Qatar opens shelter for trafficking victims

By By Peter Alagos

Qatar’s efforts in combating human trafficking lauded

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Qatar faces major issues in their efforts to combat human trafficking. The government has taken various measures including the abolition of the Kafala (sponsorship) system, improved monitoring of conditions and the establishment of Qatar visa centers. However, much more needs to be done, especially in regards to the protection of workers, in order for Qatar to market itself as a destination for medical tourism in the region.

Qatar has joined the international community in combatting human trafficking and the related phenomena involving a loss of human dignity for all. The government has taken various international agreements, conventions and treaties, and spared no effort to establish the necessary legal and institutional frameworks. Qatar’s world-class healthcare system, according to the ILO, involves reducing the risk of trafficking and the related phenomena such as forced labor, modern slavery and child labor.

The government is committed to further efforts to combat human trafficking and the related phenomena. It is a sign that we collectively are moving in the right direction. "Out of the country’s ethical and human values, the government has taken various positive measures including the abolition of the Kafala system, the establishment of Qatar visa centers, the improvement of monitoring of conditions and human rights, and the protection of workers, in order for Qatar to market itself as a destination for medical tourism in the region."

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Sale crosses 92 tonnes at Dates Festival

The ongoing fourth edition of the Local Dates Festival at Souq Waqif continues to attract good crowds.

Qatar seen as medical tourism hub

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment has announced the opening of the Fuwairit Beach for the public from August 15. It is the first time that the beach is being opened for public use. The announcement comes amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, which has affected tourism and other sectors.

Qatari condemnation attack on AU mission in Somalia

Qatar has condemned the alleged attack on the African Union (AU) mission in Somalia, which claimed the lives of several members of the AU's peacekeeping force. The statement expressed Qatar's firm commitment to maintaining peace and stability in the Horn of Africa.

Uruguay mission in Doha joins ‘Green Embassies’ initiative

Uruguayan ambassador to Qatar Jorge Antunes has stressed the importance of promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability. He noted that such initiatives, like the “Green Embassies” program, contribute to raising public awareness on the importance of recycling and sustainable practices.

Ministry receives over 750 applications for government scholarships

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Qatar University (QF) announced on Tuesday, the results of the entrance exams for the 2019-2020 academic year, noting that applications for admission varied to accept new students.

The call for proposals, which was launched in April this year, aimed to support research projects that address critical issues in the region, such as political, social, and cultural trends.

The statement expressed Qatar's commitment to promoting research and development in the region, and to fostering partnerships with international organizations and research institutions.

The call for proposals is part of Qatar's broader strategy to leverage international expertise and resources to address regional challenges. The country has been hosting a number of international conferences and events, and has been investing in research and development initiatives.
The Ministry of Commerce and Investment has said that it will co-ordinate with the dealer to vehicle defects and repairs.

joint Command & Staff college commander meets military attack of Turkey's embassy

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Ooredoo urges customers to be vigilant about 'lottery scam' email

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Facilities Management and Maintenance Company (FMM), a local multi-service provider, welcomed Qatar University (QU) engineering students into its 2019 Summer Internship Program. Students at the program, which was in collaboration with the management of QU, underwent weeks of training at FMM sites. FMM offers unique internship positions focusing on disciplines such as mechanical and electrical engineering.

The program started with a two-day induction course designed to introduce the students to the company which includes health and safety training. Following the induction training, the students were paired with project managers, who guided and monitored them along the way, ensuring they made the most of their internship experience with FMM.

The interns were given real tasks and projects to which they applied their educational knowledge in relevant work areas. In addition, the program gave the students an opportunity to experience working in a professional work environment. It helped them discover the facility management industry and also gave them a better understanding of FMM’s business strategies and commitment to society.

FMM CEO Irene Vidal Fernandez commented saying, “I believe that all aspiring engineers should, at some stage of their education, experience the thrill of working in sites and witness for themselves the processes. I am delighted that Qatar University students have joined the Summer Internship Program brought with them the enthusiasm and motivation to learn and grow in their careers. We are delighted to give below the certificates of completion to all students and are looking forward to watching them discover their true passion through the opportunities that the Qatari Market and FMM have to offer.”

About FMM
FMM is an end-to-end facilities management services provider with around 4,000 employees. Applying a strategy focused on quality of service, it delivers tailor-made solutions based on its clients’ needs and constant progress across all operations. The company operates in a number of facilities providing maintenance and cleaning services. It also provides facility management services at Hamad International Airport, including the passenger terminal complex, lounges, the hotel, shops, VIP areas, the catering building and roads and accesses.

About Qatar University
Qatar University is one of the leading institutions of academic and research excellence in the GCC region. It provides high quality undergraduate and graduate programs that prepare competent graduates, primed to shape the future of Qatar. The organization’s strong relationship with Qatar society is reflected in its community service efforts and its vibrant research portfolio that addresses relevant local and regional challenges, advances national goals towards a knowledge-based economy, and contributes actively to the needs and aspirations of the society.
Focus on Qatar progress in fighting human trafficking

By Ayman Adly

Qatar’s progress in fighting human trafficking was highlighted yesterday at two panel discussions aimed at reviewing the challenges and the ways to overcome the phenomenon.

They were organised by the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking (NCCHT) which marked in Doha the World Day against Human Trafficking (WDHT). The discussions were held under the theme: “Qatar’s efforts in combating human trafficking,” to highlight the protection of victims of trafficking.

Attendees were representatives from the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs (MADLAS), the Philippines embassy in Qatar, Migrant Forum Asia, Qatar Charity (QC) and Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS). The second panel, which discussed the prosecution of trafficking cases, was attended by representatives from the Supreme Judiciary Council (SJC), Qatar Lawyers Association, Justice Without Borders, and the Public Prosecution Office.

Max Tunon, technical specialist at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Project Office in Doha, summed up the recommendations and outcomes of the panels. He described the establishment of the Human Care Center and other legislative and regulatory reforms regarding expatriate workers as the first phase of achievements. The second phase is expected to usher in more developments.

The victims are not only given shelter but also accelerated access to justice or alternate employment according to the nature of the case.

The ILO official pointed out that panelists recommended that support services at the centre should be linked and coordinated with the country of origin of the victims to continue the necessary support.

Regarding the prosecution of related cases, he pointed out that the suggestion to dedicate a designated office to such cases is a good idea to be considered.

There is also a pressing need, as the panelists pointed out, to raise awareness among the targeted categories of the society about the legal issues involved and the penalties for such violations, so as to send a strong warning to potential violators.

He praised the efforts of Qatar Lawyers Association in making its services available to the victim and the vulnerable expatriate workers, stressed the need to eliminate fear among the victims, address language barriers and raise their awareness about the legal mechanism and how such things work.

Tunon lauded the idea of the panelists to establish a special committee to document and analyse the relevant cases.

Qatar is already a highly preferred destination for migrant workers and better quality workers would opt to come with further improvements in the protection of their rights, he added.

Wage Protection System

The Wage Protection System (WPS) has been functioning great but it can be further improved, said Houtan Homayounpour, head of the International Organisation of Labour (ILO) Project Office in Doha.

He said that assessment has been done on the progress and operation of the system and work is going on to introduce early warning systems to quickly resolve any delays in the payment of workers’ wages. He pointed out that the system, if improved, will make a huge difference to the protection of their rights.

He added that Qatar has been pioneering in a field of contractual agreements and had established NCCHT, the National Human Rights Committee and the Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Interior in addition to various legislations and regulations that protect human rights and promote transparency in the labour market. Further, the country has achieved a lot in impressing the mechanism of reaching labour disputes between the employer and the worker to the US charge d’affaires in Qatar William Grant said he is happy to see the collaboration of various entities in the country to protect vulnerable people. He also said Qatar is exerting increasing efforts in co-operation with various organisations to control the phenomenon of human trafficking.
At vital moment, Lebanon paralysed by political conflict

Israel considers rare Palestinian homes plan

Israel is considering rare approval of construction of Palestinian homes in the part of a future Palestinian state under its complete control, an official told Reuters. The approvals would start to cabinet's budget discussions after Tuesday, an Israeli official said.

Celebration of customs

A Palestinian girl wears a traditional headdress as she attends a march marking Palestinian traditional customs day, in Gaza City yesterday.
Police arrests scribe, denies he had been ‘kidnapped’

Tanzanian police on Wednesday detained three journalists in the capital, Dar es Salaam, as they tried to question President John Magufuli’s brother, who had been arrested by authorities over his reported claims that the president was too ill to be serving.

The arrests come a day after the outspoken critic of President Magufuli was detained outside his home in the capital, Dar es Salaam, as he tried to question the health of the president, who is recovering from surgery after open heart surgery.

John Magufuli had been detained on Sunday after being arrested by police as he tried to question the health of the president, who is recovering from surgery after open heart surgery.

The president had been expected to return to the country from hospital in the capital, Dar es Salaam, on Sunday after being treated in hospital in the capital.

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Most of the content was written in English and covered a range of topics, including politics, society, culture, and economy. The text was well-structured and easy to read, with clear headings and subheadings. The use of bullet points and numbers helped to break up the text and make it more accessible.

The text was written in a formal style, with a focus on accuracy and clarity. The author used a variety of sources, including official statements, reports, and news articles, to support their arguments and provide evidence for their claims.

Overall, the text was a well-written and informative piece that provided a good overview of the current situation in Tanzania. It was easy to follow and provided a good understanding of the issues at play.
Two suspects charged in cold-case Mississippi murder

Two men were arrested and charged in a February 1976 cold-case murder in Mississippi, according to the U.S. Justice Department. The two people were charged with first-degree murder in the killing of a 42-year-old man who was last seen alive in Jackson, Mississippi.

The men were identified as David Lee Cox, 59, and Robert L. Jones, 60. They were arrested in Jackson on Monday and are being held in the Hinds County Detention Center. The U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, Mike Hurst, said the arrests were the result of extensive and thorough investigations by local and federal authorities.

The arrests come after a comprehensive review of the case, which had been on cold file for decades. The investigation included interviews with witnesses and the use of new forensic techniques.

“Today’s arrests demonstrate that the Department of Justice will not stop until we find those responsible for these brutal murders,” Hurst said.

The two men are expected to be arraigned in federal court on Tuesday.

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Tamerlan Tsarnaev, the suspect in Boston Marathon bombing, has been identified as the mastermind behind the attack.

The FBI has released a photograph of the suspect, who is believed to be a 20-year-old Chechen migrant. Tsarnaev is described as tall, dark-haired, and wearing a white hooded sweatshirt.

The suspect is reported to have lived in Dagestan and Chechnya before moving to the United States last year. He is believed to have connections with radical Islamist networks.

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Race rap follows Trump
to historic settlement

A new law that would set up a $100 million fund to compensate African Americans for slavery and segregation has passed in Congress.

The legislation would provide reparations for the estimated 4 million African Americans who were enslaved in the United States from the 16th to the 19th centuries. It would also provide a $100 million fund for scholarships, job training, and other programs for descendants of enslaved people.

The bill passed the House on a vote of 420-0 and the Senate on a vote of 92-0. It now goes to President Donald Trump, who is expected to sign it.

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Biden on record to be cross-likely at second 2020 Democratic debate

Former Vice President Joe Biden is expected to be a top target in the second Democratic debate.

Biden, who is leading in most national polls, is facing pressure to explain his past positions on issues such as busing, which he has previously criticized. He is also likely to be asked about his handling of the 1991 Ukraine crisis.

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Race relations

New report on race and equality

A new report released by the Center for American Progress shows that black and white Americans still face significant disparities in income, wealth, and access to opportunity.

The report finds that black Americans make up 12% of the population but earn only 62% of the median household income. It also finds that black Americans are more likely to live in poverty, own housing, and be employed.

The report calls for policies that address systemic racism, including investment in education, housing, and jobs.

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Joint base

New agreement for joint base

The Department of Defense and the Navy have reached an agreement to construct a new joint base in Virginia.

The agreement would allow the Navy to expand its presence in the area and provide new opportunities for local residents. The base would be located on a 6,000-acre site near Quantico.

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Climate change

New climate model

A new climate model developed by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, shows that global temperatures could rise by 2 degrees Celsius by the end of the century.

The model, which takes into account human activities and natural factors, predicts that the world’s temperature will continue to rise by about 0.1 degrees Celsius per decade.

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Soccer

New soccer league

A new soccer league has been announced in the United States. The league, called the Alliance of American Football, will feature 10 teams and begin play in 2020.

The league, which will be owned and operated by former NFL executive Bill Polian, is expected to attract star players from the NFL and other major leagues.

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Science

New scientific discovery

A new scientific discovery has been made that could lead to a cure for cancer.

Researchers at the University of Oxford have discovered a way to target cancer cells using a new type of gene therapy.

The therapy, which is still in the experimental stage, uses a virus to deliver a gene that is then used to destroy cancer cells.

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Economy

New economic report

A new economic report released by the Federal Reserve shows that the U.S. economy is growing at a strong pace.

The report finds that the economy added 312,000 jobs in July and that the unemployment rate fell to 3.7%. It also predicts that GDP growth will remain strong over the coming months.
Most 44 HK protesters charged with rioting

A new wave of protests erupted in Hong Kong on Wednesday, with police arresting 44 people for rioting during a demonstration that turned violent. The arrests came after a protest march to demand an investigation into the use of deadly force by police during recent clashes.

The protesters were gathered in Causeway Bay, a shopping and entertainment district known for its vibrant nightlife. According to local media, police used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

Police said the charges included rioting, obstructing police officers, and causing public nuisance. Several protesters were reportedly injured, with one reportedly receiving medical treatment.

The latest round of protests is the latest in a series of public demonstrations in Hong Kong in recent months, as the city reels from a year of pro-democracy activism. The protests have sparked widespread concern about the future of Hong Kong's autonomy.

A series of protests in Hong Kong began in June 2019 in response to a bill that would allow extradition to China. The bill was eventually withdrawn, but the protests continued, with demands for greater autonomy and political reforms.

In recent weeks, the protests have become more violent, with clashes between protesters and police escalating. The government has accused protesters of inciting violence and has sentenced a number of protesters to prison.

The latest protests come as Beijing continues to exert greater control over Hong Kong, with the appointments of pro-Beijing officials to key positions in the city's government.

The demonstrations are expected to continue, with both sides vowing to keep fighting for their cause.
Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has reached the conclusion that he no longer wants to lead the Labour Party

The news has been welcomed by the government's independent expert group, which concluded that there is no way to stop wildlife and wildfowl from being shot with lead, as experts call on the government to phase out lead ammunition.

After five years' research, the Lead Ammunition Group concluded in 2015 that lead shot was causing real and serious harm to wildlife and wildfowl, and called for a phasing out of the use of lead ammunition to cause them "severe developmental harms and other health impairments". It also called for testing admitting that 50,000-100,000 wildfowl were killed each year, and that they had "serious adverse health implications".

In a letter to the Guardian, a number of scientists and experts, including some of the government's former public health adviser Prof Lord John Krebs and the Oxford academic Prof John Swift, called for a ban on lead shot. They also called for the government to act on lead shot.

"There is overwhelming evidence that lead ammunition is causing real and serious harm to wildlife and wildfowl. We urge the government to act on lead shot," they said.

Waitrose stops sale of birds shot with lead

Brexit ‘no matter what’, insists prime minister

Harry speaks out on ‘unconscious racism bias’
A court-ordered tanker seized

A Romanian court has ordered the seizure of a Russian oil tanker in a dispute over the country’s chief energy provision.

A court in the southern city of Constanța issued a warrant on Monday for the seizure of the tanker, a flaw in diplomatic relations.

The owner of the oil tanker, a Russian company, told Romanian authorities the ship was registered in a foreign registry but had been seized by police on Saturday in the port of Izmail in the Black Sea.

The court said the vessel, the Neptun, had been seized by Romanian police because it was suspected of violating Romanian maritime law.

The Romanian prosecutor general’s office, which handles cases of suspected criminal activity, said the ship had previously been seized in several other countries.

The court ordered the tanker to be apologized and its crew to be released.

The Romanian government has ordered the seizure of the vessel in order to prevent it from continuing its voyage without permission.

The tanker was chartered by the Russian oil company Rosneft, which has been involved in a dispute with the Romanian authorities over its operations in the Black Sea.

The Russian government has denied the charges and has said it is ready to negotiate with the Romanian authorities to resolve the dispute.

The seizure of the tanker has sparked tensions between the two countries.

According to the European Union, the tanker was carrying oil to be delivered to a refinery in Romania.

The European Commission has expressed concerns about the incident and has called for peaceful negotiations.

Meanwhile, the tanker’s owner, the Romanian prosecutor general’s office, has said it will appeal the court’s decision.

The incident comes amid growing public frustration over the lack of progress in the dispute.

The Romanian government has said it is willing to negotiate with the Russian authorities to resolve the dispute, but the Russian government has repeatedly refused to engage in talks.

The seizure of the tanker has sparked international concern and has raised questions about the future of relations between the two countries.

The incident is likely to further escalate tensions and could lead to a rupture in diplomatic relations.

It is unclear what steps the Romanian government will take next.

However, it is expected that the seizure will lead to a diplomatic protest from the Russian government.

The European Union has also expressed concern about the incident and has called for a peaceful resolution to the dispute.

The incident has raised questions about the role of the European Union in resolving disputes between member states.

It is unclear whether the European Union will take any action in response to the incident.

The European Union has a mandate to ensure the free movement of goods and services within the bloc and to promote peace and stability.

It is unclear what steps the European Union will take next.

However, it is expected that the European Union will continue to monitor the situation closely.

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St Margaret’s Bay in Dover. roughly 20-minute trip toward ... exposed, clogged airways.

The smoke is horrible. I am ... not exposed to the outside world."

On Monday, the smoke reached ... the usual 10.

"The smoke is horrible. I am ... it is not a local problem, but a national one."

Siberian forest fires spark potential ‘disaster’ for Arctic

The number of plaintiffs participating in the Bayer case has ... sues were filed in the last three years.

The fires, triggered by dry ... for stealing his bag after they ... an initial, false confession out of her under interrogation.

"If there had been time, he could have negotiated hard with his wife to be able to get back home in ... lower than 10."

Kohnle called the impact on the climate "very serious.""It is compatible in the opinion ... to the realisation of the weight of science ... is facing 5,000 lawsuits over Roundup – allowance or not, we cannot afford to lose."

Greek cops target migrant gangs

Greek police have stepped up ... carrying out raids and roundups against migrant camps in Athens, Thessaloniki and Thessaloniki. "We are monitoring the activities of ... on the islands of Samos and Kos after they prevented freight ships from unloading their cargoes in recent days", said the head of police on Kos and Samos islands.

OSLO

Over the past seven days, 21 ... migrants with forged documents had already been arrested on other seaports, the police said.

US teens ‘cruel’ in Italy cop murder interrogation

The teen who records the interrogation audio has ... authorises the decision to extinguish them only if the estimated damage exceeds the cost of the operation, experts say.

(Translation, the editor of Haaretz, a Histadrut-affiliated daily, which usually is not very critical in its remarks about the government, described the action as a “brutal” one and called it a “disaster” for the country.)

People carry a banner bearing the photo of Baga and transmitting a message against Israeli authorities outside the government building in Oslo. (Photo: Reuters)
Frustrated by the income tax department's lack of transparency and improvements, the Congress party leader, K.R. Ramesh, said that the department "is not showing any sign of improvement, especially in the area of tax administration." He further added, "It is high time that the government takes steps to bring about a change in the way the department functions."
Mob lynchings back in MP as child kidnap rumours spread

Azam Khan’s son booked for forging passport documents

Fears grow for missing Cafe Coffee Day boss

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Crocodile rescued from drain in Maharashrta town

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Argentina wheat farmers eye record harvest

**Buenos Aires Bear-Inside Chicago**

A représente wheat farmers as they prepare to harvest their grains, which are expected to be record yields. The weather has been favorable, and the prospects are high for a bumper crop. The Ukrainian wheat harvest is also expected to be good, with the USDA predicting a slight increase in production. Russia, the world's top wheat exporter, is facing some challenges due to weather conditions, but overall the outlook is positive.

**Guardian News and Media**

Mexico City

Mexico's President Lopez Obrador draws flak for backing tough anti-protest laws

Lopez Obrador has faced criticism for his policies, including a new anti-protest law. Human rights groups have condemned the law as violating freedoms of speech and protest. The law has sparked protests, with some journalists and activists calling for its repeal. Lopez Obrador has defended the law, saying it is necessary to maintain public order.

**UN condemns killings of Brazilians' tribal chief**

The United Nations has condemned the killing of a Brazilian man who was murdered in a remote village. The Brazilian government has been criticized for not doing enough to protect the indigenous people who live in the Amazon. The killing has sparked outrage and calls for action.

**Latin America**

**Paraguay minister quits over deal row**

The Paraguayan minister of Economy and Finance has resigned amid a scandal over a controversial energy deal with Brazil. The minister was accused of benefiting from the deal and not fully disclosing the terms. The resignation has raised concerns about the government's transparency and ethics.

**Oil spill clean-up**

Inmates shifted after prison riot

Inmates at a prison in Brazil were transferred to a federal jail after a riot left 57 inmates dead. The riot was sparked by a dispute over conditions, and it is believed to be the worst prison riot in Brazil in recent years. The Brazilian government has been criticized for not doing enough to prevent such incidents.

**Mexico's stimulus package to have 'immediate impact'**

Mexico's stimulus package is expected to have a significant impact on the economy. The package includes measures to boost consumption and investment, as well as social programs. The stimulus is expected to help the economy recover from the pandemic.

**Oil spill clean-up**

Chiquita Beetle in a white dress is examining a dead fish on the beach. She is observing the fish and analyzing the situation. She is focused on the task at hand and is not distracted by any other activities.

**Argentina wheat farmers eye record harvest**

A crop tour this week in the US wheat state North Dakota, the top producer of exportable spring wheat, showed bumper harvest prospects. The global wheat situation is good, with the USDA forecasting a slight increase in world production. Russia is the top producer, followed by China, and Argentina, which is the world's second-largest wheat producer.

**Mexico City**

The package comes just days after the government announced a $25bn stimulus package. The funds will be used to help the economy recover from the pandemic and boost consumption and investment. The package includes measures to support small and medium-sized businesses, as well as social programs.
Politicians differ on state of democracy in Pakistan

At least 17 people die in Sind from rain-related incidents

A bomb exploded near a police vehicle in Quetta, killing four and wounding two dozen others, officials said. The bomb targets police vehicles parked in the middle of the city, where security is especially tight due to the volatile city, where security is especially tight due to the volatile situation.

The bomb targeted the patrol police vehicle that was on duty in a busy area near the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (PGMC), the nursery and Children’s Hospital, officials said. The explosion occurred near the nursery, which is a government hospital, during the night shift.

The blast occurred near the hospital’s main entrance, killing four people and injuring 25 others. According to local media reports, the explosion was caused by a petrol bomb.

The blast came just hours after a Pakistani army helicopter crashed into a residential area in Rawalpindi, killing at least 17 people and injuring dozens more.

The helicopter, which was carrying Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife, was on its way to a military base when it crashed into a densely populated neighborhood.

The crash was the latest in a series of aviation accidents in Pakistan in recent years, raising questions about the country’s aviation safety record. At least 16 people were killed in a plane crash near Karachi airport in 2020, and at least 14 people were killed in a previous crash near Lahore in 2019.

While the government and aviation authorities have denied any link between the crashes, critics have pointed to a lack of safety regulations and equipment.

PM Khan, who is a pilot himself, has been under pressure to improve aviation safety in the country, where many people rely on air travel to get to work and for medical emergencies.

It is the latest in a string of aviation accidents in Pakistan in recent years, including a 2020 crash near Karachi airport that killed at least 16 people and a 2019 crash near Lahore that killed at least 14 people.

The latest crash has sparked outrage and calls for action from both the public and aviation experts.

Prime Minister Imran Khan has ordered an investigation into the crash and has promised to take action against those responsible.

The government has also announced plans to increase safety checks and improve aviation regulations in the country.

In a statement, PM Khan said: “We will not tolerate any negligence in aviation safety. Immediate action will be taken against those responsible.”

He also promised to take action against any officials who were found to have neglected their duties.

PM Khan also announced plans to increase safety checks and improve aviation regulations in the country.
Philippines ‘world’s deadliest nation for land rights’

The Manila Times

A drug lab in Bicol. The Legazpi police spokesperson said the suspects were allegedly involved in drug lab operations. (Photo by Dennis Mapa/Asian News Network)

In the Philippines, the number of land rights defenders murdered every year has increased significantly, making it the world’s deadliest nation for land rights.

According to data from the Land Tenure Research Institute (LTRI), 80 people were killed in land disputes in 2017, compared to 20 in 2011. The increased killings have been linked to rising tensions between government authorities and peasant movements who are fighting against land grabbing and extractive industries.

The LTRI report states that the Philippines has the highest number of land disputes in the world, with an estimated 2.5 million hectares of land affected by conflict over ownership.

President Rodrigo Duterte has been criticized for his administration’s policies, which have been accused of exacerbating land conflicts and human rights abuses.

In a recent statement, Duterte admitted that there were issues with his administration’s land policies, but he defended his government’s efforts to address the root causes of land disputes.

The Philippines is home to a diverse range of ethnic groups, and land disputes are often linked to conflicts over resources and territorial claims. The government has been criticized for its failure to address these underlying issues, which have led to a rise in violence and human rights abuses.

President Duterte has ordered the arrest of several officials involved in land disputes, but critics say that the government’s efforts to address the root causes of the problem remain inadequate.

The LTRI report calls for a more comprehensive approach to addressing land disputes, including the provision of alternative livelihoods, the protection of human rights, and the promotion of democratic processes for resolving conflicts.

Meanwhile, the government has launched a campaign to encourage peaceful resolution of land disputes, but critics say that this approach is insufficient in the face of rising violence.

In conclusion, the Philippines remains a challenging country for anyone who wants to work on land rights issues. The government’s policies are often criticized for their failure to address the root causes of land disputes, and violence remains a significant threat.

But there are also signs of hope, with some organizations and communities working tirelessly to protect the rights of land rights defenders and promote peaceful resolution of conflicts.
Political pressure complicates Fed's expected rate cut

The Federal Reserve is set to “vaccinate” the US economy against a slowdown with a rate cut in a decade, but the decision has been made more difficult by unrelenting political pressure.

President Donald Trump has constantly berated the Fed and its chairman, Jerome Powell, for not providing additional juice to the economy, which he has promised will grow by 5% and more in coming quarters.

“The US and China will further lower interest rates and pump money into their systems, making it much easier for their manufacturers to sell product,” Trump tweeted on Monday.

“Should the Fed be looking more like a bank to China and other countries?” he added.

Powell and other Fed officials have said repeatedly they expect the US economy to continue to grow and for inflation to eventually pick up, which makes the course correction now a bit unusual.

Unemployment, one of the two metrics the Fed is required by law to focus on, is currently near 50-year lows.

A strong job market would normally cause wages to rise, fueling inflation, the second key metric for the Fed.

However inflation has been impervious, hovering below — sometimes well below — the 2% target.

And Trump’s aggressive trade tactics have brought business investment to a screeching halt, at a time when major economies like China are slowing, and Brexit weighing on Britain and the European Union.

In the wake of the global financial crisis, the Fed promised to do whatever it took to make up for the loss of growth that would have otherwise occurred.

However, in the face of Trump’s vocal attacks, the Fed may be more hesitant.

The December hike was somewhat controversial given that the Fed has limited weapons in its arsenal and has been pushing to normalize interest rates.

The next rate move, expected in June, is expected to be a rate cut.

Many immigrants must wait 20 years or more for papers

“Why don’t we get in line?” That’s a big number, significantly higher than the 26.7% share for the nation as a whole, and it’s one likely to grow as more immigrants get legal papers, and the unauthorised join the US labour force.

Many immigrant rights advocates have long pushed for immigration reform with 61% of the US population being foreign-born.

However infl ation — which is one key metric for the Fed — has been largely absent, with 3% only in 2018.

“The EU and China will further lower interest rates and pump money into their systems, making it much easier for their manufacturers to sell product,” Trump tweeted on Monday.

That’s often the first question they ask, “Why don’t they get in line?”

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Sicily lures visitors with ‘ethical tourism’

By Roisin Kiberd

A

ll the crossroads of the world have seen their
lives laced with tales of violence in the
21st century. Today, it is eating security
that now warns of the arrival of organized crimi-
nal violence. Challenging the stereotype of
Sicily as the capital of Italian mafia activity
corporate social enterprises – businesses that
aim to do good while making profits – are seeing tourists travel to mattis-
fields, restaurants and shops.
In the last decade
Sicily’s social economy
has seen grassroots movement, which has
shaped a new way of life. It’s a style of liv-
ing that’s about more than just
...
Sidra Medicine conducts Qatar’s first paediatric endoscopic brain surgery

E
ditorial by the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SCDML) behalf and with support of Qatar Foundation (QF) yesterday celebrated the first complete endoscopic brain surgery off Qatar and quite possibly the GCC region.”

The CPC process involved cauterising most of the fluid creating the bypass for the cerebrospinal fluid in the head, thereby eliminating the need for a lifelong shunt. The combined procedure we performed on Leen, was a first for Qatar and quite possibly the GCC region.”

In the pioneering surgery on April 29, spanning two hours, the surgeons, used a flexible thin endoscope through a tiny incision in Leen’s skull. The CPC process involved cauterising most of the cerebrospinal fluid in the head, thereby eliminating the need for a lifelong shunt. The combined procedure we performed on Leen, was a first for Qatar and quite possibly the GCC region.”

Leen was discharged one week after surgery and continues to receive follow-up visits. She is planned to return to Qatar for a check-up next month. Meanwhile, the CPC procedure helps to reduce the amount of fluid being produced. Leen has now been discharged for a check-up next month. Meanwhile, the CPC procedure helps to reduce the amount of fluid being produced. Leen was discharged one week after surgery and continues to receive follow-up visits. She is planned to return to Qatar for a check-up next month. Meanwhile, the CPC procedure helps to reduce the amount of fluid being produced.

It’s a goal: Showcasing Qatar’s love for football

Borns, from Nepal, preparing the football pitches for the Generation Amazing All Nations Tournament at Aspire City.

Workers from Nepal and Kenya at a tournament at Asian City.

leen was immediately referred to Sidra Medicine. Said: “Most hydrocephalus patients are typically treated by placing a shunt system in the brain. Many people and children with shunts go on to live normal lives but some children have recurrent problems with their shunt. However, in Leen’s case, we sought to perform a type of brain surgery that is only possible in infants - Endoscopic Third Ventricle [350x1327]...case, we sought to perform a type of brain surgery that is only possible in infants - Endoscopic Third Ventricle

Surgery on Leen, was a first for Qatar and quite possibly the GCC region.”

Inamul Hasan’s favourite photo because “it shows that the residents of Qatar are giving love and support for this country”.

I received the camera, right until the end! They were so enthusiastic about their host nation.

As you can see, football means happiness,”

Another picture shows a group of cheering supporters from the Shapoorji Pallonji company.

During the final between Petroserv and Teysam supporters are cheering after the first goal of the game.

Workers from Nepal and Kenya at a tournament at Asian City.

Qatar’s love for football - an official said.

Of the 50 people across Qatar. The brief was: take photos of what football means to you.

“When I received the camera, I wanted to show the world how football inspires so many people in Qatar,” said Hasan.

“I was especially keen to show the workers of Qatar and how football is playing an active role in building the stadium and other facilities for the World Cup.”

Leen was immensely proud to have a photo featured in the exhibition, which ran during the Copa America Tournament in Brazil.

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