His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani celebrated Qatar's National Sport Day at Al Bidda Park yesterday. His Highness the Amir also wished everyone an enjoyable day through a tweet, whose unofficial translation is as follows: “On National Sport Day, we celebrate Qatar’s love for sports and its commitment to maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle. Qatari people play an active role in the planning and execution of outdoor activities in Qatar.”

Hamas, Fatah agree on respectively, are the first in 15 years.

Alya Ahmed bin Saif al-Thani, has the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the European Union, said yesterday they had agreed on respectively, are the first in 15 years.

The Doha Plan of Action will be a starting point for transforming the lives of millions of people living in the most vulnerable countries, and putting the least developed countries on the path towards sustainable development, H.E. the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations Ambassador Sheikha Wafa Al-Kuwari told Al Jazeera. Last year, he said, “Pandemic and its consequences are not the only obstacles. Qatar must contribute to the process of investing in people. The State of Qatar is deeply committed to this process.”

Impeachment based on “cold, hard facts”

The impeachment trial of former US president Donald Trump is set to begin in the US Senate today, with a vote on whether to try the former president on charges of “incitement of insurrection” after he enraged the country with his role in a pro-Trump mob's storming of the US Capitol on January 6. The historic second impeachment trial of former US president Donald Trump will be the first in American history to feature an incoming president, as Joe Biden will take office on January 20. Trump’s lawyers are expected to argue that the impeachment is not only a political “sideshow” but also a danger to the American people. They will argue that the impeachment is a “political mistake” and that Trump is innocent of wrongdoing.

Lebanese President Michel Aoun met in Beirut yesterday with H.E. the Minister of Culture and Sports, Dr. Ramzi Al-Ali, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigration, Samir Geagea, to review bilateral relations and issues of common concern. H.E. the Foreign Minister underlined Qatar’s role in resolving the Lebanese crisis and establishing stability there. He added that Qatar’s message is clear: “Qatar is a partner in the process of restoring calm and stability in Lebanon.”

Defence minister opens world’s largest calisthenics park

The Defence Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikhan Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, has called on all Lebanese parties to give priority to the national interest and accelerate the process of forming a government.

He added that Qatar’s message is clear: “Qatar is a partner in the process of restoring calm and stability in Lebanon.”

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun met in Beirut yesterday with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Commerce, Mohamed Al-Hakim, to review bilateral relations and issues of common concern.

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun met in Beirut yesterday with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Commerce, Mohamed Al-Hakim, to review bilateral relations and issues of common concern. He conveyed the greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani to the Lebanese president, and his wishes to the Lebanese people of greater progress and prosperity. For his part, the Lebanese president expressed the foreign minister’s gratitude to the Amir and his team for their role in encouraging the Lebanese crisis and establishing stability there. He thanked Qatar’s contact with the Lebanese factions and regional and international committees, in addition to being a highly effective activity in terms of fitness and well-being. Others were seen running, jogging, walking or drinking coffee. Meanwhile, some used the open space and premises to cycle. A large number of people took to the fields yesterday by observing Covid-19 precautionary measures.

FM urges Lebanese parties to prioritise national interest

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun met in Beirut yesterday with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Commerce, Mohamed Al-Hakim, to review bilateral relations and issues of common concern.

The FM stressed that it “has become necessary to make important changes to our visitor policy” due to the steady rise in COVID-19 cases in Qatar. All other HMC facilities will be available for visitors only between 8am and 4pm. All other HMC facilities will be available for visitors only between 8am and 4pm.

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Lebanese president hails distinguished relations

**Amir sends messages to Kuwaiti Amir, Crown Prince**

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani sent a written message to the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah containing greetings and greetings for the health and success of their Excellencies. The message indicates that it is an occasion to convey greetings and wishes for the success of the Islamic countries and the stability of the region.

**FM urges Lebanese parties to prioritize national interest**

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun has expressed appreciation for Qatar’s support, under the direction of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, to Lebanon, especially during the difficult circumstances following the Beirut explosion by providing urgent social, humanitarian and economic aid to the affected people.

He added that this aid is an affirmation of the distinctive relations and ties associated with Qatar’s commitment to strengthening ties with Lebanon. In a statement during his meeting with HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, President Aoun asserted that the Amir is fully aware that Lebanon is a country of the Islamic world that has strong ties with Qatar.

He added that the Amir has made available all the necessary resources to support Lebanon, thanks to Qatar’s strong economic structure, as expressed by the Doha Plan of Action and in support of the French initiative, including financial and economic aid.

The meeting was held in the framework of the French initiative and “we have a debt to the Islamic countries,” the Amir added, expressing his confidence that the climate of effort and support will continue. Qatar has taken the initiative to support Lebanon, and He is ready to continue to support Lebanon, especially with financial aid.

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun during his meeting with HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani and the Qatari delegation.

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun during his meeting with HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani and the Qatari delegation.

Lebanese Prime Minister sends FM

Lebanon’s caretaker Prime Minister Dr Hassan Diab, met with the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations, in addition to issues of common concern.

Lebanese Speaker meets FM

Lebanese Speaker Nabih Berri meets the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani at the headquarters of the French initiative in Beirut yesterday. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations, in addition to issues of common concern.

**QNA**

**Doha Plan of Action to transform millions of lives: Sheikha Alya**

Sheikha Alya, Chairperson of the Qatar Fund for Advancement of Education, Science and Culture, is visiting Beirut, from today until tomorrow, at the invitation of the Lebanese Prime Minister, for two days of discussions with officials and other parties in Lebanon.

Sheikha Alya, Chairperson of the Qatar Fund for Advancement of Education, Science and Culture, is visiting Beirut, from today until tomorrow, at the invitation of the Lebanese Prime Minister, for two days of discussions with officials and other parties in Lebanon.

Sheikha Alya highlighted the steps that Qatar took to prepare for the conference, despite the challenges brought about by the coronavirus pandemic. She also referred to the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and its achievements.

Sheikha Alya stressed that Qatar is proud of the achievements that have been made and to complete the goals that are still in progress. She also drew attention to Qatar’s readiness to provide all the requirements that help in facilitating the success of the UN Conference.

Sheikha Alya also highlighted the importance of the conference, as it is one of the largest conference centres in the Middle East and the most technologically advanced. She added that Doha Plan of Action will be the first to address the challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic and its repercussions on the least developed countries.

In light of the emerging challenges and the changing global landscape, and the additional burdens the coronavirus pandemic has placed on the shoulders of the least developed countries, Qatar’s Prime Minister, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, has committed to providing support in cash, but in the form of technical assistance to the least developed countries. This will enable them to deal with the pandemic and its repercussions.

In the context, the participation of UN Secretary-General António Guterres was expected to be a starting point for Qatar’s participation in the conference, expressing Qatar’s appreciation for the Member States and the world in general, as well as for the commitment of the international community to support Lebanon in a comprehensive manner, including financial and economic aid.

Sheikha Alya stressed that Qatar is ready to play a key role in supporting Lebanon, as it is one of the largest conference centres in the Middle East.

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QIB participates in sporting events with safety measures

Despite Covid-19, Qatar remains world sports hub: Al-Shaibei

QIB participated in this year’s National Sport Day (NSD) activities, a show of support for the National Sport Day organizing committee’s efforts to promote sports as a way to counter the impact of the pandemic.

QIB CEO Doa al-Shaibei and a number of senior executives and employees took part in the event held at Sidra Medicine’s campus to mark the National Sport Day on February 10.

“The practice of sporting activities is one of the best means to protect ourselves against the coronavirus and the pandemic,” said al-Shaibei.

She added: “It is true that group sports are important and beneficial and will lead to the realization of international and national championship titles, while maintaining the mental and physical health of all the community, which has contributed to Qatar’s sport success in recent years.

The emphasis of QIB’s participation in NSD 2021 was on the importance of organizing healthy, enjoyable, and interactive community.

The launch of the event which ended with the closing ceremony witnessed participation of QIB’s employees and their families at Sidra Medicine’s campus.

In her speech, al-Shaibei said: “National Sport Day celebrates the benefits and the joy of sport, QF said in a statement.

The activities hosted by QF were also highlighted by Faysal al-Oshari from Zulal Wellness Resort, a consultant clinical psychiatrist.

He said: “It’s true that group sports are important and beneficial and will lead to the realization of international and national championship titles, while maintaining the mental and physical health of all the community, which has contributed to Qatar’s sport success in recent years.

A statement from Zulal W ellness Resort.

The activities showcased ability-friendly football with Generation Amazing.

QF’s Ability-Friendly programme is designed for those with mobility-related challenges that lie along the road to sporting success for swimming star Nada Mohamed wa.

Professional instructors from Zulal Wellness Resort.

The QIB footballing team with Hands of Stone and a star from Generation Amazing.

Sport Day affirms importance of investing in people: minister

The minister of Culture and Sports Fahad bin Jassim Al-Thani said that sport is an annual date for promoting community and national cohesion.

At a statement, the minister acknowledged that the pandemic has increased activities that reflected the new circumstances.

He added: “It is true that group sports are important and beneficial and will lead to the realization of international and national championship titles, while maintaining the mental and physical health of all the community.

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QIB celebrates NSD with host of activities remotely, special offers

Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB) has celebrated National Sport Day (NSD) with a series of competitions and offers, to create awareness on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and achieving a sound and healthy lifestyle, which, in turn, helps in the development of a strong and prosperous society.

Showcasing the fun and rewarding benefits of sports and to promote the idea that physical activities can be enjoyed, QIB is targeting all ages by offering various health tips and health tips on social media channels, tailoring for variety of ages and for all members of the family to benefit from, the bank has said in a statement.

QIB follows the opportunity to encourage NSD participants and others, in addition to QIB’s tips, to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

The National Sport Day activities can be exciting, rewarding benefits of sports and health tips and activities and share the opportunity to contribute to the sports bank has said in a statement.

QIB’s tips will support the culture of sports and health among all the people in Qatar, and especially to the ones who spend hours staring on their desks, offering them tips that lead to a healthier lifestyle. Further, QIB ran an exclusive social media competition inviting participants to mention "You are active in the comments, for a chance for three participants and their mentioned friends, for both to win QR2,000 worth Social Responsibility programme. During this special day, QIB aims to promote an active healthy lifestyle among employees and the larger community in Qatar, the statement added.

Sport Day, the sport exhibition at Msheireb Downtown Doha’s ‘Green’ code and wear masks. Organised on Qatar National Sport Day, the exhibition aims to attract Qatar’s Ministry of Defence and a group of Qatari artists and sportspeople, including Sultan al-Jassem, the sport documentarian who will display a selection of photographs and portraits, including Sultan al-Jassem, the sport documentarian who will display a selection of photographs and portraits.

QIB aims to promote an active healthy lifestyle among employees and the larger community in Qatar, the statement added.

In addition, QIB has partnered with Mystik to offer a number of National Sport Day offers. The Mystik offer, available via the Mystik App, will allow QIB customers to avail of a ‘buy one and get one free’ offer on all their purchases from dedicated retail outlets, including 365 Adventures, Athletics, Bouwhoi, Ozone Gym & Spa, Gymmat Fitness Club, Cedars Sports Academy, Discover Arabia, Snow Dunes, Cedars Fitness, Happy Faces Swimming Academy and others. Finally, taking into consideration the latest preventive measures related to the Covid-19 pandemic, QIB conducted for the first time a fine online competition for their fine classes for its family members.

Sel Gamal, QIB Group’s CEO, said: “We are delighted to see many people engaging with our health and fitness tips and participating in our sports competitions. Qatar’s National Sport Day holds a positive message and is a reminder of our cultural, social, and economic achievements”, the statement pointed out. Further, QIB ran an exclusive social media competition inviting participants to mention “You are active in the comments, for a chance for three participants and their mentioned friends, for both to win QR2,000 worth Social Responsibility programme. During this special day, QIB aims to promote an active healthy lifestyle among employees and the larger community in Qatar, the statement added.

Msheireb Downtown Doha’s sport exhibition puts focus on achievements of Qataris

Msheireb Downtown Doha has announced that it is hosting a sport exhibition organised by Seashore Group and Al-Hoot Gallery at Msheireb until February 20.

Hosted by Msheireb Properties, the exhibition aims to highlight on Qatar sport in the past and the present, introduce the current generation to the big achievements and enshrine the collective memory of Qataris to remind them of their achievements" the statement pointed out.

Participating in the exhibition are Qatar’s Ministry of Defence and sport, the heritage and equipment and tools used by Qatari sportspeople during their sport journey, including Sheikh Mohamed al-Thani, high jump gold medallist in the World Championships and silver medallist in the Olympic Games, Mutaz Essa Barshim, high jump gold medallist in the Olympic Games, and heath tips on its social media.

Expressions of participation interest are welcome from Qataris to remind them of their achievements, the statement noted. Visitors should register their names first at the registration desk at the entrance and wait for their turn to enter based on their turn to enter based on their turn to enter based on

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Sponsored by Msheireb Properties, the exhibition aims to shed light on Qatar sport in the past and the present, introduce the current generation to the big achievements and encourage them to follow a healthy lifestyle.

Liquidation Announcement "1"

Based on the Partners’ Resolution To Liquidate

Akter and Al Ajab Contracts Trading & Contracting W.L.L. (under Voluntary Liquidation)

The Liquidator - Rami Mohammed Ali Qadah
Deloitte & Touche - Qatar Branch

Announce the commencement of the liquidation of Akter and Al Ajab Contracts Trading & Contracting W.L.L.

Commercial Registration No. (73551)

Any party who has any claims from this Company should send a registered letter including all supporting documents to P.O. Box 431, Doha – Qatar, within 75 days from the date of this publication.
On National Sport Day, Dukhan Bank launches Fitbit Pay and Garmin Pay

Dukhan Bank launched, Wednesday, Fitbit Pay and Garmin Pay, the tokenisation of app-based services, through the issuance of digital cards and credit cards, which makes it easier and safer to pay. This comes as part of the bank’s continuous efforts to maintain a digital transformation of banking services and transactions that also ensures a safe and easy payment method for its customers.

“The bank stands firmly committed to providing customers with the best digital payment solutions in line with the evolving market conditions,” Dukhan Bank said in a statement.

From its side, Visa said: “Visa is continuously working to deliver more innovative and secure payment methods that meet the constant and ever-evolving needs of our customers.”

The bank also revealed that it is currently in the process of expanding the list of introducing innovative solutions that are tailored to meet the needs of consumers and further accelerate digital transformation in the market.

In a speech on the occasion, the acting CEO of Dukhan Bank, Ali Mohamed Al-Masri, revealed the bank’s plans to launch a new service to support the issuance of tokens for contactless payments through wearables, enabling their active life application on the go. “We are pleased to work with Dukhan bank to introduce Fitbit Pay and Garmin Pay to Visa cardholders in Qatar,” Mastercard added. “We are excited to extend our partnership with Dukhan Bank and are committed to the delivery of innovative payment solutions that will make it easier for our customers to pay."

The launch comes in line with Dukhan Bank’s strategy to fortify its position in the market as one of the leading banks in Qatar, with a focus on customer satisfaction, service excellence, and payment solutions.

On this occasion, the acting CEO of Dukhan Bank, Ali Mohamed Al-Masri, has confirmed that the bank is committed to enhancing customer experience by enabling them to perform their transactions in a safe and easy way. “Our consumers are in a unique position to leverage our expertise and add an extra layer of security to their transactions with faster, safer, convenient and more secure ways to pay. We will continue to work closely with our partners in Qatar to introduce products that are designed to suit the needs of consumers in the market."

Amiri Guard conducts outdoor sporting activities

Under the auspices of Commander of the Amiri Guard Major General Hassn bin Khalid Al-Shaheen, the Amiri Guard took part in a number of sporting activities in the memory of the National Sport Day celebration of the State of Qatar.

Diplomatic, consular and representative missions of Qatar abroad celebrate NSD 2021

Diplomatic, consular and representative missions of Qatar abroad, organised sporting activities to mark the National Sport Day (NSD), amid precautionary measures.

These two services are designed to exceed the needs of consumers in the market. "We are pleased to work with Dukhan Bank to introduce Fitbit Pay and Garmin Pay to Visa cardholders in Qatar,” Mastercard added. “We are excited to extend our partnership with Dukhan Bank and are committed to the delivery of innovative payment solutions that will make it easier for our customers to pay."

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Turkish foreign minister on visit to Qatar, Gulf region

Turkey's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mevlut Cavusoglu, arrived in Qatar on Wednesday, February 10, 20216. His visit to Doha is aimed at strengthening all bilateral relations between Turkey and Qatar. The minister's visit will hold important meetings at the highest level, including a joint meeting of the highest Joint Strategic Committee. The number of agreements signed between the two countries rose to 62 after signing 10 agreements in various fields at that meeting.

In his speech on the occasion, Ambassador in Doha Dr Mustafa Goksu has said that Foreign Minister Cavusoglu carries an important message to Qatar and the Gulf region. The activities included aerobics, yoga and resistance training.

Qatar Foundation also celebrated the National Sport Day (NSD) 2021. The university recognised the importance of raising awareness on the importance of sports, health and social development.

Bilateral relations are witnessing remarkable progress in recent years in all fields, as the sixth national levels. Many issues at the bilateral, regional and international aspects of cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the meeting of the highest Joint Strategic Committee in January 2021.

Turkey and Qatar are strategic partners in many issues at the bilateral, regional and international levels. Historical relations are witnessing remarkable progress in recent years in all fields, as the sixth national levels. Many issues at the bilateral, regional and international aspects of cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the meeting of the highest Joint Strategic Committee in January 2021.

The minister's visit is part of an important message to Qatar and the Gulf region, which was achieved on January 5, following the Gulf reconciliation efforts between Qatar and the Gulf countries. This is an important time after the Gulf reconciliation efforts between Qatar and the Gulf countries were achieved.

On its part, Qatar University celebrated the occasion under the slogan Sport Unites Us, virtually via the Webex platform as part of the coronavirus (Covid-19) precautionary measures.

In his speech on the occasion, Asma al-Nuaimi, the director of the Sports Affairs Office, expressed her gratitude to the government and the people of Qatar for their continuous support and encouragement to sport and healthy lifestyle. She highlighted the importance of sports in the life of the community, as we have seen with university students and staff.

The activities included aerobics, yoga and resistance training.

The Bangladesh embassy in Doha has celebrated Qatar National Sport Day 2021. Ambassador Md Jashim Uddin and embassy officials participated in some sports activities on the social media channels of the embassy.

From Page 1

A number of Qatari players who qualified for the summer Olympics have received the importance of raising awareness on the importance of sports, health and social development.

High jump champion Mutaz Essa Barshim said that the NSD, on its 10th anniversary, is an important celebration of the importance of sports in the life of the community, as we have seen with university students and staff.

The NSD activities at the QU included online fitness classes, sessions that showcase ability-friendly sporting opportunities and inspirational talks, encouraging an interactive, active and healthy community. Dr Hassan added: “The State of Qatar, as one of the participants in the 2022 FIFA World Cup, has provided all means of promoting sports of various kinds through the stadiums equipped in accordance with the best international standards, public squares for practising sports and other modern equipment."

For the summer Olympics have stressed the importance of raising awareness on the importance of sports, health and social development.

Online fitness classes, sessions that showcase ability-friendly sporting opportunities and inspirational talks, encourage all members of Qatar's community to practise sports regularly.

The Bangladesh embassy in Doha has celebrated Qatar National Sport Day 2021. Ambassador Md Jashim Uddin and embassy officials participated in some sports activities on the social media channels of the embassy.

The NSD activities at the QU included online fitness classes, sessions that showcase ability-friendly sporting opportunities and inspirational talks, encouraging an interactive, active and healthy community. Dr Hassan added: “The State of Qatar, as one of the participants in the 2022 FIFA World Cup, has provided all means of promoting sports of various kinds through the stadiums equipped in accordance with the best international standards, public squares for practising sports and other modern equipment."

In his speech on the occasion, Asma al-Nuaimi, the director of the Sports Affairs Office, expressed her gratitude to the government and the people of Qatar for their continuous support and encouragement to sport and healthy lifestyle. She highlighted the importance of sports in the life of the community, as we have seen with university students and staff.

The activities included aerobics, yoga and resistance training.

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Qatar Scientific Club launches Hackathon for sports innovations

** hackathon **

The Qatar Scientific Club (QSC) has launched a Hackathon for sports innovations, in cooperation with a number of partners and sponsors, in the spirit of Qatar National Sports Day, which is observed annually on the second Tuesday of February each year.

The Hackathon is an event where a group of people meet and share interests and skills, exchange experiences and solve problems. It can be for the purpose of building a bridge between individuals and groups. The competition aims at enhancing innovative ideas that contribute to supporting innovators in the field of sports, encouraging and supporting scientific ideas, and providing a platform for innovators and Hackathon competitions in other fields.

The QSC Executive Director, Engineer Al-Rahimi, said the competition was well received by the youth, adding: “QSC has set several conditions to encourage them to generate innovative ideas. The teams participating in the competition will compete in presenting innovative ideas and solutions in the field of sports and will contribute to supporting innovators in the field of sports.”

Al-Rahimi highlighted QSC’s interest in providing a platform for innovative ideas and Hackathon competitions in other fields in support of young people to encourage them to generate innovative ideas.

The Hackathon is an event where a group of people meet and share interests and skills, exchange experiences and solve problems. The Hackathon consists of three phases: First, registration and shortlisting of projects, second, the Hackathon event virtually in which the qualified projects will be submitted to the second phase of the competition, before they enter the final implementation phases.

He said 20 projects have been registered and they will be presented to a committee to select the qualified projects. The shortlisted projects will be submitted to the second phase of the competition, before they enter the final implementation phases.

QSC has allocated QR50,000 to fund projects and rewards for the first three projects. QC has also set several conditions to provide the necessary funding and technical support to complement their projects in QSC’s technical laboratories, he stressed.

He said 20 projects have been registered and they will be presented to a committee to select the qualified projects. QC has allocated QR50,000 to fund projects and rewards for the first three projects.

Each year, the second Tuesday of February is marked on the calendar as the Qatar National Sports Day which is observed annually on the second Tuesday of February each year.

A group of cyclists known as ‘Team Into Trails’ joined the Qatar National Sport Day celebrations with a ride to the Sheraton International Airport.

** MoPH reports 477 new Covid cases, 147,191 total recoveries **

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) yesterday reported 477 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus (Covid-19) during the last 24 hours, while 24 recoveries were reported from the community and 43 from transition returning from abroad who are subject to quarantine.

It said the MoPH has recorded two deaths of patients aged 66 and 81, who were admitted to ICU. He said 20 projects have been registered and they will be presented to a committee to select the qualified projects. QC has allocated QR50,000 to fund projects and rewards for the first three projects.

The death rate in Qatar continues to increase over the coming week or two, additional restrictions may need to be implemented across the country and some of the strict restrictions will be put in place in the coming two weeks. The number of Covid-19 cases in Qatar, if it continues to increase is expected to put in place the government and the support of the public in following prevailing steps, Qatar is at risk of a second wave in the spread of the virus since its peak in late July.

However, over the past month, the number of Covid-19 cases, which is the number of new infections in any given time period, has not increased, in fact it has decreased, it is the most important in the number of people infected inGY.
Egypt opens Gaza border crossing ‘indefinitely’

AFP

E gypt and the Palestinian Authority on Saturday opened the crossing between the two countries, “indefinitely” allowing the free movement of people, trade and cargo, “subject” to security checks, according to a statement from the Egyptian foreign ministry.

Israel and Egypt renewed the North Sinai-Mount Sinai crossing, which the two countries had closed in August 2020 after a Palestinian was killed there.

Palestinians wait to leave Rafah border crossing after it was opened by Egyptian authorities, in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday.

Protests spread across Sudan over cost of living

AFP

P rotesters demanded a wide range of issues, from keyindustriesportcity, to finances, housing and other parts of the country’s economy during the largest protests since the fall of Bashir. The government has often made it clear that it will not negotiate with protesters, while also warning that it will use force if necessary.

Sudanese protesters shout slogans during a demonstration in front of the presidential palace in Khartoum, Sudan.

UAE’s Hope probe enters orbit in first Arab Mars mission

Reuters

T he United Arab Emirates’ first mission to Mars, the Mars Hope orbiter, was still in its final landing phase yesterday after a seven-month, 445 million-km journey, allowing it to start sending data about the Martian atmosphere and climate.

The UAE’s Hope probe was launched in February, making it the first Arab mission to Mars and only the second probe to launch this year. The probe will spend six months studying the planet’s atmosphere before entering a permanent orbit.

Dubai’s Hope probe, a 5m high spacecraft, is due to enter orbit around Mars in February, becoming the first Arab mission to reach the Red Planet.

Routouh will cease attacks ‘if coalition stops’

M ohammed Al-Iryani

M yanmar’s coup leaders have said that their attacks on protesting soldiers and protesters must end if they are given a “ceasefire” and if the country starts a political transition.

The government has said it will not negotiate with protesters, while also warning that it will use force if necessary.

The military has been involved in political violence in Myanmar for decades, and its actions have been widely condemned.

Iran starts Covid-19 vaccination campaign

Iranian authorities have started a mass vaccination campaign against Covid-19, with thousands of health workers and others considered at high risk receiving their first dose of a Russian-developed vaccine.

The campaign aims to vaccinate more than 5 million people within the first month, according to the health ministry.

Rooftop skating in Jerusalem’s Old City as lockdown eases

Israel’s Health Ministry has given the go-ahead for rooftop skating in Jerusalem’s Old City, as the city eased its lockdown restrictions.

The ministry has given permission for rooftop skating rinks to open, as long as certain safety measures are in place, such as maintaining social distancing and wearing face masks.

The decision has been welcomed by local residents, who say it is a welcome change from the strict lockdown that has been in place for months.
Military raids Suu Kyi party offices as UN slams violence

Biden and Modri agree to beef up regional security

Biden to deploy more navy to protect fishermen

Covid-19 unlikely to have leaked from Wuhan lab, says WHO

Vaccine drive

Biden nomrte forsorry pastpweets

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**AP**
Vaccines emerge the world’s best defence against Covid-19

In the early stages of vaccines to fortify human defences against Sars-CoV-2 – this virus that causes Covid-19 disease – what question will vaccines eliminate Covid-19 completely? The answer: it’s hard to say.

For one, the enemy is only human disease – smallpox has been officially eradicated to date; that, is reduced to zero cases and kept there for at least 40 years with a massive vaccination programme. Smallpox was stamped out thanks to a highly effective vaccine and the fact that humans are the only mammals that can catch this virus. Although international groups and a number of nations are still working on bringing the eradication of smallpox in the world, WHO has said that it is on the way.

In addition, in the case of Sars-CoV-2, the virus is still evolving, with variants emerging. Wiping out the virus would require banishing it from every susceptible host, which is unfeasible.

In countries where the Sars-CoV-2 virus has been suppressed Covid-19 cases, disease elimination has been proposed instead. This means that the virus is no longer circulating, and it can’t be transmitted from one person to another.

With vaccination programmes moving swiftly in richer countries than the rest of the globe, it will take the world a while to ensure that the current pace to bring the virus spread to a halt, and the proposals for putting an end to the Sars-CoV-2 pandemic are currently underway. It means, as of now, children are now included in the population.

David Heymann, chairman of the WHO’s Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Infectious Hazards, warned at the end of 2020, “it appears the destiny of Sars-CoV-2 is to become endemic.”

Some scientists have predicted that, once the endemic phase is reached and primary exposure to the virus in childhood is achieved, Sars-CoV-2 may no longer be as virulent as the common cold.

Although international groups and a number of nations are promising to make vaccines affordable and accessible to all, there is still a long way to bring the virus spread to a halt. According to Faisal Abdulhameed al-Mudahka, Gulf Times:

“Don’t let fears over variants stop you from getting vaccinated. The global medical community has worked very hard to develop effective vaccines and immunisation programmes that will protect us from this devastating virus. Vaccines are safe and effective, and they have saved millions of lives. It is crucial that we continue to get vaccinated and encourage others to do the same.”

At the individual level, here’s the straightforward equation to follow:

1. Increase vaccination rates.
2. Stay home.
3. Wear masks.
4. Keep a safe distance.
5. Avoid crowds.

But the goal must be to make sure that all countries have access to vaccines and have the capacity to distribute them. This requires political leadership, coordination and strong partnerships between countries and international organisations.

For sure, there are silver linings. As of now, the best defence against the virus and its variants is getting vaccinated and living with the virus. While the virus is still circulating, the goal must be to control its spread and mitigate its impact on societies and economies. But even if the virus is controlled, it will not disappear entirely. It will likely continue to circulate in certain parts of the world, and there will be outbreaks and new variants that need to be monitored and managed.

Global vaccination efforts are crucial to controlling the virus and minimizing the impact of the pandemic. But achieving widespread vaccination coverage is not enough. Countries need to implement effective surveillance and response systems to detect and contain outbreaks, as well as strong public health measures to reduce transmission.

Moreover, there is a need to work towards equitable access to vaccines, especially in low- and middle-income countries. This requires strong political leadership and significant investments in manufacturing and supply chains. The World Health Organization has called for a global vaccine-sharing mechanism to ensure that all countries have access to vaccines.

The challenge ahead is to ensure that the global response to the pandemic is coordinated and effective. It requires strong political leadership, effective collaboration between countries and international organisations, and a commitment to equitable access to vaccines and other critical health technologies.

The ultimate goal is to achieve a global health system that is more resilient and better prepared to tackle future pandemics. This requires a paradigm shift in global health governance, with a focus on prevention, vaccination, and equitable access to health technologies. It also requires a stronger commitment to international cooperation and solidarity to address global health challenges.
Snow and bitter cold bring chaos to Germany, UK

Britain tightens travel restrictions with hotel quarantine, jail threat

Danish airline plans to offer its customers the opportunity to fly to the UK.
Defence minister inaugurates world’s largest calisthenics park

HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah inaugurated yesterday the calisthenics park in Meqdam camp, in conjunction with the Qatar National Sport Day. The park has entered the Guinness World Records for being the largest of its kind in the world. The ceremony was attended by HE the Minister of Culture and Sports Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali, and a number of ranking officials in the armed forces. HE al-Attiyah received the Guinness World Records certificate, via video conference technology.

Actively sporting people spotted

Snapshots of Qatar National Sport Day celebrations yesterday.

PICTURES: Thajudheen, Shaji Kayamkulam, Ram Chand, Jayaram, Shemeer Rasheed and Noushad Thekkayil