Qatar-UK trade at £7bn in 2020

By Peter Kagoo
Business Reporter

Total trade between Qatar and the UK rose to reach £7.1 billion in 2020, according to statistics for the year. This was the highest level of trade since 2008, and a significant increase from the £6.3 billion recorded in 2019.

The discovery of natural gas in Qatar in the 1970s transformed the country’s economy, and it has continued to grow steadily over the years. The UK is now one of Qatar’s top trading partners, with trade between the two countries growing significantly in recent years. This has been driven by a number of factors, including the deepening of political and economic ties, and Qatar’s ambition to become a regional and global hub for trade and finance.

"We also want to help Qatar in its food security efforts. We have British agricultural experts working in Qatar. We are also looking into the latest technology to help Qatar build its food security. This includes vertical agriculture, hydroponics and all sorts of different projects," said Wilms.

There’s a lot of interest in developing our relationship in this area, and we hope that after the pandemic, we will start to see even more projects. We are also keen to bring delegations to both directions and start some new projects," Wilms further said. He observed that the UK is also keen to explore new technology and partnerships not only in agriculture but also in the fields of sports, e-commerce and fintech, which are important areas for both countries.

Britain and Qatar are already developing closer ties in major sectors.

---

Exclusive Discount on Safe Deposit Lockers for QNB First Members.
Safeguard your valuables and important documents in your Safe Deposit Locker.
Register for your Safe Deposit Locker from QNB before 31 June and benefit from a 50% discount on the first annual registration fee. This offer is valid exclusively to QNB First Members.

Terms and conditions apply.
Green-fuel push stirs food inflation concerns in rebond from the virus

By Kim Chonn

The push to a higher climate-change-driven green-fuel cycle is adding to food and fuel prices, as it struggles to emerge from the pandemic-driven food crises.

Sowing demand for crops on vast new areas of land is seen as a solution to the problem of rising demand for more food and fuel, as well as more energy. But the push for green-fuel production is forcing many farmers to shift to crops that are being made into fuel from animal feed and used in diesel and gasoline production.

Soybean and corn prices have risen sharply in recent weeks, with the global price of soybeans hitting a record high. The price of corn has also surged, rising by more than 50% in the past six months, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

In the developing world, many farmers are already struggling to make ends meet, and the increase in food prices is putting pressure on households and businesses.

What Biden's emissions goal means to a warming world

By Wy Widdowson

President Barack Obama pledged to promote clean energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels. The new administration has set a new target of cutting emissions by 2030, which is a much more ambitious goal.

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges the world faces, and the United States has a key role to play in addressing it.

What are the penalties for not meeting their goal?

There are several penalties for not meeting the goal of reducing emissions by 2030.

What are the implications of meeting their goal?

Meeting the goal of reducing emissions by 2030 has several implications.

What are the latest developments in this area?

The latest developments in this area include the Paris Agreement and the US commitment to reduce emissions.
Aramco venture arm investing in US startup Wasabi

Bloomberg

The energy capital of Saudi Arabia’s state-owned energy producer Aramco is investing in a US startup that builds data centers.

One of Aramco’s funds, Private Equity & Venture Capital, is contributing to a $30 million funding round in Wasabi, a company that aims to be the largest data storage provider in the US.

Wasabi recently raised over $200 million in a Series D funding round last year, according to data compiled by Crunchbase.

The investment will help Wasabi expand its footprint in the growing market for data storage, where companies are looking for ways to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

Aramco’s investment is part of a broader trend among energy companies to diversify beyond traditional fossil fuels, exploring new avenues for growth in the face of climate change.

The deal also underscores the growing importance of data storage as a critical infrastructure, particularly in the cloud computing sector.

JPMorgan eyes $100m paydown on trade linked to Saudi Aramco deal

Bloomberg

New York

JPMorgan Chase & Co is set to receive a $100 million paydown on an early termination of a swap linked to a $50 billion deal to buy Aramco, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The swap was part of a complex financing structure for the $50 billion deal in which JPMorgan was one of the lead banks.

The early termination was triggered by a tumble in Aramco’s share price, which has fallen sharply since the deal was announced last year.

The banks have been discussing the size of the paydown, but the amount of $100 million was the most likely to be agreed upon.

China hammers bitcoin anew with warning over miner crackdown

Bloomberg

China has not given up on its campaign to crack down on cryptocurrency mining, with warnings over the risks and potential consequences of the activity.

The Chinese government has repeatedly targeted the industry, with regulatory measures aimed at curbing the growing influence of mining operations and curbing the use of electricity for crypto-related activities.

Beijing’s latest warning comes after a period of relative calm, with some mining companies reporting a rebound in revenue.

However, the government’s stance remains clear: any activity deemed to be related to cryptocurrency mining is illegal and will be rigorously addressed.

The warning comes at a time when geopolitical tensions continue to simmer, with concerns growing over the potential for cyberattacks and other digital threats.

China’s move is in line with its broader efforts to contain the growth of the industry, which it sees as a threat to its economic and financial stability.
World’s best rally has Morgan Stanley to Newton of Europe

**Stamford (London)**

For as long as the idea of global equities was back in fashion with the bulk of investors, Morgan Stanley has been a top-of-mind consideration. The timing is more fortuitous with the British ex-Bulova watchmaker turned Blue Bay CEO, the former head of the British government's fiscal council, is now the new CEO of Morgan Stanley. In short, Morgan Stanley has just invested more in Europe and its growth potential than any other major global brand. That is a surprise, given the country's recent turmoil - from the Brexit vote to the recent two-child tax credit cuts.

"This investment is not just a reflection of our continued focus on the European market, but also a recognition of the potential for sustainable growth that is geographically and sector-specific," Newton told Reuters. "It reflects our commitment to the region, and our belief in the potential for investment in technology and innovation, as well as in the strength of the European economy." Newton added that the investment will help Morgan Stanley to continue its focus on growth and innovation in Europe, and to further strengthen its presence in the region.

UniCredit stuns investors by skipping coupon payment on bonds

**Moscow**

In a move that could shake the financial world, UniCredit, the Italian bank, has announced that it will skip its semi-annual coupon payment on its bonds. The move is likely to raise concerns among investors and regulators, who are likely to assess the impact of the decision on the bank's financial health.

The decision comes in the wake of the bank's recent profit warnings, which have raised questions about the bank's ability to meet its financial obligations. The bank's management has acknowledged that the decision was made after careful consideration, and that it is not a reflection of any impairment in the bank's financial position.

The move is likely to raise concerns among investors and regulators, who are likely to assess the impact of the decision on the bank's financial health. It is also likely to generate вопросы among financial analysts and rating agencies, who may reassess the bank's credit rating in the wake of the announcement.

US inflation pressures may ease at the start of 2022: Fed official

**Atlanta**

The Federal Reserve’s Vice Chair, Lael Brainard, has stated that inflation pressures in the US may start to ease at the beginning of 2022. This comes as the US economy continues to recover from the impact of the pandemic.

Brainard said that the Federal Reserve is committed to maintaining a safe and inclusive financial system and ensuring that inflation remains at target. She added that the Fed is closely monitoring developments in the labor market, where employment remains below pre-pandemic levels.

Brainard noted that the Fed is continuing to assess the appropriate level of policy support for the economy, and that it will adjust its policy decisions as needed to support economic growth and job creation.

Inflation bets mount on fear Brazil will not raise rates enough

**London**

With Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro's recent announcement that he plans to cut interest rates to 3.3%, market bets on Brazil's ability to keep inflation under control have softened. This has increased the likelihood that Brazil will need to raise interest rates in the future.

The recent move by Brazil's Central Bank to cut interest rates has raised concerns among investors about the country's ability to control inflation. The Central Bank's decision to cut rates to 3.3% has been seen as a move to stimulate the economy, but it has also increased concerns about inflationary pressures.

In recent months, Brazil has seen inflation rates rise, with the consumer price index (CPI) increasing by 5.3% in 2021. This has led to calls for the Central Bank to raise interest rates in order to bring inflation under control.

Brazil's Central Bank has not raised interest rates since 2019, when it increased rates to 6.5% as a precautionary measure against inflation. The Central Bank's decision to cut rates to 3.3% is seen as a move to stimulate the economy, but it has also increased concerns about inflationary pressures. This has increased the likelihood that Brazil will need to raise interest rates in the future.

The recent move by Brazil's Central Bank to cut interest rates to 3.3% has been seen as a move to stimulate the economy, but it has also increased concerns about inflationary pressures. This has increased the likelihood that Brazil will need to raise interest rates in the future.
Poland defiance as EU court orders halt of major coal mine

Brussels

The Polish government threatened on Tuesday to take the European Union to the European Court of Justice over a ruling that Poland’s coal industry could be affected by a ban on the extraction of coal from the Tarnów site owned by the state-run PGE SA, even if the mine had been isolated in a zone regarding environmental concerns brought forward by the Czech Republic.

Pawel Adamowicz, the chairman of Poland’s government-appointed board of the facility that could have been a major party that could supply 7.5% of the country’s electricity and is in about 120,000 hectares, PGE, the local state-run PGE, has vowed that it would take all the actions to ensure that no capacity is taken by the EU.

The EU court decision stems from a similar action taken by the European Court of Justice over a similar action taken by the European Court of Justice over a similar action. The Czech government’s decision to halt the extraction of coal from the Tarnów site, a mine that produces around 7.5% of the country’s electricity, was challenged by Poland.

The Polish government has announced that it would take action against the Czech court decision, which was deemed illegal by the European Court of Justice.

The Tarnów mine is one of the largest in the country and is considered a key to Poland’s future energy security. The court decision could have significant consequences for the Polish government and the country’s energy industry.

Poland is one of the EU’s largest coal producers, and the Tarnów mine is one of the most important for the country’s energy security. The court decision could have implications for the country’s energy policy and its ambitions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The court decision could also have implications for the EU’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. The Tarnów mine is one of the largest in the country and is considered a key to Poland’s future energy security.

The Polish government has stated that it would take all necessary actions to ensure that the Tarnów mine continues to operate and that Poland’s energy security is not threatened.

After $690bn slump, traders see value in Asia tech stocks

Brussels

Asia tech stocks saw a faint glimmer after a three-year downturn in 2018, but investors are bracing for more turbulence ahead, as the region’s technology sector faces challenges in the wake of the global slowdown.

In the past, tech stocks in Asia have been a major driver of the global market, but the recent downturn has been particularly challenging for the region.

However, some analysts believe that the worst is now over, and that the region’s technology sector may be on the cusp of a recovery. They point to the strong performance of tech stocks in recent months, and the potential for continued growth in the region.

The recent downturn has been particularly challenging for the region’s technology sector, as many companies have seen their revenues and profits decline in the face of slower global economic growth.

However, some analysts believe that the worst is now over, and that the region’s technology sector may be on the cusp of a recovery. They point to the strong performance of tech stocks in recent months, and the potential for continued growth in the region.

The recent downturn has been particularly challenging for the region’s technology sector, as many companies have seen their revenues and profits decline in the face of slower global economic growth.

However, some analysts believe that the worst is now over, and that the region’s technology sector may be on the cusp of a recovery. They point to the strong performance of tech stocks in recent months, and the potential for continued growth in the region.

The recent downturn has been particularly challenging for the region’s technology sector, as many companies have seen their revenues and profits decline in the face of slower global economic growth.

However, some analysts believe that the worst is now over, and that the region’s technology sector may be on the cusp of a recovery. They point to the strong performance of tech stocks in recent months, and the potential for continued growth in the region.

The recent downturn has been particularly challenging for the region’s technology sector, as many companies have seen their revenues and profits decline in the face of slower global economic growth.

However, some analysts believe that the worst is now over, and that the region’s technology sector may be on the cusp of a recovery. They point to the strong performance of tech stocks in recent months, and the potential for continued growth in the region.
The Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) index moved down by 21.7% from 13,700 points, or 3.3% during the week, to close at 10,969 points. The total capital gain decreased by 1.8% to reach QN222.1 billion compared to QN224.1 billion at the end of the previous week.

Of the 48 listed companies, 32 ended the week higher, 15 declined, while one remained unchanged. Qatar Investors Group (QIG) was the best-performing stock with a gain of 8.5%. On the other hand, Industrial Qatari QIC (IQIC) was the worst performing stock with a decline of 7.6%.

Banks and other financial institutions (QSE:QIB, QSE:NADL) were the primary contributors to the weekly index drop. IQIC was the main contributor to the index's weekly gain, adding 121 points to the index. ENKA added an additional 54 points to the index. Further, QICN pushed the index up by another 18 points. Trading volume during the week increased by 150% to QN187.1 billion versus QN83.9 billion in the prior trading week. Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Company (QAMC) was the top-listed traded stock during the week with total traded value of QN57.6 billion. Trading volume increased by 13% to 746.7 billion shares versus 668.4 billion shares in the prior trading week.

Qatar Investors Institution (QII) initiated trades in the prior week. Qatar Investors Institution (QII) initiated trades with net selling of QN838.2 million versus net buying of QN48.9 million in the prior week. Qatar Investors Institution (QII) initiated trades with net selling of QN838.2 million versus net selling of QN789.3 million in the prior week. Foreign retail investors ended the week with net buying of QN838.2 million versus net selling of QN789.3 million in the prior week. Qatar retail investors initiated trades with net selling of QN838.2 million versus net selling of QN789.3 million in the prior week. For YTS (a of Wednesday closing), foreigners were net buyers of 816.14 points.

**Weekly Market Analysis**

**Market Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Market Indicators</th>
<th>Week ended May 4, 2023</th>
<th>Week ended May 1, 2023</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value Total (QNF)</td>
<td>1,087.9</td>
<td>1,036.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Market Cap (QNF)</td>
<td>62,917.0</td>
<td>60,661.7</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Turnover</td>
<td>1,087.9</td>
<td>1,036.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Transactions</td>
<td>45,741</td>
<td>27,506</td>
<td>66.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Indicators</td>
<td>Week ended May 4, 2023</td>
<td>Week ended May 1, 2023</td>
<td>% Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Indices</td>
<td>Close</td>
<td>MT50</td>
<td>MT100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Return</td>
<td>3,975.0</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Turnover</td>
<td>3,842.0</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Total (QNF)</td>
<td>3,975.0</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Indicators</td>
<td>Week ended May 4, 2023</td>
<td>Week ended May 1, 2023</td>
<td>% Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QICN Value Total (QNF)</td>
<td>10,969.0</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>83.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QICN Value Total (QNF)</td>
<td>10,969.0</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>83.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QICN Value Total (QNF)</td>
<td>10,969.0</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>83.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Qatar Exchange (QSE)

**Technical analysis of the QSE index**

The QSE index lost 27% over the past week, it closed at 10,969 points on Thursday's session. We emphasize this general trend to suggest that the index trend down above the 11,000 resistance level that is exactly what happened. This Ward of the week was on the trade low and there is no indication for a bullish trend to develop. When the index crosses the signal line from below and trades above, the major trend remains up, as we need a general signal above the 11,000 resistance level to indicate a bullish trend. A candlestick chart is a price chart that displays the high, low, open, and close for a specific period. The body of the candle is the period, and the top and bottom wicks represent the open and close prices. A bullish trend is indicated by a series of green candles, while a bearish trend is indicated by a series of red candles. The candlestick chart is a popular technical analysis tool used by investors to analyze price movements and identify potential trading opportunities. The current situation is favorable for a bullish trend. A candlestick chart suggests a bullish trend as the recent green candlesticks represent a strong buying sentiment. The next step is to analyze the price action and confirm the trend reversal. The market is expected to continue its bullish trend.

**Definitions of key terms used in technical analysis**

1. **Relative Strength Index (RSI):** A momentum oscillator that measures the strength of price movements. The RSI oscillates between 0 and 100, and is deemed to be overbought when the RSI exceeds 80, and oversold when the RSI falls below 20. The RSI is calculated using the following formula: 

   \[ RSI = 100 - \frac{100}{1 + \frac{RS}{RS_{m}}} \]

   Where: 
   - \( RSI \) is the relative strength index. 
   - \( RS \) is the difference between the higher high and lower low over a specific period. 
   - \( RS_{m} \) is a reference value, typically set to 14 days. 

2. **Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD):** A momentum indicator that shows the relationship between two exponential moving averages. The MACD line is a signal line, and the MACD line is a moving average of the MACD line. The MACD line is calculated as the difference between a fast exponential moving average and a slow exponential moving average. A bullish crossover occurs when the MACD line crosses above the signal line from below, while a bearish crossover occurs when the MACD line crosses below the signal line from above. These crossovers are used to identify potential trend changes.
BUSINESS

Will bankers embrace sensors under their desks when they return to work?

Beaters

New York

At U.S. stocks are off with a beat for now, as evidence mounts that China is making further progress in containing the coronavirus and the global economy is gathering steam. Some analysts believe the world is on the verge of an economic rebound, but that optimism remains fragile and the road ahead is uncertain.

Wall Street investors look to Europe for next leg of stock gains

Bancker

New York

For more than a century, Wall Street has been the hub of American financial markets. And as the economy marches into a new decade, it appears that the same forces that once propelled the industry are still at work. In the first quarter of 2020, capital flows into the U.S. from abroad exceeded $200 billion, a record high. And as investor sentiment continued to improve, the Dow Jones Industrial Average increased by more than 10%. This suggests that Wall Street is still a major player in the global economy.

Away from the big crypto blaze, another market tension eases

Hyde

New York

For more than a century, Wall Street has been the hub of American financial markets. And as the economy marches into a new decade, it appears that the same forces that once propelled the industry are still at work. In the first quarter of 2020, capital flows into the U.S. from abroad exceeded $200 billion, a record high. And as investor sentiment continued to improve, the Dow Jones Industrial Average increased by more than 10%. This suggests that Wall Street is still a major player in the global economy.

Unforgivable move: AT&T drubbing shows dividends remain dedicated

Brenson

New York

One reason ARI's stock was so volatile yesterday was that the company had yet to report its third quarter results of milling dividends for the first time in 13 months. The results came as a surprise, to some extent, given that ARI's revenue growth had been stronger than expected. This suggests that investors are still worried about the sustainability of the company's dividend, even as the company continues to grow.
THE WEEKLY ENERGY MARKET REVIEW

Oil prices fall almost 3% on possible return of Iranian supply

Oil prices fell sharply on Monday after reports emerged of a possible resumption of oil exports from Iran. Tehran has indicated that it may increase its production and could start exporting oil in the near future. This news, combined with the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan, raised concerns about potential disruptions in oil supplies. As a result, Brent crude fell by 3.0% to $73.90, and WTI crude by 3.4% to $67.25. The drop in oil prices could have implications for the global economy, particularly for economies heavily dependent on oil imports. The United States has imposed sanctions on Iran, but some analysts believe that the return of Iranian oil could help to stabilize the market and reduce the pressure on prices. Nonetheless, the situation remains fluid, and further developments could impact the market in the coming weeks.

QIB wins two prestigious accolades at the Global Finance 2021 Innovators Awards

Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB) has been recognized for its excellence in digital banking and corporate services. QIB received two awards at the Global Finance 2021 Innovators Awards ceremony, showcasing its commitment to innovation and excellence in the banking sector. The bank was honored with the “Excellence in Digital Banking” award and the “Excellence in Corporate Services” award. These accolades highlight QIB’s ongoing efforts to provide state-of-the-art digital solutions and exceptional services to its customers. The bank’s Digital Banking platform, QIB Mobile, has been widely praised for its user-friendly interface and comprehensive features, making it a preferred choice for both retail and corporate customers.

Effective vaccine campaign enables gradual reopening of economies: GNEB

Governments around the world have been engaging in effective vaccine campaigns to enable a gradual reopening of their economies. These efforts have involved large-scale vaccination programs, widespread education campaigns, and strict public health guidelines. As a result, many countries have observed a decrease in the number of new cases, leading to the gradual easing of restrictions. However, these gains are not without risk, as the potential for new variants remains. Countries must continue to monitor the situation closely and adapt their strategies as necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of their populations.