Govt decision halves rents in logistics areas

The Peninsula

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Nasser Al Thani has issued a decision to reduce the rental value by 50% for all investors for next two years (2018-2019) in the logistics areas - Economic Zones Company - established in southern parts of the country.

Accordingly, the rental values will be reduced from QR40 to QR20 per square metre. The step has come upon the directives of Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and the recommendations made by the Ministerial Group to support, motivate and encourage the private sector to increase its contribution to the economic development in the country.

The Prime Minister has issued several decisions and directives to various ministries and government departments to support investment in the State and provide a wide range of incentives to the private sector to support local industries and increase production to ensure the provision of various commodities in local markets. It has also been decided to provide more exemptions to stimulate investors to speed up the completion of their projects.

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QIA among 10 biggest wealth funds

Sachin Kumar The Peninsula

Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), the sovereign wealth fund of Qatar, is among the 10 sovereign wealth funds in the world. The fund, with over $320bn assets as of September 2017, is at the ninth position in the ‘Sovereign Wealth Fund Rankings’ by the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute. Qatar, where the citizens have the highest per capita income in the world, is the largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the world.

A sovereign wealth fund is a state-owned investment fund that invests in real and financial assets such as stocks, bonds, real estate, precious metals, or in alternative investments such as private equity fund or hedge funds.

QIA aims to diversify its portfolio, which is concentrated in Europe. Building on the nearly $30bn invested in the US since 2015, QIA has committed to investing another $15bn and expanding the portfolio to include infrastructure projects, Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Thani, CEO of QIA had said in July this year during his US visit.

Activists launch campaign to boycott UAE

The Peninsula

A group of human rights activists has launched the International Campaign to Boycott UAE, it was announced at a think-tank workshop attended by dozens of groups of human rights defenders, campaigners and victims of UAE’s discriminatory laws.

The Campaign will kick off on October 11. Various activist groups have been formed in Paris, Brussels, Berlin, London, Rome, Madrid, and New York.

Qatar economy will remain resilient: QNB

The Peninsula

Despite the ongoing blockade against Qatar, the country’s economy will prove resilient. While the blockade initially disrupted some economic activity, its impact has dissipated, QNB said yesterday. Overall, the banking sector remains resilient with high asset quality and strong capitalisation.

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Important Announcement

Qatar Railways Company urges all Contractors and Engineering Consulting Companies in the State of Qatar to exercise caution when conducting excavation works, topographic surveys, and earth wires installation in the vicinity or on top of Qatar Rail stations, Doha Metro tunnels, or Lusail Tram. Every third party needs to obtain the necessary permits and approvals from Qatar Railways Company.

The company also conducting any unauthorized works that might put the safety of people, facilities, or tunnels at risk will make the violators subject to legal action.

Contact information:
Department name: Technical Interface Department
Telephone number: 44331242 / 44331579
E-mail: noc@qr.com.qa / ro@qr.com.qa
QR Address: Building no. 75. Suhaim Bin Hamad St.
(St. no. 231), Zone 38, Doha, Qatar
GDA’s first meet to put spotlight on food security

The Global Dryland Alliance (GDA) is an initiative by the Emir to establish an international organisation to face food insecurity consequences, negative environmental and economic impacts associated with climate change.

The conference will be held at the begins on November 7, and aims to enhance and to put the food security at the centre of the global threat environment. It will also help to select the sectors which must be taken during World Cup 2022. Participants in the conference will review the global threat environment, its implications for the security of future major public events and event critical infrastructure resilience.

The Project Stadia is hosting this event to discuss the legislation, physical security and cyber security. This will be discussed by international experts specialising in ensuring such big events. Different bodies and entities are participating in this conference from various governments, private sector, civil society, and academic sectors.

The Project Stadia which is founded by Qatar was established by Interpol in 2012. It was set up to promote the highest standards of excellence and good practice platform to help Interpol member countries to protect and enhance community and cybersecurity preparations for major sporting events.

Officials taking part at the meeting

The conference is expected to leave a permanent legacy that many countries in the world can benefit from. It because some countries which have experience of organising big sporting events are participating in this conference which will benefit other countries to take lessons from their experience in this field.

The conference was held in Doha, where some countries which have experience of organising big sporting events are participating in this conference which will benefit other countries.

Qatar takes part in the 87th session of Arab Labor Organization

The 87th session of the Arab Labor Organization (ALO) conference kicked off here yesterday under the patronage of the General Director of Public Security, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, will witness the signing of the 87th sessions, and an item on the agenda of the meeting, the 87th session of ALO Board of Directors and reports on the outcomes of the 26th meeting of the ALO Board of Directors and reports on the outcomes of the 44th session of the Arab Labor Conference last April, in addition to discussing a number of financial and administrative issues.

Director-General said that the conference will review a number of important items and reports, including a report on the situation of Palestinian workers in the occupied Arab territories, a follow-up on the implementation of the decisions of the 87th session of the ALO Board of Directors and reports on the outcomes of the recommendations of the 26th meeting of the organisations and follow-up committee. It held in Cairo in July, in addition to the outcomes of the 105th session of the Alliance (GDA) is an initiative by the Emir to establish an international organisation to face food insecurity consequences, negative environmental and economic impacts associated with climate change.

The conference, being held under the auspices of HH Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, will witness the signing of the foundations of the new organisation which will be headquartered in Doha. The GDA is an initiative by HH the Emir to establish an international organisation to face food insecurity consequences, negative environmental and economic impacts associated with climate change.

GDA aims to be an international organisation to combat food insecurity and anti-food developments that are shared, food security problems and exchange expertise in times of crises.

The Alliance aims to work with local, regional and international partners to identify, domesticate and implement solutions for agricultural, water, and energy challenges of dryland countries. GDA will promote partnerships with the public and private sectors to fund and implement programmes and projects of the Member States in different fields related to food security.

GDA has become a crucial issue given their space in the global United Nation agenda. The GDA’s new classification, drylands exist in 51 countries which are home to almost 3 billion people; a third of the world’s population.

During the 2020 Millennium Development Goals Review Summit the UN General Assembly has expressed its concern about lack of progress in regards to eradication of poverty and hunger in dryland countries, without whose efforts the world’s hunger and poverty line.

Through cooperation with countries and organisations committed to ensure food security for dryland inhabitants, GDA will work to fill the gaps between research and food security policies to help dryland countries enhance their food security and access reliable sources of food, water, energy, seeds, and fertilisers.

Ambassador Al Dafa highlighted the importance of international cooperation being “the best way to develop new solutions based on research and technological innovations, and improve policies and successful applications in the field of food security.”

He added: “GDA will complement the efforts of existing international organisations and will not duplicate their work or compete in the field of food security.”

The conference brought representatives from around the world to discuss the legislation, physical security and cyber security for those countries which have experience of organising big sporting events are participating in this conference which will benefit other countries.

Security conference to focus on best practices during sporting events

The Supreme Committee for Qatar 2022 World Cup (SC) will host the first major security and safety conference in Doha next month. The SC organises the conference in collaboration with Interpol.

The conference will be held at the begins on November 7, and aims to enhance and to put the food security at the centre of the global threat environment. It will also help to select the sectors which must be taken during World Cup 2022. Participants in the conference will review the global threat environment, its implications for the security of future major public events and event critical infrastructure resilience.

Activists launch global campaign to boycott UAE for discriminatory laws

A group of human rights activists launched a global campaign to boycott UAE for its discriminatory laws in a think-tank workshop attended by dozens of human rights defenders, campaigning countries of ALO’s discriminatory laws.

The International Campaign to Support the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) has launched its campaign in response to United Arab Emirates (UAE) never-ending human rights violations. UAE has been committing war crimes in Yemen in addition to being the hub of modern slavery and torture, the country has grimly failed in respecting human rights. Besides, UAE is considered as one of the leading countries in “human trafficking” and the “hub of money laundering” and key countries of financing terrorism, while the UAE has become one of the main countries of financing terrorist groups and the UAE’s support to the terrorist groups in the Middle East & North Africa.

The World Bank report of 2016, report criticised UAE’s human rights record suggesting there is no Freedom of Expression while its jails are considered as places of Exile, Detention, Torture, and Mistreatment of Detainees. It also stated that UAE is a member of migrant Worker’s Organisation.

The report has also criticised UAE’s war on Yemen as well as lack of justice for UAE residents.

The campaign endeavours to end war on Yemen, Save the Humans, and ending Slavery including Human Trafficking. The campaign also seeks to bring justice to Asian and other Labourers who are abused and lack their basic rights.

The campaign urges to put an end to the UAE’s support for the terrorist groups across the Middle East & North Africa. They said: “Our campaign employs various mechanisms to pressure UAE Government.

Our mechanism includes campaigning efforts in Boycott UAE’s government and public sector organisations.” They stressed that its only boycott and Isolation will push UAE to respect human rights.

Qatar’s Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Bader Al Dafa, underlined the importance of international cooperation being “the best way to develop new solutions based on research and technological innovations, and improve policies and successful applications in the field of food security.”

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**Patient safety on focus at WISH training**

**Fazeena Saleem**

The Peninsula

With an aim to promote the delivery of safe and high-quality care, many faculty members and students in the healthcare industry were provided with comprehensive training in Doha last week.

The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH)’s second edition of the Academy for Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety hosted more than 150 faculty and student participants over five days at the Education City.

The programme was designed to teach students best tools and strategies that can be adopted to reduce harm to patients.

The faculty members learnt at the academy how to effectively teach students best practices around patient safety. The programme was designed to teach participants through discussions, case studies and taking part in various practical demonstrations.

Participants included

- Qatar-based faculty and health science students from Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, University of Calgary in Qatar, College of North Atlantic, Qatar and Qatar University as well as members of staff from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), experts from Hamad Medical Corporation and Sidra Medical and Research Center.

It was held in collaboration with MoPH and the US-based MedStar Health.

The programme aims to design, create and provide exceptional training for aspiring patient safety advocates, who shared lessons with colleagues from different backgrounds with the aim of bridging the gap between research and practice.

The second phase, tailored for students, aimed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to become leaders in patient safety.

The programme’s second phase is part of the Academy for Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety’s five-day programme aimed at faculty and addressed how to effectively teach students best practices around patient safety.

Maha El Akoum, Research and Development Manager at the Academy of Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety, told The Peninsula in reply to a query on the impact of WISH, told the grab the opportunity to collaborate.

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For the second year in Doha, the AELPS has a future generation of patient safety leaders.

It identifies a group of exceptional student participants committed to leading in education and patient safety?

I am hopeful that each participant will leave this training with lessons they can pass on to others and contribute towards avoiding patient harm, thereby enhancing the healthcare system in Qatar.

Ms. El Akoum added, “The academy will provide learners with the knowledge and experiences that promote discipline, competence and a sense of personal and societal responsibility for the delivery of safe, high-quality patient care”.

For the second year in Doha, the AELPS has a future generation of patient safety leaders from different backgrounds with the aim of bridging the gap between research and practice.

Huda Amer Al Kathiri, Acting Director of Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Department at the MoPH, said, “The Ministry of Public Health is proud to co-sponsor the Academy of Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety 2017. I am very confident that everyone attending this training can be a change agent toward the improvement of quality and safety of patients.

I believe that we must all work together to achieve this goal, and I am hopeful that each participant will leave this training with lessons they can pass on to others and contribute towards avoiding patient harm, thereby enhancing the healthcare system in Qatar.”

The Academy of Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety is part of the Academy of Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety’s five-day programme aimed at faculty and addressed how to effectively teach students best practices around patient safety.

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The Peninsula

**Ministry holds workshop to improve national curriculum**

By Fawzia Al Khater

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education held a training workshop on the technical approach of reviewing and improving the national curriculum in Qatar.

The workshop discussed the technical steps of the review process and the procedures to be implemented in the current review process.

It also touched on the models used in the review process based on the standard framework of the educational curriculum in Qatar.

After that, Majda Mohammad Darwish, a member of the executive team of the project, went over the technical approach of the review process, noting that the strategic direction of the project was to ensure a comprehensive approach in the national educational curriculum from a standard-based curriculum to a formative one.

The workshop discussed the technical steps of the review process and the procedures to be implemented in the current review process.

Fawzia Al Khater, Assistant Under-Secretary for Educational Affairs at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, reiterated during a speech the importance of the session and the need to join efforts so as to finish the training project in the best way possible.

Sheikh Abdulla had also announced that QIA will open an office in San Francisco to bring their team closer to hi-tech and tech investors in the Silicon Valley area.

According to the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute, of total assets held by Sovereign Wealth Fund around the world, $4.2 trillion’s worth were held by oil and gas-related funds. As of September 2007, sovereign wealth funds around the world had amassed $7.4 trillion in assets under management, up from $3.4 trillion almost a decade earlier, according to the Institute. Since 2005, at least 40 sovereign wealth funds have been created. The US based Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute is a global corporate analysis public asset owners such as sovereign wealth funds and other long term governmental investors.
The Peninsula


to help people discover what their heart health is like and to provide them with information on how it can be improved.

Interventional Cardiologist, Chairman of the Al Ahli Heart Centre were present at the inauguration of awareness activities.

A collection of stands at the Al Ahli Hospital lobby helped visitors to test out factors such as blood pressure, pulse, weight, height, body mass index (BMI), blood sugar and cholesterol level, and how the data relate to an individual's age and gender that influence cardiac health. Visitors who took these tests found that they are at risk of heart problems were advised to undergo further tests to measure if they are at risk of cardiovascular diseases. Visitors were also advised on how to prevent heart disease as well as the provision of education and information on lifestyle choices for good heart health.

“The World Heart Day is significant to the Al Ahli Hospital because we are promoting better heart health care for the community. So we see it as an opportunity to spread awareness by telling that prevention is better than cure. We celebrate this day by offering free tests to people. Some people look healthy but they may have high blood pressure or may have a high cholesterol level. Even if you look healthy, if you practice wrong diet, you can cause high cholesterol, blood pressure, and cause heart attacks at any time. So screening and following a healthy lifestyle is very important, “Saleh Hammad, told The Peninsula.

World Heart Day is the biggest global awareness platform for cardiovascular disease (CVD) which includes heart disease and stroke. Its aim is to help people live longer, better, more heart healthy lives. CVD is the world's number one killer and is responsible for 1 in 3 premature deaths, and by 2030 this is expected to rise to 1 in 2 million.

The good news is that we can help prevent heart disease by making just a few simple daily changes, like eating and drinking more healthily, getting more exercise and stopping smoking.

The Peninsula

Ooredoo business broadband to boost competitiveness

Ooredoo yesterday announced it has won three accolades at the Middle East Investor Relations Awards 2017. Ooredoo won ‘Best Corporate Social Responsibility Program’, ‘Best Technology Initiative’ and ‘Best Investor Relations Website’ at the ceremony.

Waleed Al Sayed, Chief Executive Officer, Ooredoo Group, said: “We are grateful that our efforts to engage effectively with our shareholders and the wider investor community have been recognised. As our investors and market participants have reached us consistently in all that we do – from our products and services, networks and customer services to market relationships. We are thankful to all market participants for expressing their trust in us through these awards from MEIRA.”

Since MEIRA’s first awards ceremony in 2009, Ooredoo has been featured on the nomination list for best practice in IR representing the company’s long-standing commitment to adopt fair and timely disclosure. Transparency has always been a priority for Ooredoo.

The Peninsula

375,682 subscribers use Metrash2

The Ministry of Interior issued recently statistics showing that the number of transactions done by Metrash2 last week are 41,693 and inquiry transactions stand at 19,213. The Ministry added that the number of Metrash2 subscribers have reached to 375,682 subscribers. Metrash2 is available in six languages including Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Urdu and Malayalam. There are 211 electronic services are available through Metrash2 and the website of the Ministry. Among the services which are available on Metrash2 are visa, residence, community police, renewal of driving license, traffic violation, issue or replacement for damaged driving license, travel exit permit and transfer vehicle ownership.

The Peninsula

Al Ahli Hospital activities promote cardiac health

The Peninsula

The Peninsula

Al Ahli Hospital officials touring the stand of awareness activities held to promote cardiac health on Thursday at the hospital lobby.
The tour highlighted the airport’s premium facilities and services, including visits to Al Safwa Lounge, Al Mourjan Lounge, the Airport Hotel and Vitality Spa. The tour also showcased the spectacular art pieces placed throughout the airport by Vice-President Commercial Abdulaziz Al Masri under the supervision of the Supreme Committee fund. We are firmly committed to investing in a way that ensures everybody can access it and enjoy the opportunities it offers. The visit also included a family-friendly visit to the airport to experience the trip of a lifetime for millions of international passengers who will be arriving in Qatar in 2022.

SC youth panel takes HIA tour to see facilities

Hamad International Airport (HIA), in collaboration with the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SCL), organized an exclusive tour for a panel of youth on September 20, to showcase the travel experience through the award-winning airport. The SC is inspiring local youth participation by allowing a group of students from local high schools and universities to be involved in the preparation towards the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

The visit to HIA is relevant as HIA is one of the most significant entities that will ensure the success of Qatar 2022. The tour aimed to showcase the airport’s facilities and services which will allow the country to welcome football fans from all around the world to attend this important event.

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The Peninsula

HBIKU’s Biomedical Research program unforgettable for interns

The Peninsula

A new clinic that provides a multidisciplinary approach to breast cancer care, known as triple assessment, is improving the outcomes for patients with breast cancer in Qatar. The Breast Care Clinic, opened at Hamad Medical Corporation’s National Center for Cancer Care and Research (HCCCR) earlier this year, provides patients with a special evaluation that is currently the international gold standard for breast cancer diagnosis.

It involves a series of diagnostic tests, including a clinical breast examination, breast imaging, and a core biopsy if a lump is found. ‘Triple assessment is a one-stop shop which better serves a patient’s needs as it reduces the time required for diagnosis and speeds up the breast cancer treatment process,’ said Dr Anam Al Obaidi, Deputy Chairperson of Clinical Imaging Services at NCCCR. "It is valuable in the diagnostic and treatment of breast cancer. Our clinic is one of the few in the region that provides this comprehensive approach, and we are proud to be able to offer it to our patients."
Qatar Cancer Society (QCS) has launched ‘Let’s Fight Hand By Hand’ campaign which aims to raise awareness about breast cancer to coincide with the international awareness month in October.

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death in women worldwide, accounting for 39 percent of all cancers among women in Qatar, Hiba Al Nasar, a health educator, said. “The risk factors of breast cancer include: family history of breast cancer, previous personal history of breast cancer, being overweight, having first child after 35 or more lumps in the armpit, breast that may feel different or more lumps in the breast, changes in breast shape or size, breast skin changes, such as redness, dimpling, elevation of veins or itching, nipple discharge, dimpling, hotness, visible veins or itching. Hormonal changes, smoking, drinking, breast feeding for at least six months, do regular screening, avoid exposure to radiation and avoid feminine hormones as much as you can,” she said.

“Women above 45 years are advised to do screening every three years as part of the national cancer awareness programme. Screening Service for Life and appointments can be fixed by calling its hot line on 8001112.”

Ashghal executing 18 projects worth QR4bn in Al Khor

Ashghal’s President, Dr. Eng. Saad bin Ahmed Al Muhammadi, with a number of Ashghal officials and members of the Central Municipal Council (CMC), including Vice-Chairman of CMC, Hamad Lahedian Al Muhammadi, and representative of Al Khor in CMC, Nasser bin Ibrahim Al Muhammadi, showing maps of the projects to be implemented in Al Khor.

Ashghal executing 18 projects worth QR4bn in Al Khor

QCS raises awareness on breast cancer

The Peninsula

Cross the Middle East and Africa region, official importer and dealers of new Maserati vehicles, will now offer a five-year warranty and service package on all cars sold, capping the auto in the luxury sports car segment.

With distinctive Italian style and breed talking design features – and now with this value-added offer for the region, the brand is further unfolding its key characteristics of design, exclusivity, and performance.

The comprehensive service contract which is available across the range, also covers engine oil and air filters, front and rear brake pads and disc kits as well as drive belts in addition to few select consumables.

Maserati customers can choose from the sports executive saloon Ghibli, the flagship sedan – Quattroporte, the sports GranTurismo; the four-seater convertible – GranCabrio; and the only SUV in the range – Levante.

“Maserati aims to offer exceptional after-sales care and experience as we recognise this is such a crucial part of vehicle ownership. With this new package, we are cementing our commitment to our drivers further. “Our new vehicles only need to be serviced once every 20,000 kilometres or 24 months, whichever comes first – offering our valued clientele peace of mind on our vehicle craftsmanship and performance. However, with this additional bump-to-bumper warranty and comprehensive service package we aim to give our drivers even more value when considering the total cost of ownership,” comments Vito Caprio, After-sales Director for Maserati Middle East and Africa.

“Maserati will offer exceptional after-sales care and experience as we recognise this is such a crucial part of vehicle ownership. With this new package, we are cementing our commitment to our drivers further.”

“The point our vehicles leave the many showrooms across the region is not the point where Maserati experience ends – in fact – it is the very opposite,” said Luca Delfino, General Manager for Maserati Middle East and Africa.

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“There’s never been a better time to buy cars sporting the iconic Trident badge from the Modena-based automaker. For more details and information on the offer, visit your nearest showroom.
Tunisia’s first ever ultra-marathon held

Participants run during the Ultra-Marathon El Djedran marathon in the desert near the southwestern Tunisian city of Tozeur, yesterday.

AAB launches 2018 Hilux special edition powered by TRD

The new Hilux is tougher, more stylish, and more youthful and innovative.

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Tunisia’s first ever ultra-marathon held

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Meet the man who can pick up a bullet with his nose

Abdelhakim Mohamed of Morocco.

They are the most sinister, upsetting images I have seen in my entire life,” veteran war correspondent Jeremy Bowen, the head of the jury, said.

Iraqi photographer wins Bayeux-Calvados award

The Photo College yesterday received the fourth batch of 98 students who passed all exams and necessary medical tests. The new batch was welcomed by major Fahad Saad Al Sohail, Director of Training Department. Al Sohail hoped that the new batch will achieve in ambitions and the day of entering the police college is a historic day in the students’ life because “it will change their life from civil to military.”

He also said that police college was receiving the batches since it was opened in 2014, and all the programs are ready as well as the trainers, and uniforms.

A series of bilateral meetings were held with a number of foreign companies interested in the opportunities offered by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce and companies interested in the sports sector in the State of Qatar, and a number of experts from international sports personalities.

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He also said that police college was receiving the batches since it was opened in 2014, and all the programs are ready as well as the trainers, and uniforms.

A series of bilateral meetings were held with a number of foreign companies interested in the opportunities offered by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce and companies interested in the sports sector in the State of Qatar, and a number of experts from international sports personalities.
Last major assault on IS in Iraq-Syria border

Baghdad

AFP

The "final large fight" in Iraq against the Islamic State group will take place in the border region with Syria, a general in a US-led coalition against the jihadists said yesterday.

He spoke two days after Iraqi forces recaptured the northern town of Hawija, the centre of one of the jihadist group's two remaining strongholds in the country.

"The next fight and the final large fight will be in the Middle of Euphrates River Valley... on the Iraqi-Syrian border," said Brigadier General Robert Soltos.

"The jihadists are also under pressure in eastern Syria, facing separate offensives by Russian-backed regime forces and a Kurdish-Arab force supported by the US-led coalition." 

Control of the province is a key sticking point in a bitter dispute between Baghdad, the US-led coalition and Western allies, and Moscow's pro-terrorist Syrian regime. 

"We, as the Coalition, are moving quickly to tip," he said.

Sojge said the jihadist group was shifting from a "hit and run" mindset to that of an insurgent group with "sleepers" and "sleeper cells" which could "punch the society". 

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Brexit quagmire

In the political cacophony reverberating across Europe and the larger economic horizon, what has been forgotten is that today’s paradigm term took from a concept or an idea that never materialised. The term Brexit followed Gretexit – a politically and economically charged term that framed the narrative when Greece was staring at bankruptcy and most lenders had written off the south European nation as a lost case. Today, the idea that Britain is going to be out of the reunited European Union seen as a success story by many and a sequence of the failed European Project by others, has crystallised. And so has the idea that the exit of the second largest economy from the bloc is going to leave a messy trail in its aftermath. The signals are clear.

The European Parliament has been debating the terms of Brexit with a tenacity untrivialised by any other subject in the House that often pulls different ways.

The island nation of Britain has been a part of the European Union in a way that can be called an alignment rather than integration. Split from European Union in a way that can be called an aftermath. The signals are clear.

Weakened by the act of referendum, the EU has lost its majesty of 30 million smallholder farmers in Africa, which remains the backbone of the continent’s economy.

Despite the rapid growth in the services sector, agriculture still accounts for more than a third of its GDP. Africa is urbanising rapidly, but agriculture still employs two-thirds of the workforce. Evidence has shown that growth in agriculture is up to 11 times more effective in reducing poverty than growth in any other sector. If we want to end poverty and hunger in Africa by 2030, agriculture needs to be right at the heart of the strategy.

African agriculture and smallholder farmers have too often been forgotten. The result is that Africa, despite the hard work of its farmers, does not grow enough to feed its own people. One in four children under five in the continent’s population is undernourished, a huge barrier to better health and development. There is a direct economic cost, too, with $33bn spent on importing food annually – a figure which could almost triple by 2030 unless Africa increases agricultural productivity.

To compound this, political failures and violent conflicts have put millions of people at risk of starvation. Earlier this year, the UN warned that 20 million people across north-east Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen were at risk of starvation, a humanitarian crisis that is almost entirely man-made. Fortunately, this dismal picture is giving way to signs of progress.

First, over the last decade, agriculture has received growing attention from governments and investors. For example, at last year’s African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) – a forum I helped launch a decade ago – $300m worth of financial, political and policy pledges were made, the largest-ever commitment to the continent’s agriculture. This was a turning point.

Now, we are just getting started. We shall reap what we sow. By supporting Africa’s smallholder farmers, we can build an Africa free from hunger. We can build an Africa free from poverty. We can build an Africa proud to be economically strong and able to feed itself. That is the bountiful harvest that together we can and must achieve.

Building an Africa free from hunger and poverty

Africa is witnessing a quiet revolution, which could help solve the continent’s problems of hunger and poverty and driving economic growth. This transformation is not in sectors like oil and gas, minerals or tourism, which grab global headlines but agriculture, which remains the backbone of the continent’s economy.

The orange-fleshed sweet potato, which has higher levels of vitamin A, is an example of our success. When children do not get enough vitamin A, their vision is damaged, and they risk going blind. Half a cup of sweet potato which has higher levels of vitamin A, is an example of our success. When children do not get enough vitamin A, their vision is damaged, and they risk going blind. Half a cup of sweet potato a day can give children their daily intake of the vitamin.

By supporting Africa’s smallholder farmers, we can build an Africa free from hunger. The result is not only better health, but better economies; experts estimate that undernutrition costs African economies around 10 percent of their GDP annually.

These signs of progress must be built on, and we hope to see improved living of millions of the continent. Africa is taking control of its own agricultural transformation. This is essential if the continent is to ensure African farmers and companies enjoy the full benefits of its growing food market, which is projected to be worth $1 trillion by 2030.

In the end, this progress will only continue if we focus on agriculture as our path to prosperity. Monitor our progress and hold ourselves to account. Fortunately, at the request of African heads of state, there is a review of the progress being carried out right now, which will be presented at the African Union summit in January next year. I believe that it will register considerable progress over the last few years, but yet we are just getting started. We shall reap what we sow. By supporting Africa’s smallholder farmers, we can build an Africa free from hunger. We can build an Africa free from poverty. We can build an Africa proud to be economically strong and able to feed itself. That is the bountiful harvest that together we can and must achieve.

The writer is the founder and Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation and served as the seventh secretary-general of the United Nations. He is the chair emeritus of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa.
The Israeli backing of the Kurdish secession from Iraq is further igniting Arabs’ suspicions that such a move would be a concrete step towards the diminution of Arab influence and power in the Middle East. While Arabs have often treated Kurds as ‘friends of the family’, the Kurds have not. This is a minority group in the region, which has always had a checkered history of relations with the states they have been part of. Thus the scene of Israeli flags flying in Kurdish towns the day before the referendum along with repeated slogans such as ‘We are the second Israel in this region’, suggest an alteration of the Kurdish political culture and an apparent break from the past when Kurdish fighters trained by the Israelis and fought alongside members of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in Beirut in the late seventies and early eighties.

Iraqi children receiving food from a charity in a village on the outskirts of Hawija, yesterday.

Since then Iraq has succeeded, with the help of Kurdish leaders like President Masoud Barzani, to isolate and diminish Kurdish sovereignty and to isolate the Kurdish people. This has not been without a cost, however. The Kurds have had to pay a price in terms of lost autonomy and self-governance. But the price has been worth it, as it has allowed the Kurds to make progress towards a future that is more just and democratic. And it is a future that is worth fighting for, even if it means making difficult decisions along the way. The Kurds have proven that they are willing to do whatever it takes to achieve their goals, and they should be applauded for their commitment to their cause. The international community cannot stand by while the Kurds suffer. It is time for the world to come together and support the Kurds in their quest for a better future. It is the right thing to do, and it is the only thing that will make the Kurds’ struggle worthwhile.
**Turkey-backed rebels in new Syria operation**

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor said Turkish army cranes had begun removing sections of the security wall Turkey has built on the border in preparation for an incursion.

The move comes after Turkey vowed last week that it would launch an operation in Syria to push back rebels who control the northwestern Idlib province.

**Despair and desolation in Iraq’s Hawija**

On the side of the billboard calls for jihad, while the other walls of death for smokestack Iraq’s Hawijia still bears clear signs of its three years under jihadist rule.

Islamic State group jihadists set fire to everything they could before they fled an Iraqi government offensive in the northern town in oil-rich Kirkuk province.

**Impossible to scrap nuclear deal: Rowhani**

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani defended the nuclear deal with Western powers yesterday and said that US President Donald Trump could not undermine it.

Under the 2015 deal, Iran agreed to limit its disputed nuclear programme in return for the easing of economic sanctions.

However, Trump is expected to announce soon that he will withdraw the deal, a step that potentially could cause the accord to unravel.

"In the nuclear negotiations and agreement we reached some benefits that are not reversible. No one can open that back," Mr Trump or anyone else," Rouhani said at a ceremony at Tehran University marking the start of the university academic year, according to state media.

"Even if 10 other Trumps are in power in the US, these are not reversible."

Trump, who has called the pact an "embarassment" and said he will end it, is expected to announce in the next few weeks that he will scrap nuclear deal.

**Mugabe hints at cabinet reshuffle**

Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe yesterday delivered a broad threat to his cabinet amid deepening infighting in Zuma-PF party over succession hints.

"I do my own review to assess who have not pulled up or lived up to expectations in government. In the process some will fall," he told his cabinet ministers during a meeting in Harare.

**Niger buries soldiers killed in terrorist attack**

Niger said yesterday that it had buried 12 soldiers killed in an attack in the country’s north from which the jihadists have been attacking troops in the turbulent area, part of the little-known presence of US military operations.

**Streaking ahead**

Turkish Air Forces’ aviaction team Turkish Stars performs for the 25th anniversary of the team, above the country’s first aviation themed park in Konya, yesterday.

**South Africa revives key apartheid-era musical**

The show, a cautionary tale, enacts a run at the Joburg Theatre today. In 1957, Daniel Kekana stabbed former Johannesburg resident Bantu Hololwana to death for being of different race.

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**Akshileh meets Mulayam for likely patch-up**

Lucknow | IANS

A newly re-elected President of the Nationalist Congress Party and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav yesterday dialed the residence of Samajwadi Party Chief Mulayam Singh Yadav's house and was in talks with him for about an hour, raising hopes of a possible patch-up between the two.

This is his first meeting with his father after being elected as the party chief at the Agia convention of the party on October 5. Mulayam, along with his younger brother Shivpal Singh Yadav, had not attended the convention through a very important national convention—a first in the recent party history.

The political grapevine has it that there is finally some father-son relations, which fell apart in January this year when Akhilesh overawed his father as the party chief and replaced him as the leader. Both in states and camps in both the parties were 'still many knol'. The ice had been broken between the two, raising hopes that realignment of the party might take place soon.

Shroff | IANS

Amitabh Bachchan lent his support to the cause of children and reporting of the issue of child abuse for the festival of lights.

**Bengaluru council exonerates Oommen Chandy in ‘solar scam’**

MALAPPURAM: Reacting to a charge sheet filed over the controversial ‘solar scam’, Oommen Chandy said the party has triumphed in the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat by a substantial margin.

The Additional City Civil and Session’s Court dropped all charges against Chandy made in the case filed by Bengaluru-based businessman MK Kurella, who claimed he had lost Rs25 crore in 2011-12 as he was promised licence and subsidy from both central and state governments for importing solar energy from South Korea.

Kurella had alleged that Chandy had promised ‘everything will be taken care of’.

Last year, the court asked Chandy and four other accused to appear and produce one to pay the amount claimed by Kurella, but Chandy filed a fresh petition challenging the order on the grounds that his version was not heard before pronouncement of the judgment.

After this, Chandy got the production order cancelled and a fresh version in June, and yesterday the court ordered known as Kurella failed to substantiate the charge and dropped the case against the former Chief Minister.

**For the festival of lights**

Women put her hands decorated with henna on the eve of ‘Karva Chauth’ festival known as Husband’s day, in Amritsar, yesterday. During the festival, married women fast and offer prayers seeking the welfare, prosperity, well-being, and longevity of their husbands.

**Festive celebrations**

**Pledge to make India safer for children**

New Delhi | IANS

Nathaniel Lancaster Rich, a Briton and Traffic Enforcement Police, has attracted influential people, including ministers and judges, to take a pledge to make India a safer place for children.

Speaking at the launch of the initiative, Minister for Children and Social Development said: “We have always supported refugees. During the Tibet crisis, Indians helped them. When the Afghan crisis happened, Afghans came here, during the Sri Lanka crisis, Tamils came here. And we kept them for many many years.”

**There will be generational shift in Congress leadership: Khurshid**

MUMBAI: A government-appointed panel for revising India’s Haj policy recommended abolishing subsidy for the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, said Monday.

Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi last year asked Saudi Arabia to allow women to travel as ‘mehram’—a close family member like husband, father or brother—under the flag of the country for Haj without a male relative, prompting a stroage in the impact.

Women before 45, however, can be accompanied by a male family member according to the draft policy that proposes to increase the quota for females to 25%.

Among other recommendations made by the panel headed by former Secretary General of the Communist Party of India Renuka Shinde, setting up a fresh committee was suggested to award death sentence for the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

**New policy recommends quashing Haj subsidies**

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Among other recommendations made by the panel headed by former Secretary General of the Communist Party of India Renuka Shinde, setting up a fresh committee was suggested to award death sentence for women devotees aged over 45 to travel in Haj in a group of four without a male relative.

The proposed policy 2018-22, submitted to Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on September 30, 2021, is expected to be notified and completely remove the subsidies by 2022.

It is advisable that the exonerating of others be followed,” according to the recommendations.

Haj subsidy is given to those who go through the Haj Committee of India and not through Haj facilitators.

The subsidy amount has in the recent years been between Rs650-700.

In a major reform, the draft policy proposes to paradoxical second rule that barred women Haj aspirants to travel without a male relative, a close family member like husband, father or brother as “mehram”.

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Rohingya rebels ready for talks as truce to about to end

Malaysia arrests eight suspected militants

Philippines a breeding ground for terrorists, says suspect in NY plot

Thais urged to tone down fun in run-up to late king’s cremation

M uslim Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) leaders said yesterday they were ready to respond to any move by the Myanmar government but a month-long ceasefire they declared to enable the delivery of humanitarian aid in violence-racked Rakhine State is about to end. The declaration of a new truce was announced by the ARSA, a militant group which has called on the military to step aside for the project. “700,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh but thousands remain in Rakhine. The Myanmar military are busy with domestic issues,” ARSA leader Au U Maung Han said.

The ARSA accused the government of using murder, arson and rape as “tools of depopulation.” The ARSA has links to foreign Islamists. In an interview with Reuters in March, ARSA leader Au U Maung Han asked the question of the group to communal violence between Buddhists and Muslims in Rakhine in 2012, when nearly 300,000 people were killed and 140,000 mostly Rohingya, displaced. The group says it is fighting for the rights of the Rohingya, who have never been regarded as an indigenous minority in Myanmar and so have been denied citizenship under a law that links national- ity to ethnicity.

The group repeated their demand that Rohingyas were regarded as a ‘native indigenous’ ethnic group in Rakhine. Rohingyas should be allowed to “return home with dignity — to freely deter- mine their political future and pursue their economic, social and cultural development.”

The Rohingya have long faced discrimination and repres- sion in Rakhine State where they had been killed from violence by both sides, goes back generations. The ARSA condemned the government of “exploiting humanitar- ian assistance in Rakhine and said it was willing to discuss ceasefires with international organisations so it could be delivered: Most 33,000 Rohingyas have fleeing to Bangladesh but thousands remain in Rakhine. Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi has faced scathing crit- icism for not doing enough to stop the violence, although a military- drafted constitution gives her no power over the security forces. Suu Kyi has condemned rights abuses and said Myanmar was ready to start a process agreed with Bangladesh in 1993 in which anyone verified to be a Rohingya refugee would be accepted back. Many refugees fear they will not have the paperwork they believe Myanmar will demand to allow them back.

The largely-Roman Catho- lic and when the insurgents can operate in areas where the mil- itary has driven out the civilian population, cutting the insur- gents off from recruits, food, funds and fresh starts.”

The ARSA accused the govern- ment of using murder, arson and rape as “tools of depopula- tion”. The ARSA demands to stop the tyranny and oppres- sion against the Rohingya Muslims. They have been persecuted in Myanmar for decades, first by the military junta and then by the civilian government, which only surfaced in October 2014. In his weekly address on October 26 cremation of the late King Bhumibol, a charis- matic monarch who commanded a cult-like follow- ing during his 70-year reign. His passing plunged the country into mourning during his 70-year reign.

The ARSA says it is fighting for the rights of the Rohingya, who have never been regarded as an indigenous minority in Myanmar and so have been denied citizenship under a law that links nationality to ethnicity. The group repeated their demand that Rohingyas were regarded as a ‘native indigenous’ ethnic group, who authorities say has pled guilty to “terrorism charges”, was arrested in New Jersey in May 2016 and Harson was arrested in Pakistan around September 2016. The extradition of Harson and the USA is pending, according to prosecutors Phil- ipines officials could not be contacted for comment.

The statement quoted mes- sages sent by Salic to others involved in the alleged plot. To describe terror laws in the Philippines as “Arms and explosives plot targeting New York City had boasted that his country was “a breeding ground for ter- rorists”, the US justice Department said.

The claims of the two and two oth- ers have been charged with involvement in the plan to carry out the attacks in the name of the Islamic State group during the Muslim holy month of Ram- adan in 2016.

A statement released by the US embassy in Manila said Salic, 37, transferred money to the other suspects for the opera- tion, saying he could safely do this from the Philippines with- out attracting attention.

Manila Department of Infrastruc- ture and Security (Datsa) is the largest in the world and one of the most powerful in the world with over 200,000 refugees. It said the Philippine government would never again have to respond to terrorist attacks as promised to send more. The largely-Roman Catho- lic. Philippines has been hosting plight of refugees, Salic was detained on suspicion of involvement in a plot. Salic was arrested in the Philippines around April 2017, the statement said. It added that El Bashirv, who authorities say has pled guilty to “terrorism charges”, was arrested in New Jersey in May 2016 and Harson was arrested in Pakistan around September 2016. The extradition of Harson and the USA is pending, according to prosecutors Phil- ipines officials could not be contacted for comment.

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Manila Department of Infrastruc- ture and Security (Datsa) is the largest in the world and one of the most powerful in the world with over 200,000 refugees. It said the Philippine government would never again have to respond to terrorist attacks as promised to send more. The largely-Roman Catho- lic. Philippines has been hosting plight of refugees, Salic was detained on suspicion of involvement in a plot. Salic was arrested in the Philippines around April 2017, the statement said. It added that El Bashirv, who authorities say has pled guilty to “terrorism charges”, was arrested in New Jersey in May 2016 and Harson was arrested in Pakistan around September 2016. The extradition of Harson and the USA is pending, according to prosecutors Phil- ipines officials could not be contacted for comment.

The statement quoted mes- sages sent by Salic to others involved in the alleged plot. To describe terror laws in the Philippines as “Arms and explosives plot targeting New York City had boasted that his country was “a breeding ground for ter- rorists”, the US justice Department said.

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Trump to send advisers to Pakistan with tough message

Washington

P resident Donald Trump is sending top diplomatic and military personnel to Pakistan in the coming weeks to talk about the situation in Afghanistan, according to senior administration officials. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson plans to depart for Pakistan later this month and will be followed by Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Joseph Dunford.

Pakistan’s FM lashed out at “hollow allegations” about Pakistan harbouring terrorists.

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A group of youths were playing cricket in the field and the boy was hit by a ball. He collapsed on the field after a ball hit him in the chest, local police chief Enamul Haque said.

He is from a very poor family. His father is arickshaw puller and mother works as a housemaid. They burned him last night,” the police chief said.

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Russian police have arrested two men in connection with the death of Danish TV journalist Kim Wall, who was found floating in a canal in Copenhagen last week.

The investigation is ongoing, but police have not ruled out the possibility of foul play. Wall was found with a large wound to her head and the body of her female companion, Madsen, was found floating in the same canal.

Madsen, who is married and has a child, has been identified as the suspect in the case. He has not yet been charged and is currently in police custody.

This is the latest in a series of high-profile cases involving violent attacks against women in Denmark, including the murder of Fatima Sana in 2017 and the disappearance of Kim Wall.

The Danish police have been criticized for their handling of the cases, and there have been calls for more robust action to protect women's safety.

Danish police have said that they are working closely with the Danish Forensic Science Center to determine the cause of death and are continuing their investigation.

The case has sparked outrage in Denmark, with many calling for greater action to address violence against women.

In the meantime, the Danish police are urging women to take extra precautions and to seek support if they feel threatened.
Fear: patriotism fill Spain streets in Catalan crisis

Demonstrators gather to stage a demonstration against the independence of Catalonia as they hold Spanish flags at Colon Square in Madrid, yesterday.

Man held after crash near London museum

Police arrested a man near London's Natural History Museum yesterday after his vehicle mounted the pavement and ploughed into pedestrians, injuring himself and 10 others in an apparent road traffic collision unrelated to terrorist incidents.

Witnesses reported to media that they had heard a loud bang. Armed police were deployed to the scene and the area was cordoned off.

Security is high in Britain after five terror attacks since March – four of them in London. – with the bloodshed claiming 35 lives so far.

May offered her thanks to the emergency services and said the UK had not been taken by surprise or attacked by terrorists.
WASHINGTON

Thousands of Salva-dorans, Haitians and others now sheltered in the United States from danger in their home countries might have to leave under a crackdown the Trump administration is weighing that would view asylum seekers as “back-door immigration.”

People close to the administration said the White House is considering anti-immigration activists’ appeals for pull-back on the 27-year old U.S. Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program, which protects more than 300,000 people in the country’s no-questions-asked category to the administration. This time actually there are people willing to listen.

“I have not known or even met one of these people, trying to determine who they may have known of these plans,” said McMillah acknowledged that Islamic State had repeatedly claimed responsibility for the attack, but said investigators had uncovered “no nexus” between the Middle East-based militant group and Paddock.

“An uninformed lead is a wider net for tips,” the FBI and police have engaged in a survey of jobs and other activities to determine the background of the victims. The billboard will bear the message: “If you have information about an armed man in his household, you should know what to do before getting to 911.

The public appeal came a day before U.S. Vice President Mike Pence was slated to join Mayor Carolyn Goodman and other local leaders at a City Hall ceremony for victims of the shooting, following a prayer walk through the city. President Donald Trump said at a news conference earlier in the week that “we want to be able to stop” mass shootings.

The billboard policy is one of 10 changes made to the TPS program in 2018.

McMillah told reporters late on Thursday that he would have to release the information from the investigation.

“D【The FBI and TTPS are doing the investigation,” he said.

Trump has ordered the FBI to ramp up efforts on gun control. The FBI has announced an initiative to improve communication with the media and the public.

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Hurricane Nate targets US Gulf Coast

HURRICANE NATE strengthened yesterday as it churned through the Gulf of Mexico, threatening to pose a serious threat to southern states. The center of the hurricane, the fourth major storm to hit the United States in less than two months, is forecast to make landfall overnight between Slidell, Louisiana, and Alabama’s Mobile Bay. U.S. National Hurricane Center spokesman Dennis Feltgen said: “Nate’s outer bands will likely reach the US Gulf Coast with tropical storm-force winds on Saturday evening,” it said. Currently a Category 1 hurricane, Nate was 1250 km south of the mouth of the Mississippi River and moving at a rapid 25 mph. The NHC had estimated sustained winds hovered just below 90 miles (150 km) per hour on Friday in its home state of Tamaulipas on corruption charges. Authorities have committed crimes.

Mexican ex-governor wanted in US is arrested

CIUDAD VICTORIA: Mexican ex-governor Eugenio Hernández, who is wanted in the United States for laundering drug money, was arrested Friday in the home-state of Tamaulipas. The arrest was made after two children anxiously watched Mexican ex-governor

people filling sandbags at a fire station as they in prepare for Hurricane Nate landfall in New Orleans, yesterday. 

Tourists running to avoid the rain as strong winds and heavy rain from Hurricane Nate begin to come ashore in New Orleans.

Brazil’s south holds independence poll

SAO PAULO: Brazil’s southernmost states hold an informal referendum-style vote on independence for the region Saturday, the latest in a wave of referendums on the turmoils in Spain’s Catalonia. The bid to break the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina from the far larger mass of Brazil has no legal standing. Turnout is expected to represent only a fraction of the region’s combined population of approximately 20 million. However, organizers of the poll say the desire to be free from the rule of the corrupt state governments in Brasilia is strong and growing.

The group behind the movement, The South in My Country, said it hopes for at least one million votes to take part. Up from 600,000 in an initial informal poll held last year. Some 30,000 volunteers were signed up to help conduct the poll, which uses paper ballots and asks the question: “Do you wish Parana, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul to be an independent country?”

The states—both borders on Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay—form a generally wealthier, white and color region compared to the tropical remand of the country. Separatist leaders say the region’s home to about one in seven Brazilians is unfairly forced to pay far more in taxes than it receives in government funding. "Basta de Brasilia,” or "Enough of Brasilia,” is one of the movement’s main slogans. "The Southern People need the opportunity to express their opinion. Why not they would like to remain Brazilian," the group’s mission statement says, adding that "The South is My Country is providing this opportunity.”

Brazil’s constitution bar separation, but one leader from the efforts in Catalonia to break away from Spain in a referendums held October 1 despite being ruled illegal by the central government in Madrid. The South in My Country also hopes to benefit from nationwide disgust with the centrist government of President Michel Temer, which a recent poll found is seen as doing a good or very good job by only three percent of the population.

On the alert

In Honduras, residents worried whether they would have to flee. "Norma Chavez and her two children anxiously watched a river rise outside their home in Tocoa, the capital.

California becomes first ‘sanctuary state’ for undocumented migrants

LOS ANGELES: California became the first "sanctuary state" for undocumented immigrants Friday, a decision criticized by the Trump administration which believes the move will compromise national security.

California’s governor, Democrat Jerry Brown, signed the landmark legislation—Senate Bill 54 (SB 54) — which grants better protections to people who are in the US without permission, including those who have committed crimes.

The bill’s sponsor, Democratic Assemblyman Phil Ting, said: “California remains one of the few states in the nation that provide guarantees to undocumented immigrants.”

The legislation, which will come into effect on January 1, 2018, is part of a raft of laws which protect the almost 3 million undocumented immigrants living in California—most of whom are from Mexico and Central America.

Brown signed in his signing statement the measure will not “prevent or prohibit imminent deportation” to “just prevent or prohibit imminent deportation” and “undocumented immigrants will not be denied access to law enforcement.”

But in a statement, ICE acting director Tom Homan said the new legislation will not deny ICE access to arrest undocumented immigrants.

"SB 54 creates an official ‘sanctuary’ program that will allow criminals to remain in the United States while they are being investigated for other crimes," Homan said.

"SB 54 also endangers public safety by interfering with international treaty obligations and our ability to secure the border." Brown added that SB 54 will not "prevent or prohibit imminent deportation" and "undocumented immigrants will not be denied access to law enforcement."

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A changing China on view at NY art show

Paris

People, it seems, have never been so afraid of their food—and, say some experts, an obsession with healthy eating may paradoxically be endangering lives.

Twenty-nine-year-old Frenchwoman Sabrina Debsquat recounts how, over 18 months, she became a vegetarian, then a vegan—eschewing eggs, dairy products and even honey—before becoming a “raw foodist” who avoided all cooked foods, and ultimately decided to eat fruit only. It was only when her deeply worried boyfriend found dandruff in her hair in the bathroom sink and confronted her with the evidence that she realised that she was on a downward path.

“I thought I held the truth to an extreme,” she said. “I believed in my whole body is made of intricately woven strands of DNA.”

The term orthorexia nervosa—first described by Steven Bratman, a San Francisco-based physician—has been gaining ground in recent years. Its proponents believe that people need to be healed, but they don’t usually mean “physically.”

Instead, they argue that the body is made of intricately woven strands of DNA. In their view, these strands are what give each person their unique DNA, which determines their health and well-being. And when these strands get damaged, the body can’t function properly. This, they say, is what is happening to our planet, and it’s why we need to start healing it.

Researchers in Massachusetts Institute of Technology have found that the problems caused by orthorexia nervosa can be severe. They have shown that people who suffer from this condition are more likely to develop chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. They are also more likely to have trouble focusing on their work, and they may have difficulty forming relationships.

The orthorexia nervosa epidemic has been so severe that it has been compared to an epidemic of Hantavirus in the Atlantic. Hantavirus is a disease that is transmitted by rodents, and it can cause severe respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), a condition that is very difficult to treat.

In the case of orthorexia nervosa, the symptoms are similar. People who suffer from this condition may have difficulty breathing, and they may also experience chest pain. They may also have other symptoms, such as fever, headache, and abdominal pain.

It is important to remember that orthorexia nervosa is not a disease. It is simply a symptom of a more serious problem. People who suffer from this condition need to seek help from a healthcare professional who can help them understand the underlying problem and provide treatment.”

Mudbound' filmmaker on movie’s exploration of racial divide

London

The saga of two families pitted against a harsh social hierarchy in the Mississippi Delta after World War Two explores racial divide that is relevant even today, the filmmaker of new movie “Mudbound” said.

“I feel like Mudbound’ kind of comments on what we are now,” director and co-writer Dee Rees said at the “Mudbound’ premiere in London.

“It’s about family, it’s about what it means to perhaps come together and lic — including this rather ferocious online community — to perhaps come together and to heal a divide that clearly needs to be healed,” she added.

Great white sharks are swimming farther

Boston

The movements of great white sharks in the Pacific and Indian oceans have long been the subject of academic study, but new research is just starting to shed light on the behaviour of their Atlantic Ocean counterparts.

Researchers in Massachusetts say white sharks appear to venture farther with more frequency and at greater depths than seen previously in the Atlantic. Some of the 30 sharks tracked between 2015 and 2014 ended up as far afield as the Azores, the Portuguese island than located more than 2,000 miles (3,200km) from Cape Cod, where most of the animals were initially outfitted with satellite tags.

They were found to make frequent deep dives—as far down as 3,000 feet (1,000 metres) — and spend more time at those depth than previous studies in the region had indicated.

The team, which included scientists from the state Division of Marine Fisheries, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, had previously published last week in Marine Ecology Progress Series, a prominent scientific journal.

“Everything we knew previously indicated that the white sharks in the Atlantic is more coastally-oriented, moving north-to-south and remaining on the continental shelf,” explained Gregory Skomal, the study’s lead author.

“Now we’re seeing that the offshore migration is occurring, and quite far out at sea.”

Skomal says the work has implications for shark conservation efforts since it extends the known habitat for these ancient predators. White sharks are not considered endangered or threatened, but it’s illegal to harm them in US waters. Indeed, most of the tagged sharks in the Atlantic study generally followed a north-south migration along the eastern Southeast ecosystem.


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