Qatar gains focus as investment destination, says Chamber official

Qatar’s relations with Saudi Arabia remain tense as both countries continue to be embroiled in a diplomatic dispute.

The Qatari-Saudi relations have been strained since 2017, when Qatar was excluded from a list of countries to which the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) would allow travel, following the formation of the Saudi-led blockade of Qatar.

In the wake of the dispute, Qatar has sought to diversify its investor base, and recent reports suggest that the country is increasingly looking to China as a potential investor.

As part of its efforts to attract foreign investment, Qatar has been hosting a number of high-level events, including the recent World Cup in Doha, which has drawn significant attention to the country as a potential destination for foreign investors.

However, despite these efforts, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the European Union have all imposed sanctions on Qatar, and the country remains under a strict diplomatic and economic embargo by a number of neighboring states.

Despite these challenges, Qatar remains committed to its goals of becoming a global transportation hub and a leader in the fields of energy and infrastructure.

The country’s strategic location, combined with its strong economic fundamentals and political stability, make it an attractive destination for foreign investors, and Qatar is likely to continue to pursue a policy of liberalization and openness to attract investment in the years ahead.

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**Qatar starts Asian Cup on a winning note**

Qatar earned a 2-0 victory against Vietnam on Wednesday to start its campaign in the AFC Asian Cup in the United Arab Emirates. The win was Qatar's third in a row, having previously defeated Indonesia and Malaysia, and it keeps the team's hopes alive for a historic victory in the tournament.

Qatar's offensive firepower was on display again, with star striker Akram Afif scoring both goals in the match. Afif, who has been in fine form for Qatar, continued his impressive run in front of goal, netting a total of 15 goals in all competitions for the national team.

In midfield, the likes of Karim Brahimi and Almoez Ali were instrumental in setting up the goals, while in defense, the Qatari backline held firm throughout the match.

The win against Vietnam was a crucial one for Qatar, as it secured a valuable three points and moved closer to the top of its group. The team now faces fellow Gulf nation Iran in its next match, and a victory against the hosts would see Qatar firmly placed at the top of the standings.

Despite the recent successes, Qatar still faces a tough challenge ahead, with several strong teams in its group, including Iran, Thailand, and South Korea. However, with its strong squad and world-class infrastructure, the team has the potential to make a significant impact in the tournament and come out as champions.
Katar launches first edition of amber beads expo

As a progressive leader, Qatar's sustainability responsibility (CSR) and best practices in environ-
ment and social responsibility (ESR) practices, Qatar Insurance, has taken the initiative to launch the first edition of the amber beads exhibition. The initiative is one of a kind in the world, aiming to promote Qatar's deep-rooted heritage and culture. The exhibition, held at Katara in Doha yesterday, was inaugurated by the following:

- H.E. the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber Al-Thani
- H.E. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir of Qatar
- H.E. Darío Villanueva, President of the National Assembly of Guatemala
- H.E. Mohamed al-Hakim, Foreign Minister of Iraq
- H.E. Ali bin Sultan Yousef Al-Larm, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Qatar Insurance
- H.E. Fahad Al-Suwaidi, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Investment and Economic Development, Labour and Social Affairs
- H.E. Ghanim bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, Minister of Culture and Sports
- Sheikh Khalid bin Jassim Al-Thani, President of the Board of Directors of Katara

In his speech, the Amir highlighted Qatar's position as the center of Islamic civilization and culture, and the country's commitment to showcasing its deep-rooted heritage. He praised the initiative and expressed his confidence in the success of the exhibition.

The exhibition aimed to promote Qatar's amber beads, showcasing the natural beauty and cultural significance of these precious stones. It featured a variety of amber beads from around the world, highlighting the craftsmanship and tradition associated with their production.

Qatar participates in nuclear arms panel meeting in Cairo

The 46th meeting of the Conference of Parties on nuclear disarmament in charge of implementing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was held in Cairo yesterday. Qatar was represented by its ambassador to Egypt, H.E. Dr. Salih bin Atef Al-Kuwari.

The conference discussed various issues related to nuclear disarmament, including the need for a comprehensive approach to addressing the nuclear threat. Qatar stressed the importance of promoting nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Traffic diversion on part of Salwa Road

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has announced a traffic diversion on part of Salwa Road in one direction, starting from 10am today, due to road works on the road.

The diversion will affect the stretch between Al Khor and Al Shamal. Ashghal has urged road users to follow the detour signs and to use alternative routes to minimize traffic disruptions.

Director-General of QNA meets UK ambassador

The Director-General of QNA News Agency (QNA) Yousef Al-Jazeera met with the UK Ambassador to Qatar, H.E. Andrew G cry, at the Qatari embassy in Doha.

During the meeting, Al-Jazeera and the UK Ambassador discussed various topics, including the need for closer cooperation between Qatar and the UK in various fields. The meeting also touched upon the importance of promoting Qatar’s cultural and educational initiatives in the UK.

Qatar-IRAQ relations witnessing new start

The Cabinet approved draft law on concession granted to WOQOD

Cabinet approves draft law on concession granted to WOQOD

From Page 3

The draft law will allow Qatar Fuel Corporation (WOQOD) to enter into a legal entity for the purpose of entering into a concession agreement to operate refineries and the marketing and distribution of petroleum products in the country. The draft law is expected to be submitted to the parliament for审议 in the coming weeks.

Qatar Insurance sponsors Kahraman beads exhibition

The Qatari Insurance Company (QIC) is sponsoring the first edition of the Kahraman beads exhibition. The exhibition aims to promote Qatar's rich cultural heritage and traditional crafts.

The Kahraman beads are believed to have originated in the Arabian Peninsula and are considered a symbol of Qatar's cultural identity. The exhibition will bring together various artists and artisans from around the world, showcasing their traditional crafts and techniques.

The exhibition will run from 10 January to 10 February 2019 at Katara, the Cultural Village, in Doha, Qatar. It is open to the public and offers an opportunity to learn about Qatar's rich cultural heritage and traditional crafts.

To address the need for roadworks in the area around Rawdat Rashed Road Development works for a new residential area, the statement issued by the Ministry of Municipality and Environment on the establishment, organization and leasing of lands in the Al-Adheem area for recycling and industrial uses.

The draft decision aims to encourage the private sector to invest in the sector for recycling and industrial uses.

The Cabinet also approved the draft decision amending the organization of the Ministry of Municipality and Environment.

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Bashir lauds Qatar’s support for Sudan

Qatar Foundation (QF) has participated in the latest edition of IIE Higher Education Leaders (HEL) Forum, held in Washington, DC. The event, titled “New Directions in International Education: Qatar Edition,” took place at the Gulf Times World Headquarters, and featured Dr Ahmed Al Haddad, president of Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of QF, as a panel moderator.

QF’s involvement in the event formed part of a four-day visit to the US led by HH Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of QF. Dr Al Haddad participated in a panel titled “The Future of Universities in the Global Context,” which was joined by Margie Zegh, president of Dickinson College, Carol, Pennsylvania; and Kevin Kinser, head of Department of Education Policy Studies, Pennsylvania State University. QF’s engagement at the event highlighted the importance of QF establishing Education City (EC) many years ago.

“QF has established Education City with the aim of being a beacon for higher education, providing high-quality education and nurturing a diverse academic environment that fosters innovation, creativity, and critical thinking and expose them to the latest models and technologies. This model, provides students with the opportunity to learn from a highly-qualified and diverse faculty and staff who are given the opportunity to learn from a highly-qualified and diverse faculty and staff across different disciplines and cultures. This is key to the development of the country, and the wider region,” said Al Haddad.

Topics included the flow of international students to universities around the world, collaboration among institutions, and the growing trend of universities establishing satellite campuses internationally.

The event also underscored QF’s involvement in shaping its higher education efforts with the latest global trends in the field, through participation and dialogue.

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The UK has said a ‘Wheeler-dealer’ British woman who fled her family in a ‘refugee-like’ situation has quickly racked up more than 100,000 followers. Ms Rahaf Mohammed al-Qunun, who she says subjected her to physical and psychological abuse, prompted a sharp U-turn by Thai officials, barring her from flying to a humanitarian visa, “Health minister Greg Hunt had said his department would consider the QF’s involvement in the event formed part of a four-day visit to the US led by HH Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of QF. Dr Al Haddad participated in a panel titled “The Future of Universities in the Global Context,” which was joined by Margie Zegh, president of Dickinson College, Carol, Pennsylvania; and Kevin Kinser, head of Department of Education Policy Studies, Pennsylvania State University. QF’s engagement at the event highlighted the importance of QF establishing Education City (EC) many years ago.

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Nigerian military frees editor held over Boko Haram article

By By James Toase, AFP

The Nigerian army has released an editor who had been held for more than three months after he published an article about a planned offensive against militant insurgents in the northeast of the country, his newspaper said yesterday.

Soldiers raided the Daily Trust office in the capital Abuja on Sunday last week and arrested the regional editor Uthman Abubakar, over an article that while authorities "are not gagging the press," the media group said they detained regional editor Uthman Abubakar.

"One day we will even have to think of going into exile," Tshisekedi said in an interview.

"We are bracing for protests that were repressed at the cost of bloodshed, the DRC is in the grip of a two-week election crisis," said Jean-Claude Mulele, the head of the Independent National Election Commission.

The military later said the article "must exercise greater restraint" regarding the insurgents, "he said, without specifying what the restraint would be.

"Military officials in charge of forensic checks being carried out on the northeast insurgency."

The editorial appeared on Tuesday and said it was intended to show the seriousness of the threat.

"If the outcome failed to accurately reflect the vote, results could turn the truth of the ballot "we have been assured a constitutional crisis." said a joint statement from the groups.

"Vice President Cyril Ramaphosa and Zambian President Edgar Lungu are among the heads of state who have urged the government to complete the count within "24 to 48 hours after the vote.

"The delay in releasing the results of the election has led to suspicions and compromising the integrity of the country," South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Tanzania's President John Magufuli said in a joint statement on Monday.

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"Cash shortages have plunged Zimbabwe's financial system into disarray, threatening social unrest and economic collapse."

"Doctors and some teachers have already staged walk-outs, saying they need the hard cash payments to protect them against inflation and a currency crisis — piling pressure on Finance Minister Mangudya."

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In Oval Office speech, Trump demands a wall but does not declare emergency

President Donald Trump argued in a televised speech on Tuesday to give him $5.7bn this year to build a border wall on the US border with Mexico, but stopped short of declaring a national emergency to pay for the barrier with military funds.

In a televised address to the nation from the Oval Office of the White House in Washington DC on Tuesday night, Trump said he authorized the military to construct "an additional wall" to protect the southern border. The military would use existing military buildings, fences and other structures to do so, he said.

Trump's speech came 18 days into a government shutdown, the longest in US history. The partial government shutdown has left hundreds of thousands of federal workers unpaid and more than $25 billion in government services frozen.

The shutdown was triggered over Trump's demands for money to build a border wall, and the president said Tuesday he would use presidential powers to declare an emergency if necessary to pay for the wall.

The president's choice to invoke emergency powers for the wall is likely to increase the stakes of the political showdown. Congress, led by House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, has rejected Trump's wall demand. The White House counsel's office was studying the legal ramifications of declaring an emergency.

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Qatar Charity provides relief aid to snowstorm-hit people in Lebanon

- Nearly 17,000 Syrian refugees, mostly children, women, the sick, the elderly and persons with disabilities, received relief aid from Qatar Charity during the past two days of the storm.

Qatar Charity (QC) provided emergency relief aid to thousands of Syrian refugees in the Arsal camp, who are affected by the Storm Norma that wracked their camp these days in Lebanon, benefitting 17,000 affected people during the past two days of the storm.

The relief team managed to reach the camp, despite difficulties due to the accumulated snow, heavy rain and violent winds and distributed assistance as part of QC’s winter campaign entitled “Below Zero”.

Syrian refugees in Arsal, a town and municipality situated in eastern Lebanon, are badly affected by the snowstorm, which has increased their suffering in light of a severe shortage of basic life necessities, especially heating materials.

Qatar Charity managed to intervene quickly to provide relief aid to the affected persons in order to help them survive the blizzard, as the state of emergency has been declared.

The charity has allocated a budget to support those affected by the snowstorm within the framework of the “Below Zero” campaign. This makes Qatar Charity one of the first humanitarian agencies to respond to this humanitarian duty.

The number of beneficiaries during the first two days of the storm reached about 17,000 Syrian refugees, mostly children, women, the sick, the elderly and persons with disabilities. The relief aid included heating fuel, blankets, winter clothes and other items to protect the tents from rain and wind, in addition to the distribution of food aid to the affected families, in coordination with the Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) in Lebanon.

Qatar Charity extended sincere thanks to all of those who donated to its winter campaign entitled “Below Zero”, urging benefactors to make more contributions to support the affected people, as they are living under the harsh weather conditions these days, suffering from freezing cold waves, heavy rain, snow and blustery winds.

Jihan al-Qaisi, relief intervention coordinator, said, “Qatar Charity is one of the first organizations to respond to the Syrian refugees’ appeal for help in Arsal. The situation in Arsal is harsh and requires urgent action to salvage the quickly deteriorating condition there.”

Al-Qaisi emphasized that although Qatar Charity has contributed to helping thousands of families, the situation still requires the concerted efforts of all for the relief of the refugees. The programme coordinator described the situation in Arsal as harsh, which requires urgent action to mitigate the quickly deteriorating conditions.

Qatar Charity urges people in Qatar to continue supporting its “Below Zero” campaign in order to reach out to the largest number of displaced people, refugees and those in need.

The donations for the campaign can be made through QC’s website (QCH,QA) and application. The donors can also request a “home collector” through QC’s app (QCHQAAPP) or dial the charity’s hotline, 44667711, to make their contributions.

Mobile donations can also be made. To send QR50, QR100 and QR500, one can send an SMS with code (B0) to 92632, 92642, and 92428, respectively.

Donations to the “Below Zero” campaign can also be made at QC’s headquarters or through its branches within the country and collection points in commercial complexes.

It is worth mentioning that since the beginning of the Syrian crisis, Qatar Charity has been supporting Syrian refugees in Lebanon by implementing many relief, shelter, health, development, and education projects.

Qatar Charity has carried out many relief projects for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in 2018 at a cost of more than QR85mn, benefiting about 4 million people in various fields.
Kim ends Beijing visit

AFP

Kim Jong-un’s train left Beijing yesterday after the North Korean leader visited his ally on a trip seen as a strategy session ahead of his expected summit with Donald Trump.

Chief correspondent Hua Po told AFP. “Kim needs the support of Xi as he asks the US to make substantial steps, such as providing assistance to North Korea and normalising relations with North Korea,” he said.

A Victoria Police forensic officer carries items to be loaded into a van yesterday outside the US consulate in Melbourne. — IANS

Australia police probe suspicious packages sent to missions

Police in Australia are investigating four suspicious packages sent to a wide range of embassies and consulates yesterday, while officials said the US and British consulates in Melbourne, but there were no reports of harm to staff.

“Ambassador or consul will communicate with their counterparts in the US and Chinese officials also likely want to impress on Kim – who has so far pursued only limited reform – the benefits of normalisation with South Korea,” he said.

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MPs force May’s hand as Brexit vote looms

London Air Ambulance anniversary

Pension cold-calling ban comes into effect

Police probe if Heathrow drone incident linked to Gatwick chaos

Teen’s murder was targeted attack: police

The morning after the murder of 14-year-old Aiden Bickley outside a McDonald’s restaurant in Bickley Road, Croydon, detectives revealed an incident linked to Gatwick chaos — over 14 hours after theERTICAL featured in its main headline. Covers were investigated as the 14-year-old had been working at a McDonald’s, and they were told it was an incident linked to Gatwick chaos. The investigation was launched as the 14-year-old had been working at a McDonald’s, and they were told it was an incident linked to Gatwick chaos.

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AHP

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German businesses have found it increasingly difficult to find key staff and are now hiring overseas. (Photo: Shutterstock)
**Rahul attacked for ‘mischievous’ remark**

The National Commission for Women (NCW) will today send notice to Congress president Rahul Gandhi over his recent remark on Union Home Minister Amit Shah and also seek clarification on what grounds he made such a statement. NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma had tweeted earlier that “rhetoric misusing women’s sentiments” is being promoted by political parties.

**Controversy**

Sharma, who is on a three-day visit to Jaipur, to meet Assam MP Pragya Thakur, said the UP government and Amit Shah are promoting such rhetoric in order to make women feel threatened. 

**Appeal in top court over Accidental Prime Minister**

A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Delhi High Court order dismissing a petition which sought to reserve a seat for women in the Lok Sabha seat of Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, from where the late MP-defaulting Congress president Rajiv Gandhi represented. 

**Praveen Togadia**

As he contended that the seat “will always be a women’s seat” and that women had to be protected at all times, the court had reserved its order for later hearing.

**Kashmir IAS officer quits over killings**

The Kashmir police have registered a case against an IAS officer who submitted a demittement letter last week, days after a video clip showing him congratulating an accused in a 2018 lynching case went viral.

**APOLOGETIC**

Cricketer Pandya sorry for ‘sexist’ comments

Cricketer Hardik Pandya has issued an apology for his alleged “sexist” comments made during a show hosted by Bollwood Mindset in Mumbai. Pandya was asked by the host to clarify if he was ‘sexist’ while answering questions about female cricketers. Pandya replied that women were equally capable and that he had no issue with them playing. Pandya also praised the women’s team and said he was sorry for the comments.

**CBI director Alok Verma rejoints on probe**

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Director Alok Verma has been transferred back to the agency, a government officer said on Wednesday, and reviewed the progress of various investigations underway.

**Kerala hit badly on second day of strike**

The bank has lodged a complaint with the police, who have registered a case against him on charges of criminal intimidation and threatening life. The bank had filed a complaint against Banerjee, the managing director of Surendra Finance Limited, for accumulating and defrauding the bank.

**Cold wave continues in Kashmir**

A woman police with her husband at a hotel in the district of Srinagar. An isolated cold wave continued in the Kashmir Valley yesterday with temperatures dropping below freezing point.

**Modi vows to expose SP-BSP ‘misdeeds’**

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By Maria Isabel Sanchez and take the helm of the Brazilian Navy — yesterday.

Critics have long been blamed for a fuel bank robbery.

On Tuesday he said the military had rushed to fill their tanks on Tuesday, while it traced leakages, the government said decisions about who was to be permitted to operate pipelines and refineries will be given a reciprocal review by both countries.

The EU even reiterated on Wednesday its refusal to recognize the legitimacy of Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro, who was sworn in on January 10, 2019, in 

Criminal groups linked to drug cartels have long been blamed for a fuel bank robbery.

Bolsonaro took over a country cursed by an economic crisis.
**Probing into undeclared foreign assets of Pakistani residents**

The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has begun a probe into undeclared foreign assets of Pakistani residents, including Indian and Pakistani nationals, to detect tax evasion. The FBR has issued notices to 300 people across the country, of which 100 people belong to Sindh region, the sources added. Pakistan signed an agreement with the Economic Cooperation Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in June 2017, it issued the procedure for the working on data of many Pakistani hav- ing interest from the world's major tax havens. The prime minister has announced that the probe would be extended to all provinces after the scrutiny and dis- closure of information on September 30, 2018. The scrutiny and dis- closure of information was restricted to the people who are owned by Pakistanis in the UK, information was made available under AEoI. The sources added.

**Malala’s biopic to have premiere in London**

Bollywood film Gul Makai, which chronicles the life of Malala Yousufzai, the Pakistani schoolgirl who was shot in the head by the Taliban, has been released in the UK. The film is based on Malala’s journey from her days in Swat Valley to her becoming the youngest Nobel Prize winner. The film is written by Shubhaa Chatter- jee, Gul Makai star Malala and Inter- national Women's Day. The film is based on Malala’s journey from her days in Swat Valley to her becoming the youngest Nobel Prize winner. The film is written by Shubhaa Chatterjee, Gul Makai star Malala and International Women’s Day.

**Malala’s biopic to have its premiere in London**

A post of Malala Yousufzai (Gul Makai) Pakistan government will set up a center to provide legal aid and counseling to vulnerable segments of society.

Prime Minister Imran Khan

PM reviews progress on ‘ease of doing business’ in country

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**Heads of two gas utilities fired over energy crisis**

Gas companies in Sindh province are under the spotlight due to the country’s energy crisis. The country has significant natural gas reserves that can fill almost half its energy require- ments. The country’s gas utilities are dealing with a severe water crisis that has seen repeated supply cuts. The gas companies in Sindh province are under the spotlight due to the country’s energy crisis.

**Probe into undeclared foreign assets of Pakistani residents**

The FBR initially started 300 cases of people from the Sindh region, which includes Luni, Umerkot, Bahawal, Sukkur, Jacobabad, Sindh province, which includes Luni, Umerkot, Bahawal, Sukkur, Jacobabad, and Sukkur. The FBR initially started 300 cases of people from the Sindh region, which includes Luni, Umerkot, Bahawal, Sukkur, Jacobabad, Sindh province, which includes Luni, Umerkot, Bahawal, Sukkur, Jacobabad, and Sukkur.

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Ombudsman to probe flood control scam

By Eugene V Antoine

S Pere to witnesses to the Palawan massacre attended a hearing yesterday to retest their statements.

Rep. Zaldy Magdangal of Maguindanao's 2nd District, who is aspiring to be a senator in the mid-term elections, said he did not hear any witness to cooperate and media operator could not be induced.

Magdangal attended a news conference in Naga City to launch a probe into the allegations by the same party that initially set off the controversy.

But, he said, "there are also witnesses who cannot be bribed."

The House is the youngest brother of Maguindanao Governor Esmael Mangudadatu, who has also been included in the list of witnesses.

The probe will be conducted by the Ombudsman, who has started investigating the killings.

Witnesses have stated that it was the man of Andal Ampatuan, Jr, who met the congressmen and himself had control of the massacre.

"We are a lot disappointed over the court's granting of bail to former Naga City Mayor Jonathan "Jojo" Cambajom, who is accused of being involved in the massacre.

"We are a lot disappointed over the court's granting of bail to former Naga City Mayor Jonathan "Jojo" Cambajom, who is accused of being involved in the massacre."

The court ruled that the investigative team did not need to be present for the hearing, which was to be held in the city hall.

By Eugene V Antoine

Ombudsman to probe flood control scam

By Eugene V Antoine

Ejercito says sin tax will ensure funds for healthcare

By Herminio T Tanteza

Senator Joseph Victor "JV" Ejercito said yesterday that his plan for a sin tax would ensure funds for healthcare and infrastructure projects.

Ejercito said that the plan was a way to ensure that the government would have enough funds to invest in healthcare and other projects.

He noted that the Philippines had one of the highest rates of obesity in the world and that the sin tax would help to address this problem.

Meanwhile, Secretary Benjamin Diokno, the Budget chief, said the government had already signed a 3-year agreement with China to provide funds for healthcare projects.

"This is a good move," Diokno said.

The agreement was worth P30 billion and was expected to be signed in Beijing next month.

Diokno also said that the government was exploring other sources of funding, such as international donors and private sector investments.

Ejercito said that the sin tax would help to reduce the country's health burden and that it would also help to improve the country's image overseas.

"This is a win-win situation," Ejercito said.

"This is a win-win situation," Ejercito said.

Millions throng annual procession

By Deirdre R Acosta

T housands of believers thronged to the Black Nazarene statue at its penultimate station in Quiapo, Manila yesterday to keep faith in God, "she added.

"It is so dangerous to join the procession. If you see people falling, don't help them. It's not your fault, " she added.

The procession, which started at 7 a.m., was also attended by President Rodrigo Duterte, who joined the procession at the start and ended it by lighting candles and dedicating the statue to the Black Nazarene.

"We are a multi-faith country. We celebrate different religions and cultures, " he said.

Duterte said that he was joined by the leaders of different religions, who also prayed for the country.

He added that he had asked theCanvas team to work on the background of the image and to add a white border around the picture with the words "PHILIPPINES" in red letters.

He said that the team had done a good job and that he was pleased with the final result.

"The team did a great job," he said.

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Millions throng annual procession

By Deirdre R Acosta

T housands of believers thronged to the Black Nazarene statue at its penultimate station in Quiapo, Manila yesterday to keep faith in God, "she added.

"It is so dangerous to join the procession. If you see people falling, don't help them. It's not your fault, " she added.

The procession, which started at 7 a.m., was also attended by President Rodrigo Duterte, who joined the procession at the start and ended it by lighting candles and dedicating the statue to the Black Nazarene.

"We are a multi-faith country. We celebrate different religions and cultures, " he said.

Duterte said that he was joined by the leaders of different religions, who also prayed for the country.

He added that he had asked theCanvas team to work on the background of the image and to add a white border around the picture with the words "PHILIPPINES" in red letters.

He said that the team had done a good job and that he was pleased with the final result.

"The team did a great job," he said.

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Also being discussed.

US president said at the weekend, leading sceptics to speculation of a second Kim-Trump summit to try and South Korea's Moon suggesting he would do so, but since disagreed over what that means.

peninsula in a blaze of publicity, but the two sides have respects to Xi in his first overseas trip as leader.

onto its territory and the prospect of US troops which would threaten floods of refugees streaming diplomatic backer and trade partner.

\( \text{It shows Beijing clearly has North Korea card to play if it sees fit} \)

Chinese forces played an integral role defending the North during the 1950-1953 Korean War. Beijing claims Pyongyang's key diplomatic backer and trade partner.

It has an array of weapons, including nuclear-tipped missiles, that it could use against the US, which would threaten floods of refugees streaming onto its territory and the prospect of US troops stationed on its border in a unified Korea, but in recent years became increasingly frustrated with its nuclear antics.

That changed last spring, when Kim ended six years as a diplomatic schlep to go to Beijing and pay has respects to Xi in his first overseas trip as leader. A series of visits have followed in both directions – although Xi has yet to reciprocate with a trip to Pyongyang – along with these summit between Kim and the South's President Moon Jae-in, and Beijing sent Kim a plane to travel to Singapore.

At their meeting Kim and Trump signed a vague pledge to work towards denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in a blaze of publicity, but the two sides have since disagreed over what that means.

Kim did not visit Seoul by the end of last year, despite South Korea's Moon suggesting he would do so, but speculation of a second Kim-Trump summit to try and break the deadlock has mounted.

A situation that meeting was being negotiated, the US president said at the weekend, leading sceptics to express hopes that its substance and outcomes were also being discussed.
India’s great wall of equality

By Jayati Ghosh

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eat year was a watershed moment in the Indian economy, as the GDP movement reversed decades of remarkable growth in the world, forcing everyone powerful to look for policies for their behavior toward women. But, despite a potential hard fork, the movement towards women’s equality in India is moving forward.

Increased awareness of domestic violence against women has led to calls for a more rigorous response. The rise in incidents of domestic violence has coincided with a surge in demand for women’s rights advocacy and gender equality measures. This has led to increased funding for women’s organizations and greater visibility for women’s rights activists.

However, despite these gains, women continue to face significant challenges. Women’s political representation remains low, and women’s access to education and healthcare is still limited. Women also continue to experience gender-based violence, including sexual harassment and violence.

In addition to these challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on women’s lives, particularly in terms of their economic rights and opportunities. The pandemic has led to increased rates of unemployment and underemployment for women, and women have also experienced increased domestic workloads.

Despite these challenges, there are signs of hope. Women’s organizations and advocates continue to work towards gender equality and women’s rights, and there have been some notable successes in recent years. For example, the Supreme Court of India has ruled in favor of women’s rights in several cases, including the right to property, the right to education, and the right to equal pay.

Overall, the situation for women in India remains challenging, but there is hope for progress. With continued advocacy and support, women in India can continue to make strides towards gender equality and women’s rights.
Qatar Airways brand store unveiled at HIA

Qatar Airways and Qatar Duty Free today unveiled the brand’s first-ever concept store at Hamad International Airport (HIA) yesterday.

The unveiling was attended by senior officials including the Qatari ambassador to Germany, Husseine Thabet Musleh, as well as professional football stars such as Mats Hummels, Niklas Süle, and Bayern München Kingsley Coman, as well as professional football star Gabriel Arenas from Qatar Airways’ football team. The star-studded event was operated by Qatar Duty Free.

Qatar Airways CEO, Akbar al-Baker, said: “We are delighted to launch our first-ever concept store from an exclusive range of retail brands. It offers an opportunity to share that Qatar Airways is delivering quality travel experiences to our customers, enabling them to enjoy the Qatar Airways experience on the ground. We are excited to launch this new retail concept of our magnificent home, Hamad International Airport, a further testament to our vision of delivering the perfect travel experience for our customers.”

Mousa Al-Rasheed, Managing Director of the Hamad International Airport, said: “Qatar Airways is one of the biggest brands in the world and the Hamad International Airport is delighted to be welcoming the launch of the first Qatar Airways concept store here at HIA. The event yesterday was a great opportunity to showcase Qatar Airways’ on-ground service experience and demonstrate the level of quality travel experience to customers visiting Qatar Airways’ new store at HIA.”

Al-Baker added: “We are excited to launch the concept store at HIA, which is part of delivering our vision of being a high-end luggage collection, a high-end luggage collection, and a high-end luggage collection. The new store is designed to engage shoppers in a high-end luggage collection, and to enrich their patterns in their collections each in discerning fashion and design, together with the retail environment and traditional culture.”

Qatar Airways’ new store is located in the international Terminal 2 at the airport. The store is specifically designed to welcome visitors to the Hamad International Airport, with a high-end luggage collection, a high-end luggage collection, and a high-end luggage collection. The new store is designed to engage shoppers in a high-end luggage collection, and to enrich their patterns in their collections each in discerning fashion and design, together with the retail environment and traditional culture.

QF’s offers advice to emerging fashion designers in Doha

Qatar Duty Free invited designers to participate in an exhibition of local Qatari designers’ works, which is held in the world’s top global teams, play the world’s top global teams, play the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams.

Qatar Duty Free’s (QDF) initiatives continue with the Qatar Fashion Design Competition to support and introduce emerging fashion designers to the international market. The initiative offers a platform for designers to present their work and ideas, while also promoting Qatar’s cultural heritage.

The Qatar Fashion Design Competition, which is part of Qatar Duty Free’s ‘Designers’ platform, provides a platform for the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams, play and visits by the world’s top global teams.

QDF has announced the winners of the ‘Designers’ platform for the year 2019, which includes the following categories:

- ‘Arab Fashion Design’
- ‘Qatari Design’
- ‘International Design’
- ‘Emerging Design’
- ‘Student Design’

The winners of the ‘Designers’ platform were awarded certificates and prizes, which included a cash prize of QR10,000 for the overall winner, QR5,000 for the runner-up, and QR2,500 for the third place. The competition also provided a platform for designers to showcase their work and ideas to potential clients and investors.

QDF is committed to supporting local and emerging designers and is dedicated to promoting Qatar’s cultural heritage through its initiatives. The Qatar Fashion Design Competition is one such initiative, which aims to provide a platform for designers to present their work and ideas, while also promoting Qatar’s cultural heritage.

For more information, please visit qatardutyfree.com/subscribe.