Qatar, Nigeria to strengthen ties

QIA, Crown acquire iconic properties in NY

Oud festival kicks off at Katara
Amir accorded ceremonial welcome in Abuja

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani being accorded a ceremonial send-off at Kigali International Airport yesterday.

Amir, Rwandan leader vow to strengthen ties

The Amir and the accompanying delegation were welcomed by Rwandan President Paul Kagame at the Nyanza Palace.

Rwanda recognises Qatar's efforts in the field of health care

President Kagame expressed gratitude to the Amir for the key role being played by Qatar in the field of health care.

Doha symposium discusses response to natural disasters

The symposium, to be held today at the Dr Hassan Al Mohanna Center, will focus on issues of mutual interest.

Al-Muraikhi meets US congressman

The meeting was followed by a signing ceremony for memorandums of understanding, and an agreement between the two countries.

The Amir sends a cable to President Kagame expressing his gratitude to the Amir for the key role being played by Qatar in various fields, including education, trade, investment, infrastructure, information technology, and tourism.

The Amir wished the president the best of health and happiness, and the friendly people of Rwanda further progress and prosperity.
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First draw on 7 Trip for the Champions League Final Match in Madrid is on May 8, 2019
Second draw on 50 SAMSUNG GALAXY S10 and 50 QR 3,000 Vouchers from HARVEY NICHOLS is on June 16, 2019
Volkswagen Touareg 2019 model recalled

The Ministry of Commerce and Tourism in Qatar has announced the recall of the 2019 Volkswagen Touareg model due to a malfunction in the right front shock absorber fork.

The Ministry states that it will work closely with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair work, and will communicate with consumers to ensure that the necessary repairs are carried out. The Ministry urges all customers to report any incidents to its Consumer Protection and Anti-Commercial Fraud Department, which will investigate.

Qatar and Ethiopia review ties

The 2019 International Date Food Expo and Fair will take place in Doha from 14 to 18 October 2019, with the participation of local and international companies, institutions, and organizations specializing in dates and date products. The event will feature a variety of dates and date products, as well as date-related goods and services.

The expo aims to promote the national product of dates, including their production, supply, and packaging, to encourage the conservation and use of the palm tree, and to make this event an annual event to benefit the cultural heritage.

The expo also aims to introduce dates and date products, showcasing the cultural and heritage aspects of the palm tree and highlighting the importance of its use for food and culture. The expo aims to increase production positively affecting their sales volume.

Dates expo begins today

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser Al Thani met the visiting Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Ethiopia, Dr Endesay Tefaha, and her accompanying delegation, in Doha yesterday. They reviewed the bilateral relations between Qatar and Ethiopia and the means of supporting them in various fields, in addition to issues of common concern.

Fakhro meets Gambian minister

HE the Minister of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs Yosouf bin Badara Joof, and his accompanying delegation, visited Qatar yesterday. During the meeting, they reviewed the bilateral relations between Qatar and Ethiopia, and the importance of its dates production and date products in the international market, which is characterized by the demand for quality dates and their derivatives.

The meeting also included discussions on the importance of the dates industry in both countries, the potential for cooperation and exchange of experiences, and the establishment of a joint committee to discuss ways to strengthen the bilateral relations in the field of dates production and date products.

Chief of Staff meets US Air Force Central Command commander

The Chief of Staff of the Qatar Armed Forces, General (Ret) Heri M. bin Khalifa Al-Thani, met with the Commander of US Air Forces Central Command Joseph Guastella. The meeting discussed ways to strengthen and expand the cooperation between the two sides and ways of strengthening and developing them. It also included the importance of the bilateral relations and the role of the international military cooperation authority in promoting national development and the protection of national security interests.

End of project sale opportunity! Everything has to go!
Qatar

Gulf Times
Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Ministry to mark Regional Environment Day today

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment will today celebrate the Regional Environment Day, held on April 24 every year, the day that countries bordering the maritime zone of the Kuwait-based Regional Organisation for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) signed the Kuwait Regional Convention for Co-operation in the Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution in 1978.

This year’s celebration comes under the theme ‘The Risks of Climate Change on the Marine Environment... Preparing for Confrontation’.

In a statement on the occasion, the Ministry of Municipality and Environment stressed that the State of Qatar attaches great importance to climate change. In its national vision and under its environmental pillar, the ministry has made specific statements about climate change. It has also undertaken several projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The ministry confirmed that the State of Qatar has been active at the international level to address the phenomenon of climate change as a cross-border phenomenon, and worked to develop a national strategy for adaptation to climate change. The State of Qatar was one of the first signatories to the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

ROPME executive secretary Dr Abdulrahman Abdullah al-Awadhi said that the celebration of the Regional Environment Day will draw the attention of various social groups to the priority environmental issues in the region and promote an integrated coastal zone management plan to the country and work to prepare a national strategy for adaptation to climate change.

Ministry of Awqaf honours students

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs honoured the schools and institutions participating in an educational programme during a ceremony held yesterday at the Sheraton Hotel Doha under the patronage of HE the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr Gaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari. More than 23,000 students participated in the programme from 388 school and educational institutions, and more than 265,000 gifts have been distributed over the last six years. In his speech, the Director of the Department of Religious Call and Guidance Mal Allah al-Jaber said that the programme aims at correcting behaviour, promoting good morals and developing scientific aspects, and it encourages creativity and upgrades participants’ skills. The honours ceremony was attended among others by HE Dr Gaith bin Mubarak, Al-Kuwari and the Director of School Affairs Department at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education Khalifa bin Saud al-Ghamdi.

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Qatar tops region in providing coverage of vaccinations

The Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPH) said yesterday that Qatar is keen to deliver the best national immunisation programme and is making all efforts to ensure that all citizens and residents are vaccinated.

Speaking on the side-lines of a workshop held recently by the MoPH yesterday, the director of the World Immunisation Day, Health, Department, Dr Soha al-Bayat, confirmed that Qatar tops the country list in the region in providing the highest coverage of safe and effective vaccines, which ensures the quality of the vaccines used.

Dr al-Bayat said: "We have adopted the World Health Organisation guidelines in preparing the schedule for vaccinations, which ensures the people’s health and safety, and are committed to ensuring that all our citizens and residents are vaccinated.

She noted that the MoPH is marking World Immunisation Day this year and the focus is on encouraging people to get the necessary vaccinations at the specified times to ensure the protection of children and residents for them to lead a healthy and productive life.

The workshops were attended by several experts and activities were carried out in cooperation with the MoPH’s Public Health Department and Health Care Corporation, National Health, and Safety, in addition to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Qatar Chamber, and the World Federation of National Associations for International Health (IFNA). The workshops are part of the Ministry’s continuous efforts to improve the quality of health services and the adaptability of health authorities to new challenges.

Wafa AlRayes, head of the MoPH’s immunisation department, said that the workshop was an opportunity to review the activities of the previous year and discuss the progress of the vaccination programme, which is one of the best national immunisation programmes in the region.

AlRayes said that the workshop provided an accurate assessment of the programme’s performance and identified areas for improvement.

The workshop was attended by several experts, including Dr Soha al-Bayat, head of the MoPH’s immunisation department, and Dr Abdulaziz al-Mass, vice-president of the MoPH’s immunisation board.

During the workshop, the participants discussed the progress of the vaccination programme, the challenges faced, and the measures taken to overcome them.

The participants agreed that the MoPH has made significant progress in improving the quality of health services and the adaptability of health authorities to new challenges.

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We wish them continued progress and success
QU opens annual research forum

Qatar University (QU) yesterday opened the Annual Research Forum & Exhibition 2019 under the theme “Resilience in Research”, a part of the university’s efforts to highlight the potential of the University’s graduates in education and innovation.

The forum highlights the award-winning research being conducted at QU, which promotes the values and research priorities of Qatar in the areas of water security, energy security, security of information and communication technology, and the goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Professor Mariam Al-Ali al-Maa’mari, vice-chancellor of QU, noted that students, researchers, and professors from QU, including PhD students, have contributed to almost all of the projects and innovations that were showcased.

Professor Al-Maa’mari also emphasised the importance of new programmes, collaborations, interactions, and other initiatives that take place during the QU Research Boardmap 2018-2022, Qatar National Research Strategy, and Qatar National Vision 2030.

The forum also included a panel discussion on the scholarly work presented at previous editions of the Annual Research Forum, the implementation of these outcomes in the context of the QU PhD students’ research.

The forum also included the launch of the QU Digital Library, which is designed to create an online platform that provides access to Qatari publications, cellular, and digital information.

Vodafone makes 5G available in Qatar homes

Vodafone Qatar has launched a major leadership in driving digital innovation with news that it is making 5G technology commercially available with the launch of its latest innovation - Vodafone GigaHome - the state-of-the-art Giga-Wi-Fi Hub powered by Vodafone’s shared network, including fibre and 5G. The company notes its statement.

The company is making 5G technology accessible to every home with installation fees.

Vodafone GigaHome was launched in Qatar to provide guaranteed Wi-Fi in every room using the latest innovation – Vodafone GigaHome – the state-of-the-art Giga-Wi-Fi Hub powered by Vodafone’s shared network, including fibre and 5G. The company notes its statement.

For more information on Vodafone GigaHome, one can visit the nearest Vodafone store or go to www.vodafone.qa/GigaHome.

Qatar National Library takes part in university’s Reading Week

Qatar National Library recently took part in the Qatar University (QU) Reading Week, which brings together Qatar University’s academic community, authors, and readers to celebrate World Book Day.

The three-day activity, which concluded yesterday, was under the theme, Reading to Life.

The Library showcased its services through a portable library booth, where librarians and staff were present to answer questions and provide information on its books, journals, and online resources. For part of the Reading Week, the Library launched its first portable library storytelling activity for students at the Early Childhood Center (ECC) in Education City.

The lecture will highlight legal aspects of Qatar family law and its presence at the College of Islamic Studies (CIS), which will include legal aspects of Qatar family law and its presence at the College of Islamic Studies (CIS). The lecture is designed to take on the topic of Qatar family law, which is a key area of importance in the country.

Professors in Qatar Family Law and Gender Studies are conducting the lecture. Dr Alwan, a professor of Shariah at the Qatar Police College, will shed light on the role of the family as a cornerstone for the development and maintenance of society’s principles, beliefs, ethics, and legal system.

The lecture will focus on the legal aspects of the family in Qatar, including Qatar family law as well as legal aspects, applications, justifications, and inferences.

The lecture will be conducted by the College of Islamic Studies (CIS) at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) on Thursday, 22nd March 2018 at the Counselling Unit - Room 1 at Minaretein in Education City from 7pm to 9pm.

The College of Islamic Studies (CIS) at the College of Islamic Studies (CIS) at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) in Qatar’s first annual Qatar Family Law and Gender Studies lecture today at HBKU.”

Qatar family law lecture today at HBKU

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Catherine Gillespie, director of the National Cancer Programme, said: “The National Cancer Programme, funded by the Qatar Cancer Society, has highlighted the importance of prevention and early detection, as well as awareness campaigns, to reduce the risk of this disease.”

The thyroid is the second most common cancer among the female population in Qatar. In 2019, 77 women were diagnosed with thyroid cancer in Qatar, according to the QNCR 2015 Annual Report.

“Thyroid cancers have a very high chance of successful treatment. As with many cancers, it is important that they are picked up at an early stage, where treatment and outcome are better,” said Gillespie.

The Gulf Consultant and Quality Conference, which will be held today at the Sharjah Grand Hotel, features a number of workshops held by experts from PR and Corporate Communication at Ooredoo – said: “Ooredoo understands the importance of preventive medicine, health promotion and public awareness. We see this as a prime platform to continue our partnership with the National Cancer Programme, ensuring critical national infrastructure the security of our business continue to thrive and our industry-leading security solutions can make a difference for the security of our business and the security of the safety of the future.”

Ooredoo recently secured various ISO and Veritas (ISO) certifications for its leading security solutions to ensure businesses can continue to thrive and our industry-leading security solutions can make a difference for the security of the future.

Conference brings together leading educationists

HEC aims to hone entrepreneurial skills

Ooredoo supports telecommunication meet on digital security

MoPH raises awareness of thyroid cancer

16 Qatari firms recruit people with disabilities

Amine Al-Abdulaziz concluded yesterday in his Life Skills Conference that the first step towards building a strong society is to ensure that every child is aware of its rights and responsibilities. It is also important to ensure that every child has access to education and healthcare, so that they can develop their full potential.

The theme of the conference was “The Importance of Life Skills in a Digital Age.” It was attended by a number of experts in the field of life skills, including teachers, counselors, psychologists, and parents.

“The life skills that children acquire today will shape their future. It is therefore important to provide them with the necessary tools to navigate the challenges of the digital age,” said Al-Abdulaziz.

The conference included a panel discussion on the importance of life skills in a digital age, as well as workshops on topics such as cyberbullying, digital citizenship, and online safety.

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Mohamed Saleem Al-Hashem, the chair of the Thyroid MDT, HMC. Dr. Al-Hashem highlighted the continuing role of prevention and early detection, as well as awareness campaigns, to reduce the risk of thyroid cancer.

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**QFFD, Al Fakhoora programme support schools in Gaza Strip**

**QFFD signs Gaza pact to fund projects in rural areas**

The Ethiopian Reproduction and Research Center, under the leadership of Dr. Jessica Johnson, in cooperation with the Ethiopian Veterinary Medical College (EVMC), held its 21st International Equine Reproduction and Neontology Conference, which covered the latest technologies and animal health knowledge in the field of equine reproduction. The conference included Dr. Jessica Johnson, acting director of reproduction at the University of Kentucky, Dr. Jesper Gluck, Equine Research Center, University of Kentucky; Dr. Jesper Gluck, Equine Research Center, University of Kentucky; and other equine experts.

The conference covered a wide range of topics related to equine reproduction, from modern reproductive technologies to challenges and solutions faced by horse owners and breeders. The event also included practical sessions, hands-on workshops, and discussions, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of equine reproduction and its various aspects.

**Conference discusses equine health**

**AAB service technicians showcase skills at contest**

The Customer Service Division of Abdulhadi Al-Suwaidi & Bros (AAB) recently organized a competition at the AAB Customer Service Training Center, which showcased the technical skills and talent of AAB’s service technicians in comprehensive training. The AAB service technicians have Signage trained Technicians Certification (STC), attesting to their skills and qualifications. “The General Job Technician Skills contest is held to enhance and develop further the capability of AAB’s certified service technicians as they provide the best service for our customers,” said AAB in a statement. The contest included a theoretical part and a practical part. The theoretical part was designed to assess the participant’s knowledge of the firearms and vehicles they service. The participants had to correctly identify the firearms and vehicles by the model number and the make and model.

The practical part was designed to assess the participant’s ability to perform various tasks related to firearms and vehicles. The participants had to demonstrate their skills in cleaning, maintenance, and repair of firearms and vehicles. The competition was judged by a panel of experts who evaluated the participants’ performance based on their ability to complete the tasks accurately and efficiently.

The competition was aimed at enhancing the skills of AAB’s service technicians and ensuring that they are well-equipped to provide the best service to the customers. The competition was held under the supervision of the customer service management at AAB, ensuring that the competition was fair and impartial. The competition was a great success and the participants demonstrated their expertise and professionalism in the field of firearms and vehicles.

**Five killed after heavy fighting in Yemen’s Taiz city**

Yemen’s Taiz: MSF

The latest military action is a result of the ongoing conflict between the Yemeni government and the Houthi rebels, who have been fighting for control of the country since 2014. The conflict has led to widespread destruction and displacement, affecting millions of Yemenis. The latest military action is likely to exacerbate the humanitarian situation in the area, with people facing shortages of food, water, and medical supplies. The conflict has also led to the closure of many roads and airports, making it difficult for aid agencies to deliver assistance to affected communities.

The conflict is also having a significant impact on the civilian population, with people facing shortages of food, water, and medical supplies. The conflict has also led to the closure of many roads and airports, making it difficult for aid agencies to deliver assistance to affected communities.

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Kushner confirms Mideast peace plan to come after Ramadan

AFP

President Donald Trump's son-in-law and top adviser Jared Kushner speaking at a forum in Ramallah on Monday. Kushner, speaking at a forum of US investors in Ramallah, said he had hoped to offer the proposal late last year but mishandled the White House transition, delaying its unveiling until after Ramadan.

Protest trains arrive to join demonstrators

AFP

Protesters in Sudan were preparing to join thousands of students thronging the capital's streets calling for the removal of veteran president Abdelaziz Bouteflika in early April after months of mass protests against his arrest as part of a corruption crackdown.

Bedouin hope to end Israeli rule

AP

A Bedouin man, who is an amateur shepherd, stands outside his tent in the eastern Israeli Negev desert on April 15, as protesters demonstrated demanding that the military regime of Emirati Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al Nahyan be replaced.

Algeria’s richest man in jail after probe

AP

Mohamed Rebrab, seen here in a photograph taken during the Time 100 Summit event in New York, yesterday.

The death from floods and mudslides of hundreds of people in Malaysia; the uprising that toppled Saudi king Salman’s eldest son Prince Bandar bin Jalawi; the Sri Lankan people’svelleis; the tragic events in Sudan; the protests in Malta, which erupted after the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi; the trial of members of the deposed Sudanese government; and the protests against Bouteflika in Algeria are some of the events that have been met with deep scepticism by the international community.

Algeria’s richest man in jail

AP

Algeria’s richest man, telecommunications magnate Mohamed Rebrab, was arrested in June after a year-long probe into the transfer of funds to and from the Algiers port since June 2018.

Malawi pilots groundbreaking malaria vaccine

AFP

The first vaccinations were expected until today, which was postponed by several days.

SA floods, mudslides kill 33, children missing

AFP

A man stands in front of damaged houses during the SA floods, mudslides that killed 33, children missing. The Associated Press

The WHO's latest report shows that 219 million people in 89 countries were expected to be at risk from the mosquito-borne disease, which kills around 650,000 people each year.

TRAGEDY

The group encouraged protesters to march in the night and continued to chant slogans as roads were closed.

Sudanese protesters march in the street demanding the removal of president Omar al-Bashir on April 6, a day after his announcement that he had outlined a transition to civilian rule.

US backs ‘legitimate demand’ for civilian-led govt in Darfur

Gulf Times

Washington backed the Sudanese people in their ongoing call for civilian rule yesterday, as that country’s transitional council moved to transfer power.

The US supports the legitimate demands of the people of Sudan for a civilian government in which an elected civilian leader takes power as soon as possible. Make insiders, the US Department of State, deputy assistant secretary in charge of South and Central African Affairs, speaking to reporters.

Kushner confirms Mideast peace plan

AP

Jared Kushner, speaking at a forum of US investors in Ramallah, said he had hoped to offer the proposal late last year but mishandled the White House transition, delaying its unveiling until after Ramadan.

American labour leaders today welcomed the US backing for a civilian-led government in Sudan, after a US delegation met representatives of the Sudanese protest movement.

Protest trains arrive to join demonstrators in the Sudanese capital Khartoum yesterday. Protesters in Sudan were preparing to join thousands of students thronging the capital's streets calling for the removal of veteran president Abdelaziz Bouteflika in early April after months of mass protests against his arrest as part of a corruption crackdown.

Saved by grace

The Associated Press

The Associated Press

In the past, Kushner has said he was committed to Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations but had faced significant hurdles to building trust between the belligerents. Kushner’s role in the process has been a balancing act, and he has sought to walk a fine line between maintaining the US position that both sides have to make significant concessions and demonstrating the US has an interest in a lasting peace in the region.

Signs that Trump will unwind Mideast policy

The US president has repeatedly expressed interest in pursuing a solution to the long-standing conflict, but his administration has been hampered by the lack of a partner in Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has been accused of obstructing peace efforts.

A senior aide to Kushner, speaking in a joint statement with Sudanese protest leaders, said Kushner had hoped to offer the proposal late last year but mishandled the White House transition, delaying its unveiling until after Ramadan. Kushner’s role in the process has been a balancing act, and he has sought to walk a fine line between maintaining the US position that both sides have to make significant concessions and demonstrating the US has an interest in a lasting peace in the region.
Trump ‘not inclined’ to release tax returns

President Donald Trump has publicly held off on release of tax returns, a move that will likely remain a political issue as long as he is in office. Trump has said he is not inclined to release his tax returns, a move that would likely result in a legal battle under the US Constitution.

Business groups and corporations have been reluctant to release their returns, fearing that releasing their returns could lead to an audit. The IRS has been under pressure to release Trump’s returns, but the agency has refused to do so.

Trump has been under pressure to release his returns, but he has been reluctant to do so. The US Constitution requires that the president release his returns, but Trump has claimed that releasing his returns would be a violation of his privacy.

Democrats say they are concerned about Trump’s financial ties to foreign countries and the potential for conflicts of interest.

On Wednesday, insurance giant Lloyd’s of London said it would not renew Trump’s $300 million insurance policy, which covers the hotel’s loss in case of a catastrophic event.

Trump has also been under pressure to release his returns because of the creation of ‘tax havens’ by shell companies. Trump has been accused of using these companies to avoid paying taxes.

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in Negombo, north of the capital Colombo - where scores died as police covered by police on Monday morning.

At least 321 people were killed in the Easter Sunday blast, making up just 7% of the 21mn Muslims in Sri Lanka. The attacks were also the worst ever Islamic State-fell attack on a Buddhist state of emergency and said an Islamist group was behind both the country's political and religious leaders.

The journalists were found guilty of terrorism and sentenced to seven years in jail for breaking press freedom law, moving to disqualify him from running for election for one year. His lawyers say they will appeal.

The Sri Lankan government on Sunday failed, sources also said, to find any remaining suicide bombers and ordered nearby, staring at the site of the blast and taking photos with their yellow excavation vehicles. A fourth attack against a hotel was confirmed as anti-Muslim violence.

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China shows off new destroyer as Xi views naval parade

Malaysia says it is keen for more 'fair' deals with China

Chinese Navy’s nuclear-powered submarine Long March III takes part in parade on port city of Qingdao.

Kim, Putin to hold talks in Russia and stand off with US

South Pacific

Singapore PM promotes his apparent before power transfer

Christchurch attack survivors offered New Zealand residency

Malaysia is hopeful of getting more “fair” deals from China.

Immigration New Zealand said a new visa category called the “Covid visa” had been created. People who were present at the mosque attack or on the subsequent manhunt will be eligible to apply for it.

Japan varies stopping hits

A Japanese university has stopped hiring professors and teachers who support a law that enforces a lifetime ban on entry into Japan for up and coming politicians.

Kiev, Moscow to hold talks in Russia and stand off with US

Kiev's foreign minister said that he had asked the United States to invite him to join in discussions with Moscow if the US is prepared to take the lead.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived in Moscow on Friday for talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, days after the two leaders agreed to a summit in December. The talks are part of a broader effort by the United States to try to ease tensions between the two countries.

The talks, which will take place at the headquarters of a nuclear command centre in Moscow, are expected to focus on arms control, sanctions against Russia and the conflict in Syria.

The talks come amid increasing tensions between the two nations, with Moscow accusing the US of trying to destabilize the region.

Russia has said it will not allow any US troops to be deployed in Russia or its allies, while the US has warned of potential military action in response to any threats.

The meeting is expected to be the first face-to-face meeting between Putin and US President Donald Trump since their last summit in Helsinki in July.

The talks will also be an opportunity for Putin to discuss with Pompeo the situation in Syria, where the US and Russia are involved in military operations.

Pompeo is also expected to discuss with Putin the situation in Ukraine, where Moscow-backed separatists are fighting against the Ukrainian government.

The talks come as the US and Russia are at odds over a range of issues, including the situation in Syria, where Moscow is supporting the government, while the US is supporting rebel groups.

The two leaders are also expected to discuss the situation in Afghanistan, where the US is trying to negotiate a peace deal with the Taliban.

Pompeo has said that the US is prepared to engage in talks with Russia on a range of issues, including nuclear arms control.

The talks are part of a broader effort by the US to try to improve relations with Russia, which has been rocky in recent years.

The US has also been trying to negotiate a new nuclear arms treaty with Russia, but the talks have been bogged down by differences over verification.

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Prosecution lawyers threaten to walk out in protest at low pay

President Donald Trump will make a state visit to the United Kingdom in June, Buckingham Palace said yesterday following a joint statement with British Prime Minister Theresa May. The US president said he would visit the UK to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day, which saw the invasion of Normandy during World War II.

President Trump will make the state visit on June 3 to 5, the palace said. He is also expected to visit Hitler’s birthplace in Braunau, Austria, and the D-Day beaches in Normandy.

The White House said the trip would mark “the special and historic relationship” between the US and UK.

The president will visit London and Windsor Castle. Donald Trump will also meet with the Prime Minister in Downing Street and give a joint news conference on June 4. The trip is expected to include the opening of a new US embassy in Nine Elms, a visit to the D-Day Beaches in Normandy and a tour of the Historic Royal Palaces.

The trip is expected to cost the US government around £30 million, with around 1,000 security personnel involved. The trip will include a visit to the D-Day beaches in Normandy and a tour of the Historic Royal Palaces.

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Innie species risk extinction, says draft UN report

By Matthias出席 and Pavlina出席, AFp

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terrestrial ecosystems face extinction due to human interference, according to a draft UN report obtained by AFP that painstakingly catalogues the world’s biodiversity and its vulnerability to humankind.

The accelerated loss of clean air, water, soil, forests, pollinating insects, precious fish and coastal birds is so pronounced that in many cases, at least, it is possible to measure and quantify the natural resources upon which we depend.

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) report notes “an irremediable rapid acceleration in the global rate of species extinctions.”

The platform has found that 1,800-page UN report obtained by AFP.

There are no winners in this story, it says.

“In the end, the available pathways of change are likely to lead to drastic reduction of biodiversity and, as a consequence, to severe declines in ecosystem services on which humanity depends,” the report states.

For humanity,

“...we need to change this trajectory. We are already underway to lose more biodiversity than at any other point in the history of modern Homo sapiens,” the report notes.

If we are to avoid the “a massive loss of human well-being, food security, human health and livelihoods on a scale that humanity has never experienced,” the platform said.

In the meantime, the report said, the loss of species is occurring at a rate 100 to 1,000 times faster than the average for the past 10 million years.

The report says that “we are very likely to see an extinction wave, with at least 1mn species faces extinction by 2050, 1.1mn faces extinction by 2070, if we do not stop the loss now.”

The report’s findings come at a time when the global community is increasingly aware of the need to protect nature and biodiversity.

One of the report’s key findings is that climate change is already the single greatest threat to biodiversity.

“...climate change is a direct threat to biodiversity, across all levels of organization, from genes to species and ecosystems,” the report states.

The report also highlights the impact of habitat loss, pollution, invasive species and overharvesting on biodiversity.

The report calls for urgent action to tackle these threats, including measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect and manage biodiversity, and improve governance and decision-making.

The report’s findings come as a wake-up call for policymakers, businesses and individuals around the world.

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an independent body established by United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/65/296 in 2010.

It is the only platform that brings together the best science on the world’s biodiversity and the tragedy of its current trajectory.

The platform has completed seven assessments since its establishment, covering topics such as species extinctions, ecosystem health and the role of nature in human well-being.

The next assessment will focus on the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on biodiversity, with a particular emphasis on species extinction.

The platform’s assessments are based on evidence from a wide range of scientific disciplines and perspectives, including the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and policy sciences.

The platform’s findings are intended to inform decision-making at all levels, from local to global, and to guide the development of policies, strategies, and actions to protect biodiversity and ensure its sustainable use.

The platform’s findings also highlight the need for urgent action to address the threats facing biodiversity, including climate change, habitat loss, pollution, invasive species, and overharvesting.

The platform’s findings also call for increased investment in biodiversity conservation and restoration, and for the development of new and innovative approaches to protect and manage biodiversity in the face of the current global crisis.

The platform’s findings also underscore the need for greater collaboration and coordination among stakeholders, including governments, businesses, civil society organizations, and the scientific community, to address the threats facing biodiversity and to ensure its sustainable use for current and future generations.

The platform’s findings also highlight the need for greater recognition of the value of biodiversity to human well-being, including its economic, cultural, and spiritual values.

The platform’s findings also underscore the need for greater attention to the full range of biodiversity, including species, ecosystems, and the genetic diversity within them.

The platform’s findings also call for greater investment in biodiversity research and monitoring, and for the development of new and innovative approaches to measure and monitor biodiversity.
Third phase of election witnesses 66% voter turnout

While voting in some polling booths got delayed, the third phase is expected to witness 75% of the 815.46 mn voters expected to turn out. The Congress party is expected to get a decent showing in the third phase.

BJP only opened bank accounts, we'll deposit cash in them: Rahul

The Congress president made the statement while addressing a road show in Bikaner.

Three Mirrors: Media's role in the election campaign

The role of the media in the election campaign has been crucial.

Voter turnout higher than 66% seen, says Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has predicted that the voter turnout will be higher than 66% in the third phase of the election.

Auctioning of unused national identity cards throws up new questions

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Kashmiri student held over terror links

A Kashmiri PhD student was arrested in a joint investigation by the Aviation, Judicial and Exhibition Terrorism wing of the Punjab Police in the state capital, Chandigarh.

INVESTIGATION

The student, identified as Ansa S., a medical student, was arrested at the behest of the Crime Branch of the Police on Wednesday after a campaign against the temple's entry by women was held at Pathanamthitta, Kerala.

The Supreme Court had ruled that the ban on women's entry into the temple should be lifted, but the Kerala High Court had stayed the order.

The student had allegedly raised all these issues in her meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had expressed regret to her.

The court asked Gandhi to explain by next Tuesday why he should not be called to the office of an investigating agency. The ED has asked her to appear before the ED and produced her before a trial court.

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Actor Sunny Deol joins the BJP in the presence of Nirmala Sitharaman at the party's headquarters in New Delhi.

The 49-year-old actor had earlier filed her papers on April 10.

The temple town went to polls as crisis on women ban rages

Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur yesterday filed another private complaint against Rahul Gandhi for making a political diatribe after the BJP leader for the warm welcome, she added.

She said that Rahul statement amounts to shame to a democracy.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, who has been accused of making an offensive during the election campaign, will face action.

The Supreme Court will hear the case on Wednesday.

Actor Sunny Deol joins BJP, to stand from Gurdaspur

The Supreme Court issues contempt notice to Rahul over 'chor jibe'

The third from the family to contest the elections, he had taken strong exception to Gandhi's comment, saying he had "incorrectly attributed" the quote.

Deol met BJP president Amit Shah, who support the ban, while the other side is against it.

Deol said that Rahul statement amounts to shame to a democracy.

He now faces more than 200 reports on people talking against the BJP, which he did on April 24.

He added that Rahul statement amounts to shame to a democracy.

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### Petrobras re-examines handling of graft claims

**Brazilians**

Brazil’s Petrobras, the state-run oil company, said in re-examining its treatment of whistleblower complaints after the indictment of six Petrobras executives charged with having tried to obstruct justice, violations of corruption, fraud and other criminal activities. The company said it had fired the executive in charge of the investigation, Jose Roberto Botelho, and had named a new team to handle the case.

Company officials questioned the employees on how their complaints had been handled, said the people, who required anonymity to discuss internal matters.

The employees said they were mistreated, with some being threatened, fired or demoted.

In a statement, Petrobras said it was not investigating its con-

**LAW Enforcement**

The enquiry underlines how Petrobras, Brazil’s largest and most profitable company, is reeling from the allegations of corruption and other criminal activities. The company has been under investigation for more than a year, and its chief executive, Sergio Ermonghi, has been arrested on suspicion of bribe-taking.

The company has been a key player in the Brazilian government’s efforts to combat corruption, and its executives have been called to testify before Brazilian and foreign authorities in several corruption cases.

The company’s reputation has been damaged by the corruption scandal, which has led to a loss of investor confidence and a decline in the company’s stock price.

### Venezuelans seek joy amid the chaos

**Latin America**

Venezuelans are seeking ways to have fun and spend time with their families amid the country’s economic crisis and political unrest.

“People are looking for something to lift their spirits and escape the daily suffering,” said Leonel Martinez, a 26-year-old soldier who has been out of work for months. “We’re trying to have fun and forget about the problems.”

Venezuelans have been coping with high inflation, shortages of basic goods, and political unrest. The opposition has been calling for new elections, while the government has been accused of repression and human rights abuses.

In an effort to boost tourism, the government has been trying to attract international visitors by offering discounts on hotels and attractions.

### Saburido, face of drink-driving awareness campaigns, dies

**Stephey’s 1996 GMC Yukon SUV**

On a curve along RM 2222, Reggie Saburido, a 34-year-old anti-drunk driving campaigner, was killed in a single-vehicle crash. Saburido was the face of the campaign, and his death has brought attention to the issue of drunk driving.

Saburido was a former journalist who had been involved in anti-drunk driving campaigns for more than 10 years. He was known for his passion and dedication to the cause, and his death is a loss for the anti-drunk driving community.

“We lose a hero today,” said Juan Torres, a member of the campaign. “Reggie was not just a face, he was a symbol of hope. He showed us that we can make a difference.”

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**Pakistan**

**Increase in MPs’ discretionary fund proposed**

The government has proposed an increase in the upcoming budget for those special parliamentary allocations known as the National Finance Division (NFD) fund. This move comes after a significant increase in the budget for the outgoing fiscal year.

The proposal is part of the government’s efforts to boost development outlay in the programmes, by over 50% through allocation of Rs24bn in the coming fiscal year 2019-20, compared with the allocated amount of Rs17bn in the ongoing financial year 2018-19.

For the development and security scenario, the proposal is needed. The government had sought Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) list extended to include new schemes in the ongoing year for the case of the ruling party’s promise to increase the allocation of Rs15bn in the coming fiscal year 2019-20.

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The proposal is part of the government’s efforts to boost development outlay in the programmes, by over 50% through allocation of Rs24bn in the coming fiscal year 2019-20, compared with the allocated amount of Rs17bn in the ongoing financial year 2018-19.

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Rebel ambush kills six troops

Philippines

 bf He Philippines remain tense after two days of intense fighting between a rebel group and government forces. The fighting has resulted in the death of at least six troops, according to the Department of National Defense.

The military said the clashes occurred in southern Mindanao, where government troops have been fighting against the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) for several months. The MNLF is an armed separatist group seeking autonomy for the region.

The latest conflict began on Tuesday when government forces launched an operation to disarm the MNLF's armed wing, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). The military said the MNLF launched an ambush in response, killing six troops and wounding 10 others.

The military also said the MNLF had captured two soldiers and a police officer. It added that the government forces were still in control of the area.

Meanwhile, the government has ordered a three-day mourning period for the six soldiers who died. The military said it would continue its operations against the MNLF.

President Rodrigo Duterte, who has been a fierce critic of the MNLF, has vowed to continue the fight against terrorism and insurgency.

Duterte has previously said he will not negotiate with the MNLF, calling it a "terrorist organization." He has also threatened to use military force if peace talks with the group fail.

The Philippines has been plagued by conflict for decades, with the government battling various armed groups for control of the southern regions.

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Ejercito seeks inspection of buildings in Luzon

bf The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has ordered a mechanical inspection of concrete buildings in Luzon following the 6.1 magnitude earthquake that struck the province of Pampanga.

The inspection is to check for any structural damage caused by the quake. The DPWH said it will conduct visual inspections and random tests on concrete buildings in the region.

Meanwhile, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) has announced a three-day mourning period for the three people who died in the quake.

NDRRMC head Eduardo Lagman said the agency's immediate response was to evacuate residents from affected areas and provide them with temporary shelter.

"We are also working with local governments to ensure that all residents receive proper assistance and that basic necessities are provided," Lagman said.

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Arroyo urges citizens to welcome Chinese investors

bf Former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Wednesday urged citizens to welcome Chinese investors to the Philippines.

In her speech during the China-Philippines Investment Forum held in Taguig, Arroyo said China is a major investor in the Philippines, and that the two countries have a strong economic partnership.

"We are one of the biggest beneficiaries of China's Belt and Road Initiative," she said. "So let us welcome these investment opportunities with open arms and open hearts.

"Let us work together to improve our economy and create more job opportunities. Let us do our part to make this partnership a success.

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Second earthquake strikes as rescuers hunt for survivors

bf A second earthquake struck the Philippines on Wednesday, causing damage to buildings and power outages in several areas.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said the earthquake had a magnitude of 6.1 and was felt in several provinces, including Pampanga, where a major power outage and building damage were reported.

Rescue teams were still searching for survivors after the first earthquake on Tuesday, which killed at least 16 people and injured dozens more.

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Duterte in war of words over Chinese garbage row

bf President Rodrigo Duterte on Wednesday lashed out at Canada after the Canadian government said it would continue exporting garbage to the Philippines.

"Let us work together to address the concerns and issues of our community.

"We are one of the biggest beneficiaries of China's Belt and Road Initiative," she said. "So let us welcome these investment opportunities with open arms and open hearts.

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"Let us work together to address the concerns and issues of our community.

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"All I know is that this (drug war) will bring investment and bring technology," she said. "Businessmen in China... they understand that the Philippines is in a state of chaos, but they also know that it will rise again."
Jet Airways woes:

Jet Airways, once ranked India’s biggest airline by market value, is stuck in air pockets. The carrier has grounded its fleet, staff salaries are delayed, and it faces a PyTuple to repay $90 million in loans from banks and companies, and a bailout plan proposed by its lenders is in limbo.

Jet Airways is the second local carrier to ground its entire fleet in the past decade. A wave of cash crunch had pushed Vijay Mallya’s indebted Kingfisher Airlines to ground its planes in 2012. Kingfisher never flew again and Mallya is still fighting his extradition to India from London.

The crisis at Jet Airways thatritz 21,000 jobs has come at an exceptionally sensitive time for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who’s seeking re-election in the national elections, amid concerns on rising unemployment. The Modi government has in the past few years cracked down hard on India’s delinquent borrowers to repatriate the bad loans that currently have the world’s worst soured loan ratio.

Jet, which lost the monopoly on state-run Air India in the early 1990s, has been in decline since budget airlines started offering all new fares that hurt profits and led it to pile up more than $2 billion in debt. It also has unpaid dues to aircraft-leasing firms and employees including pilots, who have been agitating over non-payment of salaries.

For more than a decade, Jet Airways has been operating on the New Delhi-Mumbai route.

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For more than a decade, Jet Airways has been operating on the New Delhi-Mumbai route.
The closing of the Chinese mind

By Minxin Pei

L
ike China, a country may not have a household name in the West, but it can hardly be described as a minor player in the world economy. Its leader is well-known and highly respected among financier and economic policymakers. Yet, far from this, China, the world’s second largest economy, has been placed in a more junior post as chairman of the country’s national social security fund.

The move reflects a change in the way China is perceived by the West – a government that is likely to have profound implications for the Chinese leadership’s approach to the world economy. The Chinese leadership’s approach to the world economy has been characterized by a focus on managed exchange rates and capital controls. In contrast, China’s recent emergence as an outspoken proponent of free trade and open markets is the result of a shift in public opinion that has led to a change in policy. The move to place China’s national social security fund in a junior position reflects the growing recognition of the Chinese leadership’s approach to the world economy. The Chinese leadership’s approach to the world economy is characterized by a focus on managed exchange rates and capital controls. In contrast, China’s recent emergence as an outspoken proponent of free trade and open markets is the result of a shift in public opinion that has led to a change in policy. The move to place China’s national social security fund in a junior position reflects the growing recognition of the Chinese leadership’s approach to the world economy.

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Oud festival kicks off at Katara

From Page 1

"Al-Wadi sought to establish this kind of music and here we are now, at Katara, trying to open doors to this magnificent festiva..." Dr. Mohammed al-Kindi, the festival director, said Katara will also try to open more doors to it through this festival as we have gathered some of the most famous and numerous ouddomesticians and manufacturers from 13 different countries.

"This is part of our commitment to preserve and enhance this dearly cultural heritage," Mohamed al-Montagui, the festival director, said Katara will also try to open more doors to it through this festival as we have gathered some of the most famous and numerous oud manufacturers from 13 different countries.

On the opening ceremony, Dr. al-Shaar has presented a series of concerts and workshops that will be held during the festival. In addition to her academic career, Dr. al-Shaar has also opened with the participation of several prominent oud manufacturers.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Dr. Rima al-Shaar, an academic specialist and professor at the Higher Institute of Musical Arts and physics, played a big role in enriching traditional music.

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One of the performances that mesmerised the audience last night.

Tunisian musical night captivates audiences at Katara

Popular songs by a renowned Tunisian traditional band are performed at the festival. The festival kicks off on April 25, with concerts beginning at 6 p.m.

The event, presented by Katara – the Cultural Village in Doha, was attended by Katara general manager Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti and Tunisian ambassador Salah al-Salhi and included a number of pavilions and stalls.

The event, presented by Katara – the Cultural Village in Doha, was attended by Katara general manager Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti and Tunisian ambassador Salah al-Salhi, along with several other dignitaries and diplomats, in the presence of several prominent Tunisian cultural events.

De al-Kindi said that Katara is always keen on presenting the different cultures from different countries in order to introduce the Tunisian culture to other communities and they always witness large turnout by visitors not only by Tunisians but also by other communities as well.

"Also audience from Doha to Tunis and from the Arab and Islamic world, while the second one was held under the theme of al-Khalid, the Second Master."

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