in the sights of Britain.

May: Trump visit still on despite terror terrors

Washingon, AFP

British Prime Minister Theresa May has insisted a terrorist attack in London has not delayed her much-vaunted trip to the US.

May said the point of the his- torical ‘special relationship’ between the two countries was “to make sure that we do manage to peacefully co-exist’.

As an example, she cited the sharp differences over the Paris climate change agreement. ‘I'm very alarmed,’ she said, adding that she hoped the US administration would be ‘able to find a way for America to come back into the agreement.’

If Forza Italia won power, Berlusconi would introduce a flat tax and eliminate inheri- tance and wealth taxes. He would cut pensions, offer pensions to housewives and give more to impoverished families.

FORERMORE Prime Minister Sil- vis Berlusconi, Italy’s former prime minister, said his policy priorities yesterday for the forthcoming election, por- raying himself as a pro-European moderate.

Speaking at a meeting of his Forza Italia (Go Italy) party, Berlusconi said he wanted to lead the group into the national balloting which is expected by next March, promising hefty tax cuts if the centre-right coalition wins.

Subsumed by sex scan- dals and legal woes, Berlusconi largely avoided politics after being ousted from power in 2011. But he has emerged from the shadows this year and Forza Italia, with its tradi- tional rightist allies the Northern League and Brothers of Italy, have combined backing of some 35 percent, according to polls, making them the largest single bloc.

The downgrading of the threat level from ‘critical’ to ‘severe’ means authorities no longer believe an attack is imminent. The ‘severe’ classification, the second highest level of alert, is based on the assess- ment that an attack is ‘highly likely.’

A police officer stands outside a property being searched after a man was arrested in connection with an explosion on a London underground train, in Stanwell, near Heathrow airport, Britain, yesterday.

The second suspect was being held under the Terrorism Act and ques- tioned at a south London police station Sunday, but has been neither charged nor identified.

Police have launched an urgent search of a property in the south- western suburb of Stanwell that authorities said was linked to the latest arrest. They are searching a home in south-western London where neighbours were evacuated on Sat- urday. During the attack on a train near the Parsons Green station, a bomb hidden in a plastic bucket inside a supermarket freezer bag only partially exploded, sparring the city much carnage.

The second highest level “severe” classification, also means authorities no longer believe an attack is imminent. The ‘severe’ classification, the second highest level of alert, is based on the assess- ment that an attack is ‘highly likely.’

Home Secretary Amber Rudd said Tuesday that police and security services are ‘making good progress’ in the sprawling investigation into the attack on a subway train that injured 30 people during the rush hour.

Build cautious that the inves- tigation was ongoing. Police announced another arrest early yesterday, offering the clearest indication to date that police do not believe the person who planted the device was alone.

The first person was arrested on Monday but police widened into custody Saturday in the depar- ture area of Tenerife’s main airport. The Metropolitan Police force said a 29-year-old man was arrested Saturday shortly before midnight in the west London borough of Hounslow. The force said the man was arrested in connection with an explosion on a London Underground train, in Stanwell, near Heathrow airport, Britain, yesterday.

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Spain: police seize pro-Catalan pamphlets

Madrid
AP

Spanish police yesterday seized 1.3 million pamphlets and posters supporting Catalonia’s independence referendum, the latest move to try to block the vote.

Catalonia’s pro-separatist government is determined to hold a referendum on October 1, despite being banned by Spain’s Constitutional Court.

The documents were seized at an advertising distribution company near Barcelona, the Spanish interior ministry said in a statement.

Among the documents were about 700,000 leaflets promoting a “yes” vote in the referendum and 370,000 flyers with logos of the Catalan government along with 138,000 posters for the far-left Podemos (Powers) party.

Faced with a determined Catalan government, Spain has mulled its efforts to crack down on the referendum, having previously seized propaganda material and threatened to arrest Catalan mayors who allow the vote.

Also on Sunday, hundreds of people attended a meeting in Madrid to show support for the referendum, some waving pro-independence leaflets.

The meeting was held in a small theatre in the central district of Lavapies after a court halted its original venue amid concerns over terrorism.

“We need your solidarity now more than ever. What we are experiencing today is a true breakdown in democratic process,” a woman told the audience.

Outside the meeting, some chanted “Freedom of expression,” “Right to decide” and “We are not afraid” under the watch of several police officers.

“This is no longer a question of Catalans and Spaniards, it is a question of the quality of our democracy,” Maria Jose Hernandez, a 40-year-old graphic designer who said she was coming to Madrid from Galicia, said.

4 US tourists attacked with acid in France

Paris
AP

Four young American tourists attacked with acid yesterday in the French city of Marseille by a woman who has been arrested, the Marseille prosecutor’s office said.

Two of the tourists were injured in the attack in the city’s main Saint Charles train station and one of them in the city’s main hospital.

The attack could not make any extremist threats or declarations during the attack.

She said she did not release any further details about the suspects or the victims, including where in the United States the tourists were from.

The Marseille fire department was alerted after 10:30 a.m. and dispatched four vehicles and 14 firefighters to the train station, a department spokeswoman said.

“Two of the Americans were slightly injured” with acid but did not receive emergency medical treatment at muses at the hospital, a spokeswoman said.

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Trump to make maiden UN speech today

NY prepares for ‘Super Bowl of security’

UN provides Cuba with food aid after Irma rips up coast

UN World Food Programme Executive Director David M Beasley (centre) poses for a photo with children while visiting the Jaimanitas neighborhood of Havana that was affected by Hurricane Irma, yesterday.

US looks to work with Paris climate accord ‘partners’, says Tillerson

After a succession of misfires on the UN climate front, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said yesterday that the Trump administration was ready to work with other international actors to reach a deal on curbing climate change. Tillerson said that the US was a member of the UN, which was still the ‘most effective forum’ to reach a deal, and that the US would work with others to bring about such a deal.

New York AFP

US and China, the world’s two biggest greenhouse gas emitters, have been failing to make progress on climate change. Tillerson said that the US would work with others to bring about a deal, and that the US was a member of the UN, which was still the ‘most effective forum’ to reach a deal.

Washington AFP

The US is city of St Louis remains on edge after Irma rips up coast

The US city of St Louis remains on edge yesterday after a second night of at-times violent protests over the acquittal of a white St Louis police officer in the death of an unarmed black man. The US’ National Guard had been called in to help the police keep order.

Chicago AFP

A Trump adviser, who was one of the former Republican National Committee chairmen and has been a vocal cheerleader for the president, has said that Trump needs to work with Congress to get his agenda moving. The adviser, who is not named, said that Trump needs to work with Congress to get his agenda moving.

New York AFP

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President Donald Trump will be on hand today and tomorrow when he will address the body of world leaders for the first time. It was not immediately clear whether he would stay at his Manhattan penthouse about a mile away from United Nations headquarters or sleep at his golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey.

NY prepares for ‘Super Bowl of security’

New York Reuters

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The Trump hypnosis mock video of golf ball seen striking Hillary Clinton

The video, retrieved by several investigators of高尔夫球事件, was shot on a golf course hitting a golf ball from behind the stumps of the US President’s Twitter feed in real time. White House sources said yesterday that Clinton was fulfilling "Pushed What Happened," her new book about the 2016 presidential election, with Trump, resuming his campaign attack of "Crooked Hillary." The video, retrieved by several investigators of golf ball hitting, was shot on a golf course hitting a golf ball from behind the stumps of the US President’s Twitter feed in real time. White House sources said yesterday that Clinton was fulfilling "Pushed What Happened," her new book about the 2016 presidential election, with Trump, resuming his campaign attack of "Crooked Hillary."
Indian magazine praises Al Kawari’s candidacy

H ealing the credentials of Qatar’s candidate for UNESCO’s top position, H.E Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kawari, Indian magazine. Indian Destination has noted that Qatar’s candidate appears to be the strongest contender.

According to international media and political observers all over the world, Qatar’s candidate appears to be the strongest candidate. The reason is Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kawari’s highest credentials. He is a very qualified candidate and has a record of long and successful diplomatic career too. He is a popular figure not only in the local world but also in Europe and Asia as well,” said Indian Destination.

The position of the UNESCO Director-General has never been filled by an Arab. Dr Al-Kawari has been focusing on Qatar’s efforts in cooperation with the UN to launch the Educational Children programme that helped in the education of 10 million children around the world, promoting their education, particularly in Africa, will receive special attention as a cornerstone of development cooperation between UNESCO and the African Union to achieve the best outcomes.

Recently, Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kawari won the capital of India and shared his ideas, vision and mission for UNESCO with the media. He started with his concerns about the current status of UNESCO and his vision after the victory: “Over seven billion inhabitants call Earth home. How many of them are illiterate? How many actually benefit from proper education? UNESCO is facing a responsibility of historical importance. He pointed that it is our duty to massively magnify its engagement towards education.

The Indian public authority also noted that Al-Kawari has said that he has been working through his diplomatic ties on encouraging countries that haven’t paid their financial dues to the organization to pay them as well as to create attractive UNESCO programmes in the fields of education and culture to encourage strategic sponsors and partners. He also proposed a forum-like conference to discuss means of solving problems and finding proper solutions. Adding that he will talk with the United States to discuss its respect for UNESCO and towards UNESCO in terms of achieving the organization’s goal of global peace.

UNESCO has a significant role in combating terrorism, the Qatari candidate noted. The international military action isn’t enough and UNESCO has a major role in this regard because terrorism can’t be eradicated without overcoming poverty and ignorance, boosting awareness of the importance of education and spreading multiculturalism.

Dr. Al-Kawari said that Qatar nominated him out of its belief in the role of UNESCO in stabilizing peace as well as the organization’s interest in human heritage.

Qatar hosted in 2015 the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee to protect monument and human heritage and donated $30m at the time.

He emphasized that although it is the first time that Qatari candidate has an important position, he recalled that he does not only represent his country but also the whole Arab world with this candidacy.

“UNESCO is going through a very big financial crisis, but this is not a political problem. If there are no political solutions, it will be very difficult for us to solve economic problems,” said Al-Kawari.

He stressed that he will work to bring back the United States as an active member of the organization, assuring that the return of Americans will not only benefit UNESCO, but will help to obtain better tools to face the real threats of today’s conflicts and terrorism.

We want to fight terrorism and the United States is one of the countries that are at the forefront of this fight,” said Al-Kawari, who said that this right is not only fought with military means but also with education.

“If we do not solve the problems of poverty, the problems related to respect for culture, then we will not be able to fight terrorism. UNESCO has been created to protect the passions of humanity and to defend themselves against fanatical thoughts and discourses.

His vision and also ensures the preservation of the world’s tangible and intangible culture, where the forces are trying to destroy. The world heritage is a part of the human memory and those harming it are harming our collective cultural heritage.”

10,000 students attend Awqaf’s Holy Quran classes

Qatar University has announced adding new courses related to blockade imposed on Qatar in the program of law, sociology and media. As President Dr Hassam Al-Deraami yesterday announced that Qatar University was launching four new courses related to the blockade which would be optional.

The new courses would include: A course related to the economic aspect of the blockade and the College of Arts and Sciences will get two courses media and social sciences related to the blockade; he said, while addressing a press conference to announce the academic accreditation of four colleges of Education (IEED), Engineering (IEECE), Health Sciences (IHSQ) and Cultural Heritage (IHC). Qatar University is unveiling a new program about food security, cyber security and transport in a bid to meet the requirements of local and major markets in public and private sector amid assuming the economic impact of the blockade.

Qatar University also showed its readiness to help local farmers in sharing experiences of setting up good cooling system for their goods-houses. The details were given by the official of Qatar University in a press conference yesterday to announce the new courses approved by the university.

The College of Engineering of Qatar University received requests from government institutions to launch specialized courses in their specializations. The College received communications from Qatar Development Bank and state security agency about launching two programs – agricultural science and cyber security,” said Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr Khalifa Al Khalifa. “We are conducting a feasibility study to launch the programs. It could be bachelor’s courses or diplomas as per the needs of the institutions’ he added.

Al Khalifa said that the College of Engineering is also in touch with the Ministry of Municipality and Environment for launching a new program in water and cultural science. “The College of Engineering has good experience related to cooling system as it was setup to implement peace, so we can provide professional help,” he added.

The College of Health and Science is also working to launch new programs in food safety and processing. “The Ministry of Public Health requested to Qatar University to offer programs on food safety and processing,” said ChS Human Nutrition Department Head Dr Tahra El Obeid. “The college will submit the proposals for approval next week,” she added.

Plan to evaluate schools

The Department of Assessment in the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Doha, is preparing to evaluate 40 public schools. 24 for boys and 16 for girls, after completing its plans for the new academic year 2017-2018.

The Department has established internal units to review the evaluation system, based on the observations and suggestions of experts and local administrators, in line with the latest national and global accreditation systems. The unit will continue to produce the final evaluation manual and apply it in the next academic year 2018-2019, in order to give a longer period to evaluate the updated procedures.

MEC spots 119 violations in August

The inspection campaign held by representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Commerce (MEC) in August resulted in the seizure and issuance of 119 violations, which include the non-compliance of products with prices of vegetables and fruits bulletin, non-display of product and service prices, non-display in Arabic and non-issuance of receipts in Arabic.

The violations also included failure to display the original prices alongside the discounted prices approved by the concerned management, not complying to receive all explanatory statements relating to the offered commodity, not describing advertising or playing the item in a manner that contains false or deceptive data, non-existence of receipts and failure to add cards on discounted products.

The intensive inspections are part of the Ministry’s keenness to regulate and monitor the markets and commercial activities in the country with the aim of controlling illegal prices and detecting violations to protect consumer rights to monitor suppliers were abide by the obligations stipulated by Lase No. 08 of 2008 on consumer protection. The penalties included administrative closure and financial fines which vary between QR5,000 and QR50,000 according to the laws and decisions governing the work of consumer protection departments.

The Ministry confirmed it will be those not complying to the consumer protection law and its executive regulations.

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