QR200 currency note introduced for first time in fifth series

By Pasqual V Personal

The new currency already in use in some countries is also available in Qatar, as the QR200 note was introduced for the first time in the fifth series. The new note features a new design with enhanced security features. The new currency has a nominal value of 200 Qatari riyals and is the latest addition to the Qatar Central Bank's currency portfolio.

The design of the new note includes a portrait of the late Emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, along with the Qatar National Council. The note also features a new watermark and a holographic strip with a 3D effect. The new note is expected to replace the current QR100 note in circulation.

The introduction of the new currency is part of Qatar's efforts to modernize its financial system and enhance the ease of doing business in the country. The new currency is expected to bring several benefits, including increased security and convenience for users.

The Qatar Central Bank has also emphasized the importance of financial literacy and education in the country, and the introduction of the new currency is seen as an opportunity to raise awareness about financial matters among the population.

For more information on the new currency and other financial matters, you can visit the Qatar Central Bank's official website or contact their customer service.

Qatar Central Bank

Local government and banking institutions

The Qatar Central Bank has emphasized the importance of the new currency in enhancing the country's financial system and promoting economic growth. The new currency is expected to provide a boost to the country's economy, and its introduction is seen as a step towards achieving Qatar's Vision 2030 goals.

The Qatar Central Bank has also partnered with local government and banking institutions to ensure a smooth transition to the new currency. The institutions have pledged support to educate the public about the new currency and its benefits.

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Asia shares slip on news US to blacklist more China firms

India stocks mark longest weekly winning streak since 2019; rupee rises

Global investors are dumping Indian bonds like never before
China says EU investment deal in final stage, hails progress

BOJ chief Kuroda to keep interest rates guessing with 3-month policy review

Sony pulls Cyberpunk 2077 from PlayStation to CD Projekt

Toshiba seeks acquisitions after string of deal losses

Foreign-locally war against Advantage over Malaysia debt

Bloomberg (Tokyo) C

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Foreign-locally war against Advantage over Malaysia debt

Bloomberg (Tokyo) China said it would not add to the European Union's blacklist of companies and individuals sanctioned over defense concerns, a move that could help close a key sticking point in talks for a trade deal.

"We are not going to add new listings because there are no new listings," Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said at a daily briefing in Beijing.

The comments came as the European Commission's executive vice president, Valdis Dombrovskis, said earlier in a Brussels press conference that China had not added new listings to its blacklist.

"We also need to understand China's point of view," he said.

The EU's 27-member bloc, China and Japan are the only three countries that have not added new listings to their blacklists.

Dombrovskis said the EU's position was clear: "We need China to engage in political dialogue and to listen to the concerns of European investors that need to be addressed.

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Wall St’s call for yen at 100 catches on at Japanese banks

Bearish bets lurk beneath EM vencer of confidence

Citi unseats Goldman as top IPO banker in Europe after 18 years

Bloomberg

Wall Street is calling for a yen at 100, and the Japanese banks are lining up to catch the call. In the past, their response would have been slow, but recent developments suggest they are more ready to act.

The yen has been volatile in recent weeks, with the dollar hitting a two-year high against the yen in late January before falling to a one-month low the following week. The Japanese banks, including Mitsubishi UFJ, Mizuho, and Sumitomo Mitsui, have been quoted as expressing interest in supporting the yen. While they have not made any official statements, they have been active in the foreign exchange market, buying yen and selling dollars.

The yen’s recent rally could be a positive development for the Japanese economy, as a stronger yen makes Japanese exports more expensive and could lead to a decrease in demand for Japanese goods. However, a stronger yen could also hurt Japanese companies that rely on exports for a significant portion of their revenue.

For the Japanese banks, the yen market is a key part of their business. They are major players in the foreign exchange market, and they have extensive networks and expertise in dealing with large institutional investors.

If the yen continues to strengthen, the Japanese banks will likely continue to intervene in the market to support the yen. However, they will also need to consider the potential risks associated with a stronger yen, including increased pressure on Japanese exporters and the possibility of a slowdown in the Japanese economy.

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Bearish bets lurk beneath EM vencer of confidence

The emerging markets (EM) asset class has been under pressure in recent months, with investors becoming more cautious about the economic outlook for many emerging markets. The emerging markets have been hit by a combination of factors, including supply chain disruptions, the delta variant of COVID-19, and rising inflation.

The bears in the EM market are finding support from a number of factors. First, the delta variant of COVID-19 continues to spread, and many emerging markets have seen a rise in infections and deaths. This has raised concerns about the sustainability of economic reopening and the potential for further lockdowns.

Second, inflation in many emerging markets has accelerated, and this has put pressure on central banks to raise interest rates and contractionary measures. This has reduced demand for risk assets, including EM stocks and bonds.

Third, the US dollar has strengthened against most major currencies, which has reduced the appeal of EM assets. The US dollar is seen as a safe-haven asset in times of economic uncertainty.

Despite these challenges, the EM market has shown signs of resilience. Many investors are looking for opportunities to buy at lower prices, and some are focusing on countries that have strong fundamentals, such as Mexico and South Africa.

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Europe markets break 4-day rally on Brexit trade talks, US stimulus doubts

European shares fell on dollar as doubts grow over a post-Brexit trade deal and a stimulus package in the United States lifted gains at the end of a bearish week. European stocks ended the week 1.8% lower. In the US, the S&P 500 fell 2.1%, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average losing 1.3%. The MSCI World Index, which tracks developed and emerging markets, fell 1.2%.

European markets were also weighed down by concerns over the global economy, which has been hit by the pandemic. The eurozone is in a recession, and the UK is also struggling amid a surge in COVID-19 cases. The US is also facing a surge in cases, with the number of new infections and deaths rising. The US government is considering new lockdowns, which could dampen economic growth.

The US Federal Reserve is expected to announce its decision on interest rates at the end of the week. The central bank is expected to keep rates near zero and may announce plans for additional stimulus measures.

The European Union has also announced plans for a stimulus package, which could provide some support to the market. However, there are concerns that the measures may not be enough to counter the negative impact of the pandemic.

The dollar rose against most major currencies, including the euro and the yen. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of six other currencies, rose to its highest level since late October. The dollar's strength is adding to pressure on equities, as it makes US exports more expensive and can hurt corporate profits.

The US government is expected to unveil a new stimulus package, which could provide some lift to the market. The package is expected to include measures to support the housing and auto sectors, as well as additional relief for small businesses.

The UK government is also expected to announce new stimulus measures, including support for the hospitality sector and additional aid for the self-employed. The measures could provide some support to the market, but there are concerns that they may not be enough to counter the negative impact of the pandemic.

In the US, the final reading of the Philadelphia Fed's manufacturing index for October is due to be released on Thursday. The index is expected to show a decline, indicating a slowdown in manufacturing activity. The data will be closely watched for clues on the health of the US economy, as the manufacturing sector is a key driver of growth.

The University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index for November is also due to be released on Thursday. The index is expected to show a decline, indicating a drop in consumer confidence. The data will be closely watched for clues on the health of the US economy, as consumer spending is a key driver of growth.

The US government is also expected to release its final estimate of third-quarter GDP growth on Thursday. The economy is expected to shrink at a slower rate than previously estimated, as the government's stimulus measures have helped to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic.

Overall, the market is expected to remain volatile, with investors closely watching the prospects for US stimulus measures and the progress of COVID-19 vaccinations. The dollar's strength and the prospects for further lockdowns could add to pressure on equities, while the US government's stimulus measures and the progress of COVID-19 vaccinations could provide some support to the market.

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Information contained herein is believed to be reliable and has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. The accuracy and completeness of the information is not guaranteed, however. This information is provided for general information purposes only and is not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any of the financial instruments mentioned. Gulf Times and GTA Bank shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by reliance on this data.
US pension fund TIAA embroiled in probe into Brazil land buying case

Bloomberg

New York

A top US pension fund and a majorugar producer have been linked to a

report that Brazilian prosecutors have charged 27 people, including high-ranking officials, in a corruption investigation tied to a large-scale land deal.

The investigation, which involves allegations of money laundering and fraud, is focused on a deal in which Brazil-based Agribusiness Holdings Ltd. (ABH), a subsidiary of the Brazilian company Foodsul, bought a large tract of land in the state of Mato Grosso.

The company, which is owned by ABH, said in a statement that it is cooperating with authorities and that it is not aware of any wrongdoing.

Theprobe is one of several similar investigations that have been launched in Brazil in recent months, including one into the acquisition of a large iron ore mine by a Chinese company.

The investigations are part of a broader effort by Brazilian authorities to combat corruption and illegal land transactions, which have been a major source of conflict in the country.

US-based pension funds have been under increased scrutiny in recent years due to concerns about their investments in areas where there is a high risk of corruption.

The probe into ABH's land deal is expected to be a significant blow for the company, which is one of Brazil's largest agriculture producers. The company has been a key player in the country's agricultural sector, with operations in several regions.

The investigation is likely to lead to further scrutiny of other companies and their investments in Brazil, as well as the potential for legal action against individuals involved.

The US-based pension funds are expected to be among the first to be affected by the investigation, as they are known to have a substantial interest in Brazilian land purchases.

Bloomberg
Google hit with third antitrust lawsuit, by new state coalition

Google faces three new states that have filed antitrust lawsuits against the tech giant. The lawsuits claim that Google滥用 its dominant market position to harm consumers andcompetition. The states accuse Google of leveraging its massive advertising business to promote its own products at the expense of other companies. The lawsuits seek remedies including structural changes to Google's business practices. The company has denied all allegations and plans to fight the lawsuits. The lawsuits mark the latest in a string of antitrust actions against Google, including recent cases in Europe and the United States. The company faces potential fines, changes in business practices, and other remedies if found guilty. The lawsuits highlight the ongoing debate over the role of tech giants in the economy and the need for stronger antitrust enforcement. It remains to be seen how much impact these lawsuits will have on Google's business and the tech industry as a whole.

Tesla heads to the S&P after meteoric rise and some investors want more

Tesla is set to join the S&P 500 index. The company's stock has soared by over 700% since 2020, making it the fastest-growing company in the index's history. Tesla's success is attributed to its rapid expansion in electric vehicle sales, innovative battery technology, and aggressive cost-cutting measures. The company's stock has become a major darling among investors, driving its market value to over $800 billion. The addition to the S&P 500 is expected to increase Tesla's visibility and liquidity, making it an attractive investment for a wider range of investors. The company faces several challenges, including competition from established automakers, regulatory hurdles, and growing costs. Some investors have expressed concerns about Tesla's growth and sustainability, and some are calling for the company to focus more on profits and less on growth. Tesla's CEO, Elon Musk, has been known for his ambitious plans and occasional outbursts on social media, which have raised questions about the company's strategy and sustainability.
The United States confirmed Persian Gulf tensions in its annual report on Chinese companies, including the country’s military. In the Academic Research Fund, the 2023 report includes a section on China, which covers its military and economic activities. The report also highlights the Chinese military’s impact on the global economy and the potential for conflict in the region.

The United States has recently increased its focus on China’s military developments. Last week, the United States warned that China is developing a new type of fighter jet that could potentially challenge the United States’ military dominance. The United States also alleged that China is increasing its military expenditure, which is now the second-largest in the world, behind only the United States. The report also highlights China’s efforts to develop advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing, which could potentially be used for military purposes.

The report states that Chinese military activities are expanding in various regions, including the South China Sea and the East China Sea. It highlights China’s efforts to increase its naval presence and develop advanced weapons systems, including submarines and aircraft carriers.

The United States also notes that China’s military activities are not limited to the Asia-Pacific region. It mentions China’s efforts to develop its military presence in the Middle East, where it has been building up its naval and air power in recent years.

The report recommends that the United States and its allies should continue to monitor China’s military activities and consider the potential implications for regional security. It also highlights the importance of robust diplomatic and economic engagement with China to manage its military ambitions.

Overall, the report paints a picture of a rising China with a growing military presence, which presents both opportunities and challenges for the United States and its allies.

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**US blacklists dozens of Chinese companies for violating sanctions**

**By John Roberts Wright**

The United States has blacklisted dozens of Chinese companies for violating sanctions, as the Biden administration steps up efforts to isolate China over its human rights abuses and support for Russian aggression in Ukraine.

The United States Treasury Department on Thursday announced sanctions against 31 Chinese companies and individuals, including three companies involved in Ukrainian arms transfers. The companies were blacklisted for violating U.S. sanctions on China, as part of efforts to deter China from providing military equipment to Russia.

The blacklisted companies are accused of violating the act that banned the sale of arms to China, according to the Treasury Department.

The sanctions include asset blocking and prohibitions on trade with the United States. The companies blacklisted include the China National Chemical Engineering Company, the China National Chemical Engineering Company (Group) Corporation, and the China National Chemical Engineering Corporation.

The Treasury Department said the blacklisting was necessary to deter China from providing military equipment to Russia, as the sanctions were intended to prevent China from violating its own laws.

The sanctions come as part of a broader effort by the United States to isolate China over its human rights abuses in Xinjiang and support for Russian aggression in Ukraine.

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**Qatar sees robust y-o-y expansion in use of treated wastewater in Oct**

**By Richard Boak**

Qatar, which has one of the world’s most advanced water reclamation systems, has seen a robust year-over-year expansion in the use of treated wastewater in October, according to government statistics.

The government’s National Water Reclamation Strategy projects that the country’s use of treated wastewater will increase by 2030 to 70% of total water usage, compared to the current 30%.

The expansion in the use of treated wastewater is part of Qatar’s broader strategy to become more self-sufficient in water usage. The country’s desert climate and limited freshwater resources make water conservation a critical issue.

The government has invested heavily in water reclamation facilities, which help to reduce the country’s reliance on desalination. Desalination is a major contributor to Qatar’s carbon footprint, with the country’s desalination plants accounting for up to 30% of the country’s greenhouse gas emissions.

The expansion in the use of treated wastewater is also expected to reduce the country’s reliance on imported water, which has contributed to the country’s relatively high water prices.

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**Portugal says TAP will need 2.4 billion to keep flying**

**By Rafael Marques**

Portugal expects talks with major shareholder China Eastern to start within days, to discuss how the government will inject 2.4 billion euros ($2.6 billion) into Tab. The talks are expected to be held in the coming weeks.

Portugal announced in February that it would inject 2.4 billion euros into Tab, the national airline, to ensure its survival amid the pandemic. The government has been under pressure to save the airline, which is Portugal’s national flag carrier.

The talks are expected to be held in the coming weeks, with the government and China Eastern expected to announce a deal in the coming months.

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**EU says hours left for a Brexit deal, UK block to see sense**

**By Steven Ciobo**

The European Union has only hours left to agree a Brexit deal, or risk losing access to the single market and the customs union, EU officials say.

The European Commission said it had until the end of the week to reach a deal, or risk leaving the EU without a deal.

The talks are expected to be difficult, with the UK and the EU divided over key issues such as the Northern Ireland protocol and fishing rights.

The UK government has repeatedly rejected the Northern Ireland protocol, arguing that it restricts the UK’s ability to trade with the EU.

The EU has also been pushing for the UK to adhere to the protocol, arguing that it is essential for peace and stability in Northern Ireland.

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**Diluted standards of ethical behaviour**

**By Jonathan Morgan**

Sometimes in the early 1980s, when the British Benetton team was training in the United States, one of their drivers was asked if they had ever been involved in any incidents of Mansfield or sexual harassment. Even in those days, there were stories of incidents, but the British team was known for its relaxed approach to such matters.

There are many stories of incidents, such as casual remarks or actions that were taken to be harmless, but which could have been interpreted as inappropriate.

These stories often come to light in the wake of a crisis, when the team is forced to address the issue publicly.

In recent years, there have been several high-profile incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Formula 1, including allegations against leading figures in the sport.

These incidents have highlighted the need for a more robust approach to the issue, including better training and education for drivers and team staff, and stronger measures to ensure that incidents are reported and investigated.

It is hoped that these stories will help to raise awareness of the issue and encourage drivers and team staff to speak out when they witness or experience inappropriate behavior.

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**Banker’s Take**

**By Jonathan Burchardt**

The Banker’s Take is a regular column by Jonathan Burchardt, a financial journalist and commentator.

Jonathan Burchardt is a financial journalist and commentator with a focus on banking, finance, and economic policy.

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**Gulf Times**

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