Qatar calls for end to Libya military action

H E the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs called on the international community to have a firm stance in the face of these violations of international law in Libya, pointing out that there are countries with which Qatar agrees with a commitment to preserve the international system and international law. "Qatar with these countries demands the immediate cessation of military action in Tripoli and return to dialogue and political solution."

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs H E Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani was signed in Sofia on October 10, 1990, which was established on October 16, 1990, and has been signed between the two friendly countries to cover different fields. Diplomatic relations between the Republic of Bulgaria and the State of Qatar were established on October 10, 2009, according to information available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria.

Sheikha Moza meets Ethiopian House of Federation Speaker

H H the Amir and Prime Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu, in Ankara yesterday.

Qatar’s crime rate declines below global average

The fresh statistics released by the Ministry of Interior yesterday indicates marked decline in crime rate in Qatar in all categories from minor to major, is one indicator making security indicators exceeding global proportions.

The statistics of MoI for 2018 suggest that Qatar’s crime rate has declined below global average in 2018.

The statistics further reveal that the total number of crimes in 2018 decreased by 2.4 percent compared with 2017 and 88.3 percent of the total crimes committed in 2018 were minor crimes, such as check cases, violations, non-criminal quarrels.

The MoI has succeeded in reducing the rate of committing major crimes in 2018 by 98.3 percent of all 100,000 inhabitants from the rate of global rate by 98.3 percent despite the increase in population in the state last year by 3.6 percent.

Statistics and indicators of the MoI for 2018 showed a significant reduction in the rate of criminal offences committed by 100,000 people, where murder recorded 0.6 a decrease of 95 percent from the global rate of eight cases of murder.

In the aggravated assault, it recorded 0.2, a decrease of 99.8 percent from the global rate of up to 100 assaults. It recorded 0.1 in burglary cases, 99.9 percent below the global average of 100 burglaries. It is 0.1 in violation cases, which are criminal, which is 99.9 percent lower than the global average of 25. and 0.6 cases of forced theft, 99.4 percent lower than the global average of up to 100 crimes.

This is due to the efforts of the MoI in maintaining security and preventing crime and violations, non-criminal quarrels.

Major crimes against public security accounted for 0.1 percent of all crimes, committed in 2018 showing a decline by 14.5 percent compared to 2017. Forgery decreased by 31.8 percent, minor assaults and quarrels by 31.3 percent, breach of trust by 18.8 percent, of non-payment by 5.5 percent, compared to 2017 while theft of cars declined by 10.9. This shows a marked improvement in the level of security situation in the country compared to 2017.
Qatari Vice-Chairperson

ROMA: The State of Qatar was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairperson of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at the 71st Session, which kicked off on Monday and will run till 23 April 2023 in FAO headquarters in Rome. Qatar’s Ambassador to Italy and Permanent Representative to the UNESCO in Rome, Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Maktoum, was elected to the post, at Maktoum’s latest bid in the context which will discuss a number of issues, most prominently the upcoming election for the director general position during the conference held between 10-29 April.

Qatar flags killing of three US soldiers in Afghanistan attack

DOHA: The State of Qatar has strongly condemned the attack by an improvised explosive device near the Bagram Air base in Afghanistan, killing three US soldiers and a contractor and wounding three other US soldiers. In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated the State of Qatar’s firm stance rejecting violence and terrorism, regardless of motives and reasons. The statement expressed the condolences of the State of Qatar to the victims’ families, the government, and the people of the United States, wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

Qatar condemns North Sinai bombing

DOHA: The State of Qatar has condemned the explosion that took place near a market in the city of Sheikh Zuweid in north Sinai, Egypt, killing four security personnel and injuring a number of civilians. In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated the State of Qatar’s firm stance rejecting violence and terrorism, regardless of motives and reasons. The statement expressed the condolences of the State of Qatar to the victims’ families, the government, and the people of Egypt, wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

Transport Minister meets Eswatini, Ukrainian Ambassadors

Minister of Transport and Communications H.E Jasim bin Saif Al Sulaiti held separate meetings here yesterday with the Ambassador of Eswatini, Felizwe Dimamii, and the Ambassador of Ukraine, Yevhen Mykytenko. The meetings discussed cooperation between Qatar and the two friendly countries in the fields of transport and communications and means of further enhancing them.

Sheikha Moza meets Ethiopian House of Federation Speaker

QFFD signs $5m pact with GCEFR to curb extremism

He said that this is in line with the role of the State of Qatar in fighting extremism as the State of Qatar has continuously removed its exposition of extremism.

QFFD supports Local communities through supporting national governments and international partners to align their activities with local contexts and needs and building knowledge that enriches global understanding of how to strengthen community resilience to violent extremism.

Khalifa bin Jasim Al Kuwari, the Director-General of QFFD, and Dr Khalid Koser, Executive Director of supports from GCEFR, shaking hands after signing the documents.

QNA

713 building permits issued in March

The Planning and Statistics Authority monthly report revealed 713 building permits have been issued in March, showing a general increase of 6 percent in comparison with February.

The monthly data comes under the joint cooperation between the Planning and Statistics Authority and the Ministry of Municipality and Environment to make use of the existing electronic link between the two sides.

In a quick review of the data on building permits issued during the month of March 2019, according to their geographical distribution, the municipality of Al Rayyan comes at the top of the municipalities where the number of building permits issued were 212 permits, i.e 30 percent of the total issued permits, while Doha municipality came in second place with 146 permits, i.e. 20 percent, followed by municipality of Al Waqifah with 130 permits (18 percent). Al Da’ayen municipality came at the second place with 146 permits, 12 percent, while Doha municipality came in the third place with 130 permits, 18 percent.

QF

Shura Council Speaker meets Heads of Parliaments

The Speaker of the Shura Council and the President of the 140th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), H.E Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Zaid Al Mahmood, met yesterday with the Speaker of House of Representatives of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Krishna Bahadur Mahara, on the sidelines of the meetings of the 140th IPU General Assembly currently in session in Doha. The meetings discussed the parliamentary relations between Qatar and Nepal and ways of enhancing them, in addition to the topics on the agenda of the General Assembly. Also, the Speaker of the Shura Council met with the President of National Assembly of the Republic of Djibouti, Mohamed Ali Houndi, H.E Sabir bin Fahd Al Meknawi, the member of the Shura Council and Chairman of the Qatar-Djiboutian Parliamentary Friendship Committee attended the meeting. Moreover, the Speaker of the Shura Council met with the Founder of Blue Planet Foundation, Henrik Berg, on the sidelines of the 140th IPU General Assembly currently in session in Doha. During the meeting, they discussed the topics on the agenda of the General Assembly, especially with regard to the preservation of the environment.

QFFD

The State of Qatar has expressed, in the strongest terms, its condemnation of the aerial bombardment of Mitiga airport in the Libyan capital Tripoli, for which Khalifa Haftar forces had claimed responsibility.

In a statement yesterday, the Foreign Ministry said that the State of Qatar considers the bombing to be a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law, which calls for stringent international investigation to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The State of Qatar, according to the statement, stressed the need for regional and international action to move urgently to stop the military escalation in Libya, which threatens to undermine the path of the political solution sponsored by the United Nations. The statement also affirmed Qatar’s full support for the internationally-recognized legitimate Government of National Accord and its support for the efforts of the UN envoy to reach a just political solution for the Libyan people.

The statement also renewed Qatar’s call to all parties in the conflict in Libya to shoulder their responsibilities to the Libyan people, which will their hopes on the path of peaceful solution, and to promote national dialogue over military choices and the interest of the Libyan homeland over individual ones.
Emergency resolution to aid African nations hit by hurricane

The Standing Committee on Peace and International Security of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) yesterday approved resolution on non-admissibility of using mercenaries and foreign fighters as a means of undermining peace, and international security, the territorial integrity of states and violating human rights.

The draft of this resolution was discussed at the Standing Committee of the IPU during the 140th IPU General Assembly and Related Meetings. The participating members of the Committee approved the resolution by 126 votes in favor, 10 against and 28 abstentions.

The resolution calls on national parliaments to urge their governments to take a leading role and take effective action to combat global warming, reduce awareness of the impacts of climate change and adopt more sustainable livelihoods, and work with governments in partnership to gradually progress towards clean and renewable energy.

The resolution also calls on the United Nations, the reliefs organizations and the international community to focus on the most vulnerable groups in flood affected areas to support them in rebuilding their livelihoods and enhancing their ability to care for their families and to pay particular attention to the needs of children, women and older people affected by climate change and economic implications.

The General Assembly resolution also calls on governments to support the efforts of the IPU and its member states to fight against mercenaries and international organizations to prevent the use of mercenaries and protection of the human rights of those affected.

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The State of Qatar is participating in the two-day conference with a delegation from the Ministry of Public Health.

Kuwaiti Minister of Health Sheikh Dr Bassel Al Sabah, in his statement, said that the conference aimed at reaching a decision on universal health coverage in a manner that ensures access to health and decreasing the number of deaths. He called on parliaments around the world to begin discussing this goal, the possibility of reaching a decision on universal health coverage in the future.

The State of Qatar is participating in the two-day conference with a delegation from the Ministry of Public Health.

In his statement, Sheikh Dr Bassel Al Sabah, the Kuwaiti Minister of Health, said: “The State of Qatar is participating in the two-day conference with a delegation from the Ministry of Public Health.”
Qatar’s envoy to Iraq presents credentials

The President of the Republic of Iraq, Dr Barham Ahmed Salih, received the credentials of Khalid bin Hamad Al Sulaiti as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Qatar to the Republic of Iraq. Dr Salih conveyed his greetings to H H the Amir, and his wishes of more progress and prosperity to the people of Qatar. He wished the Ambassador success in his new duties and in promoting and strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between the State of Qatar and the Republic of Iraq.

Mali National Assembly President visits Qatar Red Crescent Society

THE PENINSULA

24 APRIL 2019

The President of the National Assembly of Mali, Issaka Sidibé, has visited Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS). The delegation led by the President is in Doha to attend the 14th Global Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The members of the delegation are Modibo Sidibé, Secretary-General of the National Assembly of Mali; and Cheikh Ahmed Tidiane Diakité, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Mali to Qatar.

Abdulrahman Al Maliki, Executive Director of QRCS, received the President and his entourage. They discussed ways to address the humanitarian problems that exist in several African countries, based on real needs and available resources.

Al Maliki emphasized the importance of QRCS and promised to continue working closely with Mali Red Cross and Mali’s Ministry of Social Affairs.

Sidibé welcomed this initiative by QRCS and promised to offer every possible support. He emphasized the need for QRCS echoed by the good relations between Mali and Qatar. He added:

“We at QRCS hold a great responsibility for serving humanity everywhere. This is our duty towards the needy in Mali and worldwide,” said Al Maliki.

Ooredoo announces new promotion for Shahry customers

THE PENINSULA

22 APRIL 2019

Ooredoo, the leading telecommunication operator in Qatar, announced a new promotion for its Shahry customers. The offer will provide a free six-month subscription to the Urban Point app for all Shahry 100 and Shahry 150 customers.

The promotion will allow Shahry customers to access a wide range of offers and promotions around town, such as two-for-one deals and promotions at their favourite outlets. Customers can use their vouchers more than once each month, enabling them to access their favourite outlets as often as they like.

“Shahry 100 and Shahry 150 customers interested in the offer should visit their Ooredoo connection office for QRCS subscriptions. We’re delighted to be extending our commitment to offering superior services and flexibility for our customers at great prices as well as offering plenty of additional benefits including Shahry Point app subscriptions,” said Mansoor Al Nakhait, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo.

“Ooredoo is giving them up to a six-month subscription to the Urban Point app. The app – normally priced at QR15 per month – gives users access to a wide range of offers and promotions around town, such as two-for-one deals and promotions at their favourite outlets. Customers can use their vouchers more than once each month, enabling them to access their favourite outlets as often as they like. All Shahry 100 and Shahry 150 customers interested in the offer should visit their Ooredoo connection office for QRCS subscriptions. We’re delighted to be extending our commitment to offering superior services and flexibility for our customers at great prices as well as offering plenty of additional benefits including Shahry Point app subscriptions,” said Mansoor Al Nakhait, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo.

Qatar Duty Free receives ‘Airport Retail Operation of the Year’ award

Qatar Duty Free (QDF) has won the DFNI-Frontier ‘EMEA Airport Retail Operation of the Year’ award for its exceptional retailing and customer service. The award was presented at a ceremony and charity half-marathon that took place on April 5, 2019 at the Royal Lancaster Hotel in London, and was received by Qatar Duty Free Vice-President, Retail Operations, Thabet Mishriki.

Winners were selected by a panel of high-profile experts in retail from across the duty free industry. The ‘EMEA Airport Retail Operation of the Year’ award recognizes QDF’s outstanding commercial performance and excellent customer service to more than 30 million passengers annually. The travel retailer was also commended for its commitment to its employees through the QDF Learning Academy, which offers all employees training through its career development program. Qatar Duty Free Senior Vice-President, Bruce Rimmer, said: “At Qatar Duty Free, we strive to provide new, exciting and memorable experiences for our customers, and we are delighted that this has been acknowledged by the duty free industry. Being named EMEA Airport Retail Operation of the Year is a significant achievement, and is recognition of our efforts to enhance our customers’ shopping experience. We will continue to innovate to ensure our customers enjoy a free, clear and enjoyable travelling journey, both in flight and at Hamad International Airport.”

QDF collaborates with Qatar Airways, Hamad International Airport and leading global brands to deliver innovative retail concepts, such as the Qatar Airways Travel Boutique and the world-exclusive Dior Le Parfums Podium. In addition, QDF recently opened two souqs in celebration of Qatar National Day selling traditional Arabian products made in Qatar. Earlier this month, Al Jazeera Partners, the well-known Qatar fragrance brand, opened its first airport boutique at HIA.
Sri Lankan Parliament Speaker lauds Amir’s speech

FAZENIA SALEEM
THE PENINSULA

Speaker of the Sri Lankan Parliament, Karu Jayasuriya, has lauded the speech of Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani at the opening of the 140th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), saying that it highlighted the commitment of the leadership towards solving pressing issues across the world.

He said that the speech advocated the need to promote democratic governance and cooperation among nations and importance of social justice and education which are essential in today’s world.

“This commitment by leaders and policy makers of nations is important,” he told The Peninsula, during an interview on the sidelines of the 140th Assembly of the IPU. “The Assembly discussed ‘Parliaments as platforms to enhance education for peace, security and the role of law in general debate.

“The 140th Assembly of the IPU is also discussing very important topics like peace, human rights and democracy. If democracy is threatened, this is a platform the countries can discuss their grievances,” said Jayasuriya.

“The Assembly and related meetings cover almost all important issues across different countries and regions,” he said.

The topic relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is also in the global challenge, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, property, and peace and justice are also discussed.

Karu Jayasuriya's highlighted the importance and relevance of discussions about SDGs. “The discussions about SDGs are really important. Every issue is addressed during the discussions. The goals are connected and it is important that we discuss and address everything in order to achieve the goal by 2030,” said Jayasuriya. When asked if any issue discussed during the Assembly and related meetings have direct impact on Sri Lanka, Jayasuriya said that global climate change is something of more relevant to his country. He said that Sri Lanka is already experiencing the effect of global climate change. Sri Lanka needs to take action to prevent negative impacts of the climate change.

She added, “We will strive to tie with Qatar at government and parliamentary levels. We also want to form a parliamen- tary friendship group to take it to new heights.”

Gambian parliamentary delegation pleased to join IPU Assembly after 15 years

SIDI MOHAMED
THE PENINSULA

Speaker of the National Assembly of Gambia, Harimaj Jack Denton, said that she wanted to strengthen ties between the two countries by forming a parliamentarian friendship group, a move which will also have positive outcomes on both the countries.

She said that the theme of the 140th Assembly of IPU, which discussed the role of education in promoting gender equality, was very important. “In Africa and in all other countries, education is the key of development and we can’t develop our societies, our countries without promoting education. Also among the priority issues for us is gender equality,” she added.

She said that the theme of IPU Assembly has focused on boosting democracy. “The theme had focused on boosting democracy and promoting gender. I argued in my speech that democracy and gender are very important. "I argued that democracy and gender are very important. ""I argue that without giving power to major groups, they cannot function properly," she said.

She said that under the initiative of promoting gender equality, women and other marginalised groups must be given their rights which is necessary for a functioning democracy. "I argued in my speech on the security of the people and the ways of protecting the marginalized groups like women and other groups," said Mahara.

Former Justice Minister of Korea impressed with Qatar’s progress

SADI MOHAMED
THE PENINSULA

The former Justice Minister of Korea, Chun Jung-bae, who is taking part in the ongoing 140th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) has lauded Qatar’s counter-terrorism efforts while citing the country’s commitment to security and peace. He said that under the initiative, Qatar contributed to solving many regional conflicts. He also underlined Qatar’s support to women activities. “Qatar has done a lot and understands the importance of the role of parliamentarians in building a closer look at the progress achieved by Qatar in various fields and sectors,” he said.

He also mentioned that the parliamentarians from the two nations discussed the importance of peace and security, in addition to the development of women in Qatar. He further added that the two countries have a strong relationship and the discussions have been constructive.

He also highlighted the role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in promoting democracy and human rights.

Strong Qatari-Nepal relations cover diverse sectors

SAANULLAH AASULLAH
THE PENINSULA

Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Krishna Bahadur Mahara, has also formed a parliamentary friendship group with Qatar and hopes that Qatar will also do the same. Speaker of the House of Representatives of Nepal, Krishna Bahadur Mahara told The Peninsula on the sidelines of the 140th Assembly of IPU, which is being held in Doha. He said that these two groups will exchange views and opinions on parliamentary diplomacy and harmonize the two countries. He also mentioned that the high-level delegation of Nepal visited Qatar in 2015 as the year of visits between high-level meetings will be held between the two countries to further enhance existing relations.

Gambian parliamentary delegation delighted to join IPU Assembly after 15 years

SIDI MOHAMED
THE PENINSULA

Speaker of the National Assembly of Gambia, Harimaj Jack Denton, said that she was very happy to be here in Qatar (IPU) Assembly, which she described as an important Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union’s (IPU) and related meetings. “We were not out of this activity for more than 15 years due to previous reasons,” she said. Speaking to The Peninsula on the sidelines of IPU Assembly meetings, she affirmed that Gambian parliamentarians would be delighted to come back to the IPU and participate effectively in its Assembly sessions. “We decided to come and meet our colleagues and share ideas with other parliamentarians on diverse issues especially on the ones which are hitting people in Africa hard,” she noted.

Qatar has dome a lot and we congratulate the Shura Council of Qatar and Qatar government for their efforts to make the Assembly a success. The provided facilities made our meetings and tasks easy and thanks again for everything here,” she added.

She said that the theme of the 140th Assembly of IPU, which discussed the role of education in promoting gender equality, was very important. “In Africa and in all other countries, education is the key of development and we can’t develop our societies, our countries without promoting education. Also among the priority issues for us is gender equality,” she added. She also mentioned the need for the role of parliamentarians in building a closer look at the progress achieved by Qatar in various fields and sectors.

A woman parlia from Ukraine w

RAYNOLD C RIVERA
THE PENINSULA

Coming from a country with one of the lowest women participation in politics, Alona Shkrum (pictured), one of the youngest parliamentarian in Ukraine, believes role models can play a significant part to have more women as major players in this male dominated field. “I am a member of women’s ca-ucus in Ukraine’s parliament, which unfortunately, has one of the lowest parliament participation in the world. We have about 11 percent women in the parliament and even less in government,” she said. “I believe the response from a question from local media on the sidelines of the 140th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).”

Gender parity in politics is one of the main topics at the ongoing General Assembly which concludes today, with particular focus on the MENA region which has around 18 percent share of women in parliaments. Though she admits it is something not easy to achieve, she is hopeful with the presence of women role models.

“I think a role model is something that counts because when I entered parliament only because when I was a little girl I was looking up to the leader of my party who was the only woman in Ukrainian politics then, and now it is 11 percent so I think role models play a very big role in this area,” she said.

At the same time, the 31-year-old parliamentarian believes on men supporting women to achieve their politics. “Dialogue with men is very important. When men support their children in this really tricky,” she said.

On what would be the biggest achievement of the 140th Assembly. It would be a non-admittance of using mercenar-ies as a means of undermining peace and violating human rights. “Qatari counter-terrorism efforts are also shown also in our committee when we decided on very important resolution on mercenaries and foreign fighters to give us eyes in our committee in which Qatar contributed to solving many regional conflicts in this resolution,” she said while speak-ing to The Peninsula beside the hotel where the assembly is being held yesterday. Among the IPU assem-bly’s major objectives, the committee focused on women’s participation in the IPU. She said that she was very happy to be there.

She added, “We were out of this event that discusses many important issues,” she added. “There are many commonalities between the two countries to fur-ther enhance education for peace, security and the role of law in general debate.

Qatar has done a lot and we congratulate the Shura Council of Qatar and Qatar government for their efforts to make the Assembly a success. The provided facilities made our meetings and tasks easy and thanks again for everything here,” she added. She also mentioned the need for the role of parliamentarians in building a closer look at the progress achieved by Qatar in various fields and sectors.

IPU delegate lauds Qatar
mentarian
ith a cause

she said. ‘The main purpose of IPU, as the oldest inter-parliamentary organization in the world, is dialogue between different regions and parliamentary members. There are a lot of things that separate us but there are also a lot of things that unite us.’ It is very interesting to see how different countries deal with the same issues and this too we are much closer than we imagine. So the outcome of these dialogues and personal contacts cannot be underestimated, it’s very important.’

Shiroom said she was looking forward to seeing how the resolutions adopted in the Assembly would be implemented particularly through dialogue and through debates. Alter interactions, we began to realize that we still have a lot of room for improvement.” Wangchuk Namgyel, pictured, Speaker of National Assembly of Bhutan, told The Peninsula that Qatar’s total involvement in promoting international cooperation through the IPU meetings has proved the success of this high profile event. ‘Such kind of events help the deepening of democracy. It will further strengthen the structure of democracy and enrich the system,’ he said.

He praised hospitality of the people of Qatar and the international framework with peace and progress in its core. Among the places that Migliore visited in the country which impressed him the most were the Museum of Islamic Art and National Museum of Qatar.

The 140th IPU Assembly was a very beautiful country. I know the Qatari culture. This is my first time to visit Qatar, now we are also very much close, he added.

‘Hosting of IPU meetings an honour for Arab countries’

Mohamed Saidane, the Assistant to the Speaker of Assembly of the People of Tunisia, Mohamed Saidane, said that the hosting of Inter-Parliamentary Union’s (IPU) and related meetings is an honour for the Arab countries and we have no doubt about Qatar’s potential to make it successful.

It is the first time that I am visiting Qatar. I am impressed by the educational development in Qatar and the international educational institutions here. Qatar’s focus on education is the correct step because education is the only key to achieve development and prosperity. Thanks to the wise policy of HH Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani in focusing on education,’ he said.

Speaking to The Peninsula on the sidelines of the 140th Assembly of the IPU, he emphasised that parliaments are platforms for education, and his speech was in this regard because in Tunisia since 1956, the state depended on education. ‘We do not have natural resources and our investment is only on education.’

‘We support the ideas of HH the Amir on importance of education and what he said in his speech on the subject. Today, education is a great mission in fight terrorism and extremism, which are the biggest challenges today,’ he noted.

He said that Tunisia witnessed a successful revolution going through bloody violence because the country had invested in education.

Regarding the cooperation between the Qatari Advisory Council and Tunisian Assembly of the Representatives of the People, he said: ‘We look to renew the relations in the diplomatic and parliamentary spheres which are still incomplete but it is a good between the two peoples and governments and also between the parliaments as well.’

The Tunisian Parliamentary Delegation met with Speaker of the Shura Council HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zaid Al Mahmoud and exchanged views, and soon we will activate the Qatar-Tunisian Friendship Association,’ Saidane said.

The ongoing 140th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly and related meeting in Doha are excellent platforms for parlia-

mentarians to learn from each other. The enriching dialogues and conversations happening in IPU meetings help in improving the governance in countries.

‘We have benefited a lot from IPU meetings. We came here with open mind to learn from other countries. We have learned very good experiences from other countries through dialogues and through debates. Alter interactions, we began to realize that we still have a lot of room for improvement.’

Wangchuk Namgyel, pictured, Speaker of National Assembly of Bhutan, told The Peninsula that Qatar’s involvement and International Security, of which Qatar is an extraordinary country from other countries through dialogues and through debates. Alter interactions, we began to realize that we still have a lot of room for improvement.” Wangchuk Namgyel. “In such a kind of meetings, we get to interact with many delegates, which witnessed the

knowledge about the region as many of the attendees are first timers in the region. She lauded Qatar’s hosting of the event saying this was one of the best IPU Assemblies she experienced in terms of organization.

The Assembly which ‘witnessed the historic event. ‘Qatar has so many excellent hotels. The country has rich culture and has people who are smiling and ready to help,’ he added.

When he went back to his country after the assembly, he said he would have two things to say: that Qatar is an extraordinary country where transformation is visible and that the 140th IPU Assembly was a golden opportunity to develop an international framework with peace and progress in its core. Among the places that Migliore visited in the country which impressed him the most were the Museum of Islamic Art and National Museum of Qatar.

The Assembly was a confirmation that the football world cup in Qatar will be historic event. ‘After hosting 140th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly and related meeting successfully, I am quite confident that Qatar will also be able to organise football world cup in the best possible manner. We are also very happy that Qatar is the first Arab country to host the football world cup,’ he said.

He said that Qatar has huge potential to become a global hub for tourism. ‘Qatar has a huge potential to become tourism hub because Qatar government has kept the country quite open. Because of the geographical location it will be a tourist destination for global tourists. Qatar has so many excellent hotels. The country has rich culture and has people who are smiling and ready to help,’ he added.
EDITORIAL

Health for all

The commitment to providing the best health care to every patient, regardless of their nationality, puts Qatar in the top quartile on the WHO–World Bank index for universal health coverage.

Health for all is possible and it starts with a strong primary health care. Primary health care is a whole-of-society approach to health and well-being centered on the needs and preferences of individuals, families and communities. Qatar is always giving primary healthcare its due importance. The Primary Health Care Corporation in the country is the excellent example of the global standard of primary healthcare system. One of the main goals of PHCC is to ensure excellence in healthcare services, facilities and infrastructure by being the first and cornerstone point of contact for high quality, accessible and safe primary health care services.

Qatar is also expanding its healthcare system to meet growing patient needs. In 2018, it opened Hazm Specialty Center. Last year also saw the official opening of the Turkish Foreign Minister

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The US decision is making light of the G7. It is expected to provide an opportunity for its countries to improve their development meet all the requirements of social and human well-being, stressing that Qatar takes into account that people are the makers of development, its means, and its goal."

H E Al Hammadi said that Qatar’s achievements in the areas of human development meet all the requirements of social and human well-being, stressing that Qatar takes into account that people are the makers of development, its means, and its goal. He pointed out that the poverty rates in the Arab region are still the highest on the international level, and in some Arab countries that rate exceeds of 50% which leads to the elimination of the social contract, leading to the opening of gaps towards stability and development. He E Al Hammadi added that inequality is not limited to economic indicators alone, but rather lies in social indicators, as policies of marginalisation of women, exclusion of youth and social integration through the empowerment of women and youth and equality for the poor are impossible to reach sale and prosperous society.

H E Secretary-General of the Min-istry of Foreign Affairs Dr. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi said that Qatar’s achievements in the areas of human development meet all the requirements of social and human well-being, stressing that Qatar takes into account that people are the makers of development, its means, and its goal.
South Korea’s Moon looks to Trump for way forward

When summit talks collapsed between President Donald Trump and North Korea’s Kim Jong Un in February, it was a political gut punch for South Korea’s president. Moon Jae-in had welcomed economic political capital into the outreach with the North and now needs a firmer hand keeping it moving forward.

On Thursday, Moon will bring his concerns directly to Trump in their first face-to-face meeting since the collapse of US-North Korea negotiations in Hanoi in February.

For Moon, it is a chance to reaffirm the strength of the relationship between Washington and Seoul after mixed messages after the summit in Vietnam. Moon told South Korean officials last week that he was on the “same page” as his American counterpart.

But if South Korea and the United States fail to find common ground over the approach to Kim, they may be reading from different books.

In Seoul, there are numerous signs of distance from Washington’s view of the process, along with a dose of mis-understanding and mistrust, according to accounts from South Korean officials and leading experts.

There appears general goodwill toward Trump among South Korean officials, that does not always extend to the rest of the American negotiating team, including national security adviser John Bolton.

In particular, there was lingering confusion over the reasons for the failure of the Hanoi summit which blindsided South Korean officials and forced Moon’s office to rewrite sections of a March 1 speech that anticipated an agreement.

The summit, which the American official who requested anonymity to speak about ongoing negotiations, said that the United States had shifted the terms of denuclearization. “The United States essentially crushed North Korea’s ‘maximum position’ by expanding its demands to include biological and chemical weapons in the protocol offered to Kim in Hanoi, the official said.

North Korean military officials have not responded to South Korean requests in the weeks following the Hanoi summit to cooperate on joint economic ventures for the demilitarized zone. That suggested it may be difficult for Moon to back into engagement after the failed talks.

Moon Chang-un, a Yonsei University professor and an advisor to Moon who said he was speaking in a personal capacity, said that many in Seoul blamed the summit on Bolton, a staunch opponent of denuclearization with administration.

“We all thought there was something wrong. Our suspicions arose about John Bolton’s intentions,” Moon Chang-un, said describing how Bolton canceled a trip to South Korea ahead of the summit.

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“The summit was meant to be leaving the EU. Everyone’s worried,” 29-year-old farm worker, Tim Chambers. "I didn’t necessarily vote for my party, but I do think the UK was no longer a future home... that the UK was no longer a place where I could have a better life elsewhere."

As the village empties out over the years, more and more Bulgarians have come to work for him in Kent. The first worker from Brashten to come to Kent 19 years ago was Salih Heslov. He is now a full-time manager on the farm and says migrant workers have been crucial to the success of the business. "It’s going to be sad if we are going to lose them but... we are powerless," he says. Perhaps surprisingly, Tim Chambers himself voted Leave in Britain’s Brexit referendum in 2016.

"I didn’t necessarily vote for my own personal circumstance. I thought that the EU as a geopolitical organization was failing," he explains. While he would not consider a ‘no-deal’ Brexit — one without a formal exit agreement — an ‘unsolvable problem.’ Chambers says the government would have to move urgently to expand a pilot scheme granting visas to seasonal workers, which currently has just 2,500 places. UK farming representatives have stressed the scheme does not even satisfy the sector’s current need for foreign labour, with many already experiencing shortages.

A further fall in the value of pound would also make workers harder to find. "I am in contrast to the stereotype of anti-immigration Leave voters, Chambers praises the work ethic that the Bulgarians have brought to the farm and bemoans the UK Home Office’s apparent unwillingness to countenance a more liberal post-Brexit immigration regime.

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The £600 inhabitants of the Bulgarian village of Brashten, nestled in the hills and forests on the Greek border, don’t normally pay much heed to international politics. But Britain’s Brexit
Iranian deputy foreign minister tries to salvage a nuclear deal
diplomat and former nuclear Iran has appointed career
LONDON

TRIPOLI

ANKARA

MIDDLE EAST / AFRICA

Libyan strongest under global pressure to end Tripoli assault

TRIPOLI

A Libyan national conference aimed at drawing up a roadmap towards elections has been postponed because of fighting raging near the capital, the United Nations said yesterday. "We cannot ask people to take part in the conference during gunfire and air strikes," UN envoy Ghassan Salame said, expressing hope that the meeting which had been scheduled for next week would take place "as soon as possible."
BIP's MLA among 5 dead in Maoist blast in Dantewada

Dantewada is part of Bastar Lok Sabha seat that goes to the polls in the first phase tomorrow. The Election Commission said that voting in the state would go as per schedule.

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) trooper was killed on Tuesday and another injured in a gun battle with the Maoists in the state's Dantewada district — "meticulously-planned." It was a "well-planned" attack. Maoists specifically targeted CRPF bulbs when he was rushing to Nakurtuk to address a public meeting in favour of his candidate from Bastar seat Baddu Ram Kashyap in closing minutes of poll campaigning.

Police said that the attack — the second in a row — on April 1 in another Bastar Lok Sabha seat that goes to the polls in the first phase of voting.

No political motive in raids, EC told

Senior Revenue Department officials yesterday met the Election Commission officials and briefed the EC on the process of search, surveys and raids.

Sources said the department officials told the EC that the raids do not violate the model code of conduct in any manner. They also informed the EC they cannot share or discuss or disclose the timing of raids until substantial evidence is found.

Earlier, the EC told them to share information relating to the raids. On Monday, the Income Tax department in a statement said searches in Madhya Pradesh organised racketeers of unaccounted cash of Rs281 crore through various pockers, including people associated with politics, were sealed.

It claimed part of the cash was moved to a Delhi-based political party, including its 20-acre crore by helicopter. There also raids at his residence and other places 'a political operation'.

A police officer stands next to election materials after arriving on a ferryboat in Nimajhapat, Jarhat district, Assam, yesterday.

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Thai govt says diplomats broke protocol in sedition case

Thailand's Foreign Ministry yesterday said it would talk to the US after unidentified diplomats accused them of "breaching protocol" by going to a meeting being charged with sedition.

The diplomat主要有 from Washington and two international organisations accompanied Future Forward Party leader Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit when he reported to a Bangkok police station to face criminal charges.

The former auto parts tycoon was charged with sedition and other offences for allegedly providing assistance to anti-government protesters in 2013.

This was a matter concerning the Thai government, he said, and if we don't have confidence in it, we will demand an explanation from the Thai authorities, then it could only be held by the Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, he added.

Referred to the observers, Prayuth said: "I am sure not if they're accredited or not, but Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai has told them that if we can withdraw from the system, we will be allowed to.</p>

Kazakhstan to hold presidential election on June 9

Kazakhstan’s interim President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev yesterday called a snap election for June 9 as the Central Asian nation seeks a new leader following the shock resignation of its longtime ruler.

Nursultan Nazarbayev, the only leader an independent Kazakhstan had ever known, announced suddenly last month that he was stepping down after nearly three decades in office.

Nazarbayev, who retained significant power following his resignation, named Tokayev to replace him for the remainder of his term due to finish in 2021.

Tokayev said the Presidential election would be held on June 9.

In a televised address to the nation, Tokayev had congratulated with Nazarbayev - known as Elbasy, or "Leader of the People" - that he had won the presidency in March.

Tokayev had one of Nazarbayev's seven sons.

Kazakhstan's interim President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev speaking during a televised address to the nation in Nur-Sultan, yesterday.

Nazarbayev, who has been widely tipped as a possible successor to his father, yesterday reportedly ruled out running, saying "I am Nazarbayev, I am not going to run," her spokeswoman Saule Tuleubayeva told the private Tengrinews outlet.

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May seeks Brexit delay from Merkel, Macron

Britain is requesting only a short delay to avoid having to take part in European Parliament elections next month, but EU leaders are expected to offer a longer postponement.

The ruling by the Strasbourg-based court was welcomed as a victory by Navalny, who has sought to oust top level officials in Russia, but was denounced by the Kremlin.

Russia violated Navalny’s rights: European rights court

Putin presents ambitious Arctic expansion programme

The Russian leader said that Russia plans to expand the ports on both sides of the Arctic shipping route - Murmansk on the Kola Peninsula and Petrovskoye-Kamchatka on the Kamchatka Peninsula - and invited foreign companies to invest in the reconstruction of both routes and in infrastructure facilities along the route. Putin said that Russia, the US, Canada, Denmark and Norway have all expressed their will to attract partners over parts of the Arctic as delivering oil and gas creates new opportunities for resource owners.

AP (Paris) Paris orders 800 new electric buses to fight smog

Paris’s public transport operator said yesterday it had ordered up to 800 electric buses to run on the streets of the French capital to replace diesel versions and fight smog in the build up to the 2024 Olympics. Three French engineering firms - Heuliez Bus, Bollore and Scion - won the tender to supply the buses in deals worth up to 40 million euros ($450m), the RATP transport operator said.

Putin’s 2012 victory by Navalny, who has been trying to assert jurisdiction over parts of the Arctic as a hotspot, “This is not a testing ground for new measures or political decisions and practical cooperation between the Arctic states.”

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Putin’s 2012 victory by Navalny, who has been trying to assert jurisdiction over parts of the Arctic as a hotspot, “This is not a testing ground for new measures or political decisions and practical cooperation between the Arctic states.”

The ruling by the Strasbourg-based court was welcomed as a victory by Navalny, who has sought to oust top level officials in Russia, but was denounced by the Kremlin.

Russia violated Navalny’s rights: European rights court

Putin presents ambitious Arctic expansion programme

The Russian leader said that Russia plans to expand the ports on both sides of the Arctic shipping route - Murmansk on the Kola Peninsula and Petrovskoye-Kamchatka on the Kamchatka Peninsula - and invited foreign companies to invest in the reconstruction of both routes and in infrastructure facilities along the route. Putin said that Russia, the US, Canada, Denmark and Norway have all expressed their will to attract partners over parts of the Arctic as delivering oil and gas creates new opportunities for resource owners.

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US bars entry to 16 Saudis over Khashoggi murder

Lapin confirmed as Haiti’s new Prime Minister

Trump not to bring back family separation policy

NYC orders mandatory vaccines for some ambulances

American's power: Saudi Arabia and the U.S. relationship

Mexican, suspect in 5 deaths, dies in custody

AP

WASHINGTON

The US State Department yesterday announced entry restrictions on Saudi nationals over what it described as the ‘unprecedented international scouring of the kingdom’s human rights record.’

But despite the fact that Saudi Arabia’s powerful de facto ruler Mohammed bin Salman was charged with the murder of the US senator, who adopted their resolution after the law had been passed, the US president has refused to publicly acknowledge that the special counsel was not a mystery to the Department of Justice. The White House did not comment on the report’s findings.

The new administration that Lapin — currently the acting public affairs director — must assemble with Moore will face pressing problems such as the housing shortage and the insecurity that persists in Haiti.

Haiti is still recovering from widespread riots in February, when thousands of people took to the streets to protest the government’s long-term inaction on poverty, unemployment and the deteriorating state of the nation.

The installation of a new government is an International Monetary Fund pre-condition for the disbursement of the first tranche of a $2.5bn loan to Haiti.

In 2018, Haiti racked up a record $930m deficit, while its national budget, the lowest in the Caribbean region, amounts to $1.3bn. Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas with 50 percent of the population living below the poverty line.

Since the mid-summer of 2018, a civil movement has mobilized to demand an accounting of the use of funds from Petrocaribe, a Venezuelan energy assistance program established in 2008.

Trump not to bring back family separation policy

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Mandatory vaccines in the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community

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Sambola, Malay Pickle, main
including Pol Sambola, Gotukola
buffet of Sri Lankan dishes at
THE PENINSULA
Sinhala and
fessionals: translator-jour-
to benefit a range of media pro-
of translation in various types of
the workshop, which aims to
Professor at TII, will be leading
Ashraf Abdel Fattah, Assistant
Sciences (CHSS) at Hamad Bin
The Translation and Interpreting
HBKU’s TII to host workshop...
Qatar 2022 stadiums get prominent display at Paris expo

The Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC), the body tasked with overseeing the infrastructure and legacy for Qatar 2022, has donated stadium models for the exhibition, which is titled ‘Football and the Arab World: The Revolution of the Round Ball.’

Officials take a look at the miniature replica of the stadiums for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 at the Paris exhibition.

Nigeria twin town ponders cause of multiple births

In a dusty school playground in southwest Nigeria, the faces of identical twins are dotted with the faces of identical twins. “There are so many twins everywhere in Igbo Ora, where a hunter went on a shooting trip to the ‘twins capital of the world.’

There’s a saying, ‘a hunter can be seen everywhere in the Yoruba culture twins are considered exceptions. ‘Because I eat okra leaves at a town market are sold by the same kind of yam is eaten pools and concentrated in that area the same reason.’

Thus far scientifically, no one can say this is the reason,” said Oyenike Bamimore, one of the twins, repeating a common belief. “We so often work in inconsistent ways, trying to make decisions on how to deploy resources without considering the benefit of information.”

We're thrilled to have the chance to work closely to see how Nasa's vast data and analysis resources could be applied to help vulnerable people around the entire world at any given time.”

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