While many countries and regions are facing tough times as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, some have managed to weather the storm and maintain a positive economic outlook. Qatar is one such country that is on track for a relatively robust recovery backed by large-scale energy investments. Qatar's strong policy response helped mitigate the health and economic fallouts from the COVID-19 pandemic and the decline in international oil prices. Strict prevention and containment measures allowed the country to resume all economic activities since September. Supported by the rebound in domestic demand, Qatar's economy is projected to grow 2.7 percent in 2021. Estimates by the International Monetary Fund indicate that Qatar's economy will contract by the lowest in the Gulf region in 2020 before returning to robust growth the next year.
INVESTORS across the world are on the hunt for new growth opportunities as economies recover from the economic repercussions of business following the coronavirus (COVID-19) lockdown. While many countries and regions are recovering at varying times and at different rates, some have managed to weather the storms and maintain a positive economic outlook.

Qatar is one such country that is on track for relatively robust recovery backed by large-scale energy investments.

Qatar also received a thumbs-up from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which reaffirmed that the country’s economy will contract by 10 percent and recently introduced measures and one of the highest in the GCC. The IMF estimates that Qatar’s economy will contract by the lowest amount in the GCC in 2020 before returning to a robust growth of 2.7 percent in 2021.

Qatar has also been in the news for its fiscal reforms.

The planned expansion of gas production capacity in Qatar’s North Field, the largest in the world, will average 6.3 percent per year by 2027. Qatar’s cost-competitive dollar, a low corporate tax rate, and protected intellectual property and receive credit.

Moreover, the FIFA World Cup 2022 is shining a bright light on Qatar’s economy and has created a massive building boom. Much of this work has been completed, creating a modern, attractive environment for overseas visitors and tourists.

In November, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) announced the WTO and the UNWTO’s Global Tourism Recovery Plan, which includes a list of key actions to support the industry, including the launch of a digital platform to help over 900 financial institutions offer credit.

The IMF also expects Qatar’s economy to contract by 2.2% in 2020 before recovering by 2.7% in 2021. The organization has praised Qatar’s swift response with a QR75 billion package to center around a stimulus package, and protected intellectual property and receive credit.

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Qatar's policy response has mitigated the economic impact of COVID-19 shocks. The policy response was centered around a QR75 billion package to support the economy.

Priority should be given to supporting vulnerable households and businesses, and ensuring that the recovery is inclusive and sustainable.

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Katara Hospitality: growing an exceptional hospitality legacy

For over five decades, Katara Hospitality has played an instrumental role in shaping the hospitality landscape which today is part of the national infrastructure that grows alongside the country’s development.

Will the hospitality trade in Qatar set to roar repeatedly at an unprecedented rate into competition to the rest of the Gulf, it is key to note for excellence now more than ever. The huge increase is largely driven by the imminent 2022 FIFA World Cup and 2030 Qatar National Vision, building the country on the path of economic diversification and recognizing the increasing demand in international business tourism.

With both of these projects, it’s no wonder that there are huge investments currently being made in Qatar. With the first refinement being football, it often leads to questions about what will happen after the eyes of the world shift from this internationally acclaimed event. The investments are set to serve the country’s economy long-term by giving it a unique edge over its competitors, including the newly-opened Hamad International Airport and upcoming developments such as Mall of Qatar, Festival City and theme parks.

This is why at Katara Hospitality, we continue on our mission to preserve existing industry heritage within the country while also acquiring spectacular properties that once set the standards in the sector and today represent a legacy. We then aim to further invest in these historically iconic hotels to restore them to their former glory and turn them into flourishing businesses, while ensuring their hospitality heritage is secured. Each property represents a hospitality icon in its own right, further strengthening Qatar’s reputation as a key player in the global tourism market.

Currently, the hotels owned and managed by Katara Hospitality in Qatar form an exclusive portfolio that offers unique bases from the iconic towers we have come to know from high end business travellers to more cost-conscious ones, through to the Maidaan segment and recreational facilities. In line with the Qatar National Vision 2030, Katara Hospitality is also focusing on developing a network of first-class business hotels in the heart of Doha’s commercial district with home-grown Murwab Hotels.

A recent example of how we’re advancing our dedication to the heritage and development of Qatar is the focus on preserving spectacular projects that will redefine the design and presentation of luxury hospitality in the country. One of the projects being the iconic Katara Tower, a luxury hospitality complex on the ground floor of a new residential development in Doha.

Murwab Hotels is a contemporary collection of stylish upscale hotels and brands offering contemporary hospitality steeped in cultural heritage. The Murwab Hotel Group currently manages properties under its three main areas of business: Murwab Hotels, The Burgenstock Selection as well as a collection of independent non-branded upscale properties.

Murwab Hotels connect with local culture and traditions to offer truly authentic experiences. The Burgenstock Selection offers first-class Swiss hospitality, luxurious facilities and a unique synthesis of the traditional and modern. Each establishment under The Burgenstock Selection offers high standards of exclusive service and distinctive characteristics. Murwab Hotel Group also manages a series of independent upper mid-scale properties in Qatar. Each property offers an experience defined by local flavour reflected throughout the design and the distinctive sceneries.

Murwab Hotel Group is Katara Hospitality’s standalone operating division which manages an international collection of boutique upscale hotels and brands offering contemporary hospitality steeped in cultural heritage. The Murwab Hotel Group currently manages properties under its three main areas of business: Murwab Hotels, The Burgenstock Selection as well as a collection of independent non-branded upscale properties.

Murwab Hotels is a contemporary collection of stylish upscale hotels that offer dynamic and engaging hospitality. Murwab Hotels connect with local culture and traditions to offer truly authentic experiences. The Burgenstock Selection offers first-class Swiss hospitality, luxurious facilities and a unique synthesis of the traditional and modern. Each establishment under The Burgenstock Selection offers high standards of exclusive service and distinctive characteristics. Murwab Hotel Group also manages a series of independent upper mid-scale properties in Qatar. Each property offers an experience defined by local flavour reflected throughout the design and the distinctive sceneries.

Katara Hospitality currently owns properties spread across four continents in Qatar, Egypt, Morocco, UK, France, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Singapore, Thailand and the United States of America. While it partners with some of the finest hotel management companies, Katara Hospitality operates owned and non-owned hotels through its standalone operating arm, Murwab Hotel Group.

Katara Hospitality has gained global recognition for its contributions to the Qatari and international hospitality landscape, through numerous prestigious accolades from the industry.

**Peerless hotels**

- With 50 years of experience in the industry, Katara Hospitality actively pursues its strategic expansion plans by investing in peerless hotels in Qatar while growing its collection of iconic properties in key international markets.
- Katara Hospitality’s portfolio has grown to include 42 owned and managed hotels and the company is now focused on achieving its target of 60 hotels in its portfolio by 2030.

This is why at Katara Hospitality, we believe it is important across the industry as a whole to grow the hospitality sector, not only for now but also for the future to create a true legacy that the country can be really proud of. Keeping this in mind, it is important that the industry does not forget that the eyes of the world will soon be upon Qatar where it would only be right to have iconic hospitality supporting such an iconic sporting event. The development of these iconic legacy hotels across the country will definitely put Qatar on the map as a world-class, key international destination, and one that will continue to attract travellers for generations to come.

Katara Hospitality is a global hotel owner, developer and operator, based in Qatar. With 50 years of experience in the hospitality business, Katara Hospitality actively pursues its strategic expansion plans by investing in peerless hotels in Qatar while growing its collection of iconic properties in key international markets.

Katara Hospitality’s portfolio has grown to include 42 owned and managed hotels and the company is now focused on achieving its target of 60 hotels in its portfolio by 2030. As the country’s flagship hospitality organization, Katara Hospitality supports Qatar’s long-term economic vision.

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**MURWAB HOTEL GROUP: MANAGING UPScale HOTELS**

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Katara Hospitality currently owns properties spread across three continents in Qatar, Egypt, Morocco, UK, France, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Singapore, Thailand and USA.

Katara Hospitality, formerly known as Qatar National Hotels Limited, was established in 1970 by the Government of Qatar and since then has transformed into a pioneering approach to developing hospitality landscapes in the most competitive global markets. The company was re-named in 2012 as Katara Hospitality to reflect the company’s heritage and international expansion plans. Katara Hospitality’s aim is to develop a portfolio of unique properties that are celebrated hospitality icons across the world.

The company’s journey over the years has marked a series of firsts since it was set up to manage ‘The Gold Resort’ – now the Doha Marriott – the country’s very first five-star hotel. With the opening of the Sheraton Doha Resort & Convention Hotel in 1978, the company introduced Qatar’s very first internationally branded hotel. The Ritz-Carlton, Doha was the tallest building in Qatar when it opened in 2010. Then came the Seaside Beach Resort, Qatar’s first leisure resort, followed by Sheraton Villas & Spa, a Ritz-Carlton Hotel – the first luxury resort in the country – featuring the Six Senses Spa, the largest of its kind in the region.

Since then, we have continued to expand our portfolio of iconic hotels to invest in and develop a collection of purpose-built hotels in key sought after international locations. Katara Hospitality currently owns properties spread across three continents in Qatar, Egypt, Morocco, UK, France, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Singapore, Thailand and USA. While it partners with some of the finest hotel management companies, Katara Hospitality also owns its own operational brands, The Baglioni Selection and The Ritz-Carlton Selection.

In an interview, Katara Hospitality Chairman Sheikh Nawaf bin Jassim bin Jabor Al Thani spoke on various issues concerning the hospitality industry and how it is the interest of the community to preserve iconic hotels by investing in their renovation and include modernization to ensure that their heritage and luxury offering is available for generations to come. Excerpts from the interview:

Q: How has Katara Hospitality become a success?
A: Katara Hospitality has marked its 50th Anniversary. Identifying, attractive investment opportunities, developing innovative hospitality assets, incurring revenue streams and presenting exceptional hospitality offerings is what our key focus is. To date, ourflagship projects have propelled Katara Hospitality into the global spotlight. The differentiating strategy is focused on securing long-term partnerships with some of the finest hotel operators, such as the Katara Towers, in Luang Prabang while also anchoring iconic historical properties locally and in other international key locations, with a particular focus on Europe. We also always aim to ensure maximum possible returns for a wide range of stakeholders. To this end, restoring, operating partners, employees or the guests of our hotels. This strategy has positioned us as an international forerunner in the hospitality sector, and we aim to make it a legacy for future generations.

Q: What would you say is your flagship property and can you tell us about it and why it is so successful?
A: We are proud of all of our properties both locally and internationally. All have something different to offer and are iconic landmarks in their home cities. Part of our overarching strategy is to restore iconic hotels, particularly those that are already flagship hospitality icons and have set standards in the industry. Our goal is to keep them as outstanding legacy for future generations. We use our resources and expertise to invest in heritage properties around the world, each of which represents both a legacy and a future.

Q: What makes Katara different from competitors in the market?
A: As Qatar’s leading hospitality organisation, our differentiating strategy is to invest in the future potential of our current iconic hotel assets. We are interested in our flagship properties, historical properties locally and in other international locations, such as Europe and Asia. As a corporate organisation, we operate on clearly defined business goals. One of our foremost priorities is to ensure maximum possible returns for a wide range of stakeholders. To this end, we invest in our operations, partners, employees or the guests of our hotels. At the same time, we also see economic impact on stakeholders across all aspects of our business.

Our offering includes an exceptional level of facilities and service to all guests, making their experience even more desirable and memorable. We partner with some of the world’s finest international hotel operators to deliver world-class hospitality services that keep guests coming back. One of our first strategies was to secure access to the hospitality industry, and we have ambitions to become the world’s leading hospitality company. We continue to identify new areas of strength for our business and our performance has consistently moved from strength to strength since we started, whether in investment, development or operations.

Q: What has made Katara Hospitality make the move to become an international company and how hard was it to achieve this?
A: Katara Hospitality has earned our reputation as a leading player in the international hospitality industry. The success over the years – in hotel development and operations – have propelled the organisation into the global spotlight and the Katara Hospitality brand is now increasingly associated with excellence in hospitality development.

Growing the business for any company is a key priority and the next natural step is to step into key international locations. Expanding internationally is a move not for the faint hearted as it requires a high risk appetite, but throughout the process of international expansion we have been true to our strategy of investing in true icons that represent heritage and prestige. This is why we believe we have been successful in our growth till date.

Q: What are the company’s upcoming projects and expansion plans both locally and internationally?
A: In Qatar, we are currently building the iconic Katara Towers in Doha’s up-and-coming West Bay Downtown District. An architectural translation of Qatar’s country, the hospitality complex will host a five-star luxury hotel, a five-star ultra-luxury hotel and residencies. Another one of our innovative projects is the development of the Taxi Palaces in Tangier, Morocco. The building was originally designed to become a royal residence, and after our restoration process will be transformed into a luxury palaces hotel.

Q: Has the oil price fluctuation affected business in the hospitality sector in Qatar?
A: In general, the oil price fluctuation has slowed business down across a range of industries. Despite this, hospitality is still on the rise and the increase in tourism for business in Qatar. In general, more events are coming up and we are all looking towards the future. Katara Hospitality is on the rise.

Q: What has been the growth in the hospitality business in Qatar with the announcement of the World Cup, and how are you combating this?
A: The hospitality business in Qatar is set to soar and this is largely driven by the nation’s Vision 2030 which of course means that business in Qatar, including hospitality, is on the rise.

Q: Has there been growth in the hospitality business in Qatar with the announcement of the World Cup, and how are you combating this?
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Kataba Hospitality boosts domestic tourism

Staycation offers by Katara Hospitality contributes significantly to achieving high occupancy at most of its hotels in Qatar

Kataba Hospitality is providing Qatar nationals and residents an exclusive offer with complimentary transfers from home to the hotels in Qatar. Guests may imme-
sure in luxury with this special package inclusive of cutting-edge amenities and facilities that cater to all guests.

On the occasion of Qatar National Day, Katara Hospitality introduced its ‘Your Key To Luxury’ package with exclusive privileges at The Ritz-Carlton, Doha Sheraton Grand Doha Resort & Convention Hotel; The Westin, The Westin Doha, Al Mourjan, Caterpillar Branch & Caterpillar Apartment Resort Villas & The Avenue, A RITZ-CARLTON RESORT.

When guests book for two- night stay in the third night complimentary, and when they book for three consecutive nights they receive two-nights complimentary in addition to daily breakfast for two adults and three kids special amenity on check-in. Sheraton Grand Doha Resort & Convention Hotel General Manager Belal Al Kady said, “Sheraton Grand Doha is Qatar’s iconic hotel and the most recognisable social landmark in the country, we always seek to incorporate the heritage and local elements into the experiences we put forth for our guests. We always say our heritage is your heritage.

We aim to make the essence of Katara Hospitality resonate with Katara residents and Qatar’s local traditions. As a result, a guest book has been designed to make your stay memorable, to make every moment spent with us during this time a chance to rebuild old memories and to create new, unforgettable ones.”

Nasir Lataif, hotel manager of Sheraton Village & Spa, said, “Amidst the chaos that the novel coronavirus has caused over the past few months worldwide, we endeavor to focus on the positives that are imminent in the near future. Katara Hospitality creates the ultimate ‘Your Key To Luxury’ for our valued patrons as we are fully equipped to provide Safe Retreats.

‘The ladies and gentlemen at Sheraton Village & Spa have left no stone unturned in preparing the hotel for your visit, whether visiting the hotel in anticipation of providing a warm welcome and a safe environment to our guests. We are keen to design your stay one that you can remember, to make every moment spent with us during this time a chance to rebuild old memories and to create new, unforgettable ones.’

Al Messilah, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, said, “Non-stop between clashing sounds and the vibrant bustle of the city, Al Messilah, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, welcomes guests to an architectural oasis 5-star excellence. Accommodating the needs of Qatar’s national residents.

Hilton Salwa Beach Resort & Villas, said, “Salwa Beach Resort & Villas offers a unique experience and we believe in enjoying this new and exclusive deal and we are certain that our customers will enjoy our services and facilities at a cornerstone of hospitality for the last 10 years and we look forward to being of service to the Qatar community. We take pride in caring for our guests during those unique times, providing a safe and healthy environment throughout the season experiences.

The Katara Towers at Lusail is one of Middle East’s premier destination beach resorts. Located on three million square meters of pristine coastline in the southwest corner of Qatar, the Katara Towers at Lusail is 20 kilometers from Doha. With sweeping views of the Arabian Sea, this ambitious 152-key property features a wide array of remarkable facilities, including three kilometers of pristine beach, a luxury marine and yacht club, a thriller water park, a dive centre, a shopping mall, an Arabian village, a 2,850 square meter spa and health club, and much more.

Carlo Javaheri, acting general manager-at-larg of The Ritz-Carlton, Doha, said, “Here at The Ritz-Carlton, Doha, we don’t just want to collaborate to create a memor-
able experience for guests that can immerse in luxury with a special ‘Your Key To Luxury’ for na-
tional residents of Qatar. We reimagined creating a new, unforgettable one.”

The Katara Towers at Lusail

Katarat Towers Hotel project in Qatar to get GSAS 5-star rating

By Sunday, December 27, 2020

Katarat Towers Hotel project in Qatar to get GSAS 5-star rating

Katarat Towers, which is being de-
veloped by Katara Hospitality, is the first hotel-quality project in Qatar to receive a certification for Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS) Design and Build. Star rating at the design stage.

GSAS is MENA region’s first perfor-
mance-based green building certification system edited by buildings, districts and infrastructure projects to assess their environ-
nmental impact.

Katara Hospitality aims to achieve a Design star rating for environmental benefits in the Gulf Or-
thod (GORD) and the awarded provisional certificate reflects the expected level of building sustainability to be achieved by Katara Tow-
ers completion.

Katarat Towers Hospitality Chairman Sheikh Nasser bin Ahmed Al Thani said, ‘Katarat Hospitality is one of the first in-
vestors that understood the significance of the project. Our aim was to create the hospitality sector in the sector that is within one of the world’s most exciting urban development stories to set the new standards that go beyond the borders of the hospitality industry and provide a landmark location that is instantaneously rec-
ognisable around the world.

‘We have put in place a comprehensive, integrated approach to sustainability as we are strong believers that travel, tourism and events are one of the world’s greatest economic and employment sectors and consequently have a global influence on the environment. Sustainability is an important element in shaping how we bet-
ter manage our costs and revenue. Being responsible reduces our expenditure, es-
centially reduces our associated costs and ensures the ongoing financial viability of the project, an issue understanding the environmental impact of our activities. We are committed to reduce negative environmental impacts resulting from our activities by adopting environmentally preferable business prac-
tices and innovative technologies. Sheikh Nasser bin Ahmed Al Thani said, ‘While we regard 2022 as a milestone in the country’s development, this new property in Lusail will also occupy a local point for tourists and travelers during the FIFA World Cup. We believe that this is an opportunity to showcase a country that has grown into an international dis-
tribution and Katara Hospitality will create the landmark to underline Qatar’s rea-
deserves the title of ‘the perfect fit for the work for us, we will continue to develop

Throughout the project, the hotel will have a 200-room hotel with 132 keys and aim to cater to 600,000 hotel-stays per year.

Qatar’s sustainable hospitality sector. The provisional certificate marks the continu-
uation of Katara Hospitality’s journey towards a sustainable hotel environment.

Sustainability is an integral part of Qatar’s development story, and Katara Hospitality is proud to be a cornerstone of hospitality for the last 10 years and we look forward to being of service to the Qatar community. We take pride in caring for our guests during those unique times, providing a safe and healthy environment throughout the season experiences.

The Katara Towers at Lusail

QATAR THE ROAD AHEAD

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK

QATAR THE ROAD AHEAD

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK
Dukhan Bank emerges as Qatar’s bank of choice

With a vision to cement its position as Qatar’s Bank of Choice, the bank’s rebranding comes at a time of massive transformation for the group. The bank is eyeing a fully digital infrastructure that delivers on operational efficiency and profitability, as well as provides secure, simplified and seamless banking experience for customers.

Dukhan Bank Rewards

A REWARDING EXPERIENCE AWAITS YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new Dukhan Bank Rewards, a loyalty program that rewards you for banking with us. Dukhan Bank Rewards offers you a wide range of redemption options including booking flights with your points or hotel bookings, our retail or shopping.

Download any register on the Dukhan Bank mobile application to view and redeem your points. You can login seamlessly with your points or transfer them to Qatar Airways, TripAdviser, or Shurkan.

How to Earn Dukhan Bank Rewards?

As a Dukhan Bank customer, you will be able to earn points every time you use one of the following products and services, which can be redeemed to purchase exciting and unique rewards.

- Nojoom or Shurkan points
- You can book services directly with your points or transfer them to Qatar’s bank of choice

The bank is eyeing a fully digital infrastructure that delivers on operational efficiency and profitability, as well as provides secure, simplified and seamless banking experience for customers.

Credit Card: Earn 5 Dukhan Bank Reward Points when you spend $1
Gold: Dukhan Bank Reward Points Platinum: Dukhan Bank Reward Points Signature: Dukhan Bank Reward Points

Infinite: (Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 10,000. World: 35,000
Signature: Infinite(Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 1000 or above
World: 6
Signature: Infinite(Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 8,000 or above
World: 5
Signature: Infinite(Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 25,000 or above
World: 4
Signature: Infinite(Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 2,000 or above
World: 3
Signature: Infinite(Retail): Credit Cards: Earn 1
Gold: 1500 or above
World: 2
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How to Earn Dukhan Bank Rewards?

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Memorable Moments at Alwadi Hotel Doha MGallery, where heritage meets luxury hospitality

Immerse in an unparalleled level of luxury and five-star service, offering well-appointed rooms with panoramic views of Doha’s skyline. Indulge in a unique culinary experience with our three restaurants, a rooftop bar and a lobby lounge. Experience contemporary living rooted in heritage and Qatari hospitality with an inspired stay at Alwadi Hotel Doha MGallery.

Msheireb Downtown Doha | Email: reservations.alwadihotel@accor.com | Tel: +974 4009 9999

MGALLERY. STORIES THAT STAY
QIIB: More than 29 years of incredible achievements

VALUES

- Embrace our identity as a modern bank with traditional values.
- Strive for excellence in what we do and every interaction we have.
- Demonstrate our commitment to our customers and our country.
- Use teamwork to deliver to the highest possible standards.
- Promote an open and honest banking environment.
- Take ownership and responsibility for the work we do.
- Recognise others for their hard work and achievements.
- Elevate our customer service beyond all expectations.
- Show professionalism and maturity as knowledgeable individuals.
- Take control of our development and aspire to be the best.

MISSION

To provide Shariah-compliant financial services and products that meet the needs of our customers, our national economy and our country's vision and to always hold in high regard our customers, the relationships we hold with them, and remain committed to their aspirations.

VISION

To be the most efficient Islamic financial institution, performing to the best global standards, serving the communities where we have presence, and to be the first choice banking partner for national and expatriate citizens of Qatar.

QIIB has come a long way since its establishment as a full-service bank committed to Shariah principles, on January 1, 1991. QIIB is well-placed to provide a full array of retail and corporate banking services to its growing customer base.

A customer-centric bank, QIIB’s role in the banking landscape is gaining prominence as Islamic banking acquires momentum as a viable and sustainable proposition alongside conventional banking. QIIB is listed on the Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) and provides comprehensive banking services to its customers through a network encompassing various regions of Qatar. The bank also has diverse regional and international partnerships.

QIIB has a great reputation at the local, regional and international levels. This was evident again after the issuance and listing of QIIB's International Sukuk Programme on the London Stock Exchange at the beginning of 2019. The sukuk issuance was well-received and exceeded by seven times the amount offered.

Strategic Alliances: QIIB is rapidly growing as one of the prominent Islamic banks in the Middle East region and beyond. QIIB continues to explore new markets for strategic alliances.

Guiding Principle: QIIB’s guiding principle is to provide modern Shariah-compliant financial services to meet its customers’ expectations and satisfy their needs in an efficient, transparent and socially beneficial manner. QIIB is guided by its commitment to deliver value to its customers, shareholders, and employees in a sustainable manner.

Elevate our customer service beyond all expectations.

- Show professionalism and maturity as knowledgeable individuals.
- Take control of our development and aspire to be the best.

service and the availability of different innovative alternatives to meet customers’ needs.

Human Resources: QIIB realizes that one of its greatest assets is its workforce. To enhance their skills, competence, and assist them achieve their career potential, QIIB allocates significant resources for the development of its employees. Qatarisation: QIIB is committed to the national goal of achieving minimum levels of Qatarisation of all staff levels.

Overview: Within the framework of QIIB’s efforts to take its success to the regional market, during year 2017 it had seen QIIB making a foray into the Kingdom of Morocco, where in partnership with CIH and the CDB, it has launched Uhdimi Bank. Awards: QIIB is a recipient of many prestigious awards. Its efforts to improve the quality of services received great attention and much appreciation, as QIIB won the Best Islamic Bank in Qatar Award 2019 in the field of banking products and financing solutions during the ceremony of Excellence in Islamic Banking and Finance Awards ceremony of Excellence in Islamic Banking and Finance Awards 2019 organized by the International Union of Islamic Banks (IUOB). Recently, QIIB was chosen for ‘Qatar’s Most Innovative Islamic Retail Bank award 2020’, unreserved and granted annually by the Islamic Retail Banking Awards Committees in collaboration with Cambridge University in the UK. The prestigious International Institution for Financial Accounting has awarded QIIB four prizes as part of the IIF awards 2021, in recognition of the bank’s achievements, particularly in the issuance of permanent instruments within the first tranche of the capital with a value of $500 million in November 2019.

For the fifth consecutive year, QIIB has been awarded the highest certificate in the protection of banking cards data under the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDS3.2.1 (PCI-DSS)), granted by the Cyber Security Specialist company.
During Rain!

Don't touch electrical poles & panels

Do not use non-vehicle paths

Never open up the manholes

Be cautious while driving in underpasses and bridges

Abide by the diversions & slow down

188  www.ashghal.gov.qa
AshghalQatar
Download the App.
Ashghal 24/7
The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has delivered several highways and local roads projects and infrastructure works in many areas of Qatar, whereas operation and maintenance of assets including roads and drainage networks continues throughout the country.

With regard to highways, by the end of 2020, Ashghal would have delivered 828 km of highways. In 2020, Ashghal also announced commencing implementation of several new projects within the infrastructure development programme for outer zones. Thus, it has developed 203 km of roads network and infrastructures for 3,393 existing and new land subdivisions across the country. Lately, Ashghal signed 11 new contracts worth QR2 billion for building bus stations and bus depots, within the public bus infrastructure programme.

As for Drainage Projects, Ashghal’s achievements include completion of 90 percent of the outfall tunnel in the Mesaimeer Pumping Station and Outfall project, 95 percent of the Sewage Treatment Plant in Al Dhakhira project and 100 percent of Lateral Interceptor Sewers in Doha South Infrastructure project.

During current year, the Supervisory Committee of Beautification of Roads and Public Places in Qatar under Ashghal has delivered 142 kilometers of cycle path, planting about 741,000 square meters of green spaces and many decorative fences in different areas in Qatar for creating aesthetic views that fit the surrounding areas.

The Committee also delivered many parks and plazas including Al Abraj Park and Fereej Kulaib Plaza among others. Ashghal has also set a new milestone by crossing two Guinness World Records for the longest connected bicycle path and the longest stretch of continuously paved asphalt.
Pakistan community praises Qatar's visionary leadership for its wise policies

Mohammad Table Jauzi

I would like to congratulate Qatar's citizens and residents on the auspicious occasion of Ijaz Haider

I have witnessed progress and development of the country by leaps and bounds during my 20 years of stay in Qatar. Qatar brought world top educational institutions and provided an opportunity to the children of Pakistani and expatriate communities. I was the first in the region to organise world cup football tournament for the expatriate community and world class infrastructure in no time.

Shahid Naz

On behalf of Jibnaa Dubai and Etisalat, I would like to congratulate you all on the auspicious occasion of National Day and Qatar's vision and leadership for its wise policies.

Shahtron Basheer

I am a writer, poet, anchor and social worker. There is no longer the concept of 'small states' in today's Qatar. Qatar showed its strength during the difficult and challenging time of blockade imposed by its neighboring countries. Qatar successfully managed to achieve self-sufficiency by developing food, agriculture, and industries sectors during the siege. Qatar has worked with International Labour Organization to formulate rules of migrant workers and introduced a minimum wage.

Faisal Alkhallal

Despite challenging times, the country remained one of the most competitive and powerful economies in the world. Qatar's successful development plan under the Qatar National Vision 2030 benefitted from the infrastructure spending related to transport, education, sports, hospitals, telecommunication and hospitals being a key part of this plan. Qatar is the first West Asian nation to host a FIFA World Cup.

Shahid Naz

Walking through rough seas, Qatar has continued its journey among, modern, safe and progressing countries. Unpredictable blockade followed by Coronavirus pandemic were two biggest challenges faced by the country. Qatar's visionary leadership taught all challenges with bravery and wisdom. After winning the bid for 2022 Asian Games, Qatar will be the host of sports activities in the region. Pakistan and Qatar enjoy strong diplomatic ties and are committed to common values and culture.

Imran Youssuf

I have been living in Qatar for more than 20 years and I am proud of the development I have seen in this country. Qatar has given me and my family the prolonged access to best health, educational, and living standards. It's a country that has welcomed people from all cultures and made polite food at them. I can see a bright future for myself in this charming and wonderful country. I have seen a lot of growth in its education system over the years which has given us hope to its residents. I am very proud to be a part of Qatar today.

Adil Ur Rashid

I heard with great excitement that Qatar will host 2030 Asian Games. Congratulations to Qatar on winning the Asian Games 2030 bid. It will be a boost to the entire region. Qatar is royally racing towards the FIFA World Cup 2022 preparations with all development completing on time. Qatar is dazzling world and excelling in every sector. Qatar is my second home and I feel proud of this achievement. I am sure coming from his royal family that Qatar will get the highest quality education and health care facilities for the athletes and residents. It has proven this by bringing world-class educational facilities and state-of-the-art medical services to locals and foreigners.

Syed Faiz Shah

I am a very strong nation battling against COVID-19. The planning, vigilance and administration of Qatar government is worth mentioning. The increased number of Pakistanis products on the shelves all around highlighted the strong relationship between Qatar and Pakistan.

Mohammad Ajmal Chaudhry

Hearty congratulations to Qatar's leadership and citizens on making strides in all fields despite many challenges. Qatar, with world-class infrastructure, new investments, and new jobs for job-seekers around the world, has successfully achieved the commitment of Qatar National Vision 2030 for the country on a number of occasions. Qatar is the most progressive country when it comes to the welfare of laborers. In the past, Qatar has taken necessary steps to remove difficulties faced by Pakistani laborers. Qatar is the most progressive country when it comes to the welfare of laborers. In the past, Qatar has taken necessary steps to remove difficulties faced by Pakistani laborers.

Mohammad Ajmal Chaudhry

We are very proud of the way Qatar has been in the forefront of its role in promoting national unity and social stability in the region. Qatar has been a leader in the fight against terrorism, and its efforts to combat extremism have been commendable.

Saeed Jafar

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Qatar has been implementing various initiatives to improve tourism ecosystem in Qatar: Baker

Qatar Clean was implemented to curb the spread of COVID-19 and focused on protecting hospitality workers and guests. It gives assurance to visitors that all the precautionary measures have been taken. The initiative outlined measures that hotels and restaurants must follow in order to protect and maintain safety for everyone.

Despite the exceptional circumstances, QNTC participates in the virtual version of TIBTM 2020 and IBTM this year.

QNTC National Tourism Council (QNTC) continues to work with partners in the public and private sector to foster plans, projects, and policies around tourism, hospitality, and leisure for the benefit of the country. QNTC has focused on promoting increased tourism in the country, opening new market opportunities, and improving the overall experience of visitors. QNTC has achieved this change by focusing on the tourism sector and creating new market opportunities for visitors.

QNTC working tirelessly to improve tourism ecosystem in Qatar: Baker

CATHERINE M BAKER

QNTC National Tourism Council (QNTC) continues to work with partners in the public and private sector to foster plans, projects, and policies around tourism, hospitality, and leisure for the benefit of the country. QNTC has cooperated with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to implement the Qatar Clean Programme and to develop tourism guidelines to protect and maintain safety for everyone.

In line with Qatar Clean guidelines, hotels and the local community took the lead in creating local guidelines to ensure the health and safety of their guests, employees, tenants, and the community. They maintained the strictest measures to protect and maintain safety for everyone.

Baker said, "The state's support of the sector was crucial, and the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) played a strong role in this, through the QNTC and the Qatar Clean Programme. The programme had undeniably contributed to increasing awareness on the importance of adopting protocols adopted by the hotels, boosting visitors' confidence in Qatar's tourism experience. In line with the Qatar Clean Programme, Ibra Wellness Resort launched the All Safe programme, which was in line with the Qatar Clean Programme to ensure the safety of guests and employees. The programme was implemented in a streamlined manner enabling businesses to return to the annual event since 2013. Throughout its participation in the annual event since 2013. Throughout its participation in the World Choral Symposium 2023.

The business events sector achieved recognition in 2023 as the ‘Qatar Clean’ programme, which was introduced by QNTC, won the Best Tourism Health and Safety Programme award for the year 2023. This programme had undertaken a holistic approach to ensure the safety of guests and employees.

According to the QNTC, the initiative helped in increasing awareness on the importance of adopting protocols adopted by the hotels, boosting visitors' confidence in Qatar's tourism experience. The initiative provided assurance to visitors that all the precautionary measures have been taken.

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QNTC: Promoting Qatar as a destination for business events

QNTC working tirelessly to improve tourism ecosystem in Qatar: Baker

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constantly plan and re-evaluate how to face the challenges that came their way. As our team deliberated over the different stakeholders come to the table, our ‘Virtual Heroes’ as they continued to support our teachers on the new learning management systems that we were introducing. In the past, our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) held a few parent meet and it allowed us to support parents in taking ownership of their child’s educational journey.

“With all its challenges, we can do our best to help them achieve their goals and to make sure that students do not miss out on the in-school experience while learning online. Therefore, our staff continued to support and train students cooperated with their teachers and parents, and became effective learners by taking ownership of their own learning,” Rizvi said.

“As a school, we wanted to let our students know that they are never alone. Well-being sessions were organised to continuously assess students’ academic and emotional needs. Circle time or discussion circles, both in school and online, became a platform where students could brainstorm together and express themselves freely. Class teachers carefully designed pastoral time to connect and reconnected with students, with the help of the school counsellors,” Rizvi said.

“Going forward, as a team, we are keen to analyse data to measure impact and remove presuppositions, and at the same time committed to re-cord even the smallest victory, appreciating its significance,” Rizvi added.

“We would like to thank our parent body, PTA members and parents who have supported us in these times of crisis. Your support and appreciation kept us on track and helped us in receiving the Ministry of Education and Higher Education’s expectations and guidelines success-fully,” the principal said.

Happy learners at the end of an online session.

A delegate presenting his speech during TNG’s first ‘Model United Nations’.
NATIONAL Car Company (NCC), the sole agent for Mazda in Qatar for over four decades, recently announced the introduction of the first ever Mazda CX-30 crossover SUV, the second model in Mazda’s advanced 5th generation line-up. The 2021 model has new CX-30 variants now on display at the state-of-the-art Mazda showroom located at Al Nasr. Positioned between the sub-compact CX-3 and the long-established and popular CX-5, it builds on Mazda’s Kodo — Soul of Motion design to combine the compact, user-friendly dimensions of the former with the space and practicality of the latter.

LIFE WITH CREATIVE CONNECTIVITY
The all-new Mazda CX-30 retains 35% of the second Mazda model to adopt the latest evolution of Kodo design, a more mature interpretation of the styling design ethos. Based on sleek and bold styling, beautifully designed CX-30 evokes creativity in one’s life combining the flowing beauty of a coupe and the strong proportions of an SUV.

The interior is equipped with many premium features, yet remains spacious, comfortable and encourages conversations with all occupants. Like all Mazda vehicles, it is beautified by dynamic driving performance that offers an exhilarating experience and peace of mind.

HUMAN-CENTRIC ENGINEERED TO PERFECTION
Based on Mazda’s human-centric approach to building cars, the CX-30 is engineered to exceed the expectations of fans, especially young people who are in the midst of their life transitions. Mazda created the CX-30 to be an ally that helps these fans enjoy these milestones to the fullest and6 be well-equipped to navigate their daily lives. The human-centric concept helps the CX-30 be connected with the vehicle but is not isolating from the other occupants. A focus on interior comfort and everyday-use friendliness makes this all-new compact crossover a car for everyone.

A PLEASANT TIME FOR ALL
With an inviting cabin, the engineers have strived to preserve the peaceful environment by making the space quiet, relaxing, and harmonious. Every aspect of the CX-30 was measured, from the tires to the windshield wiper, to minimise any road noise. After a comprehensive study on how sounds are transmitted through the vehicle’s cabin, speakers are repositioned depending on their frequency to produce a better sound. Ingenious solutions such as this reflect the passion and attention to detail by Mazda engineers and designers working together to achieve a common goal of providing the best experience possible for the brand’s fans.

INSPIRING CONFIDENCE
Another key feature of a human-centric approach is helping the driver with peace of mind. Being one with the CX-30 is more than just the driving dynamics, it is the feeling of confidence and security in the cabin. The ideal seating position being important, especially for the driver, the driver’s seating position is set high to provide a clear field of view and let the driver focus on the road ahead. For clear visibility, the shape and thickness of the a-pillars and c-pillars are minimised to help reduce blind spots, while a rear quarter window offers a way to perceive potential vehicles or objects in the rear. In the CX-30, the positioning of the shifter and commander control on the floor console is optimised for operating stability, ease, and comfort. The available Active Driving Display, meters and standard 8-inch center display are all designed to present information in a simple fashion, while the latest tech used aims to create a pleasing and consistent look.

FREEDOM TO GO ANYWHERE
The 2021 model line-up features 4-cylinder Skyactiv-G 2.0 paired with a quick-shifting Skyactiv-Drive 6-speed automatic transmission. This engine provides class-leading power output of 155 ps at 6,000 rpm and 200 Nm of torque at 4,000 rpm. The compact crossover is equipped with Mazda’s new off-road traction assist feature, which can potentially help the driver when driving on uneven terrain. G-Vectoring Control Plus and active safety features such as two front USB inputs, power windows with one-touch up/down feature, rain-sensing windshield wiper, podcast button start, reverse camera and panic brake illumination entry system add conveniences for all. The stunning design features LED headlights and taillights, LED running daytime lights and a matte finish front grille. Based on the trim level, the CX-30 features active all-wheel drive, advanced safety features, Bluetooth hands-free phone and audio, automatic on/off LED headlights and electronic parking brake.

For peace of mind, i-Activsense all-wheel drive system, Driver Attention Alert, Mazda Radar Cruise Control with stop and go function, Lane Departure Warning, Lane-Keeping Support and High Beam Control, Lane-keep assist, Smart City Brakes, Lane-keep Support and Blind Spot Control, BSM, Cross Traffic Alert and Mazda Advanced Safety System are available.

The all-new Mazda CX-30 crossover SUV, engineered to perfection, can be available for test drives at the NCC showroom located at Al Nasr.
Qatar keeps sports alive overcoming the pandemic

Qatar's ability to create bio-secure venues, and to transport people safely from overseas makes the country one of the safest and most desirable sporting destinations and has added to the world's trust in its impeccable events hosting capabilities.

It is a year where the best of sports events across the world paused following the new coronavirus pandemic. Qatar, with its world-class stadiums, infrastructure, health facilities and well-planned and tested under the wise leadership of HH The Emir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani emerged as a pioneer and leader hosting events which have shown a beacon of light providing big joy of hope to the entire world.

Qatar unveiled the fourth World Cup venue, Hosts for the FIFA World Cup 2022, at four stadiums including Qatar's three west of the continent. It was played behind closed doors at the Qatar Champions League final of the Asian Football Confederation's AFC Asian Champions League known as the Asian Champions League, played all over Asia over months. The AFC Champions League also known as the Asian Champions League is a premier annual continental club competition with 45 teams and matches are played all over Asia over months.

Qatar's abilities.
The Doha 2030 Asian Games will only add to Qatar's great infrastructure and hosting capabilities thereby taking the nation a step closer to the mega multi-discipline sports world event of the Summer Olympics which it could possibly aspire to be hosting in the near future.

VINAY NAYUDU

Doha which hosted a spectacular 15th Asian Games in 2006 will now hold the continental sporting extravaganza a second time in the 21st Asian Games in 2030. Riyadh will host the 2034 Asian Games.

The 2030 bid was a long and arduous journey that has led us to this point. The Games to fit our existing infrastructure. We have built our 200 sports facilities, which have hosted more than 50 major international championships. They have been tried and tested. It's not only venues that are really hot management teams as well. There is no learning curve for Doha 2030. The crucial point that makes our bid unique is that we don’t just have the hardware but we also have the software.

Our goal is simple. We want more Asian athletes on Olympic podiums. We want that to be part of your national sports history, not just seen. Doha is a place where we all belong.

“Our Games will serve as a new model, not just for 2030 but for the incredible journey that lies ahead. Doha 2030 is a win-win situation for us all – the athletes, the NOCs, the OCA and the Olympic movement across the globe. This is a shared legacy and we're stronger because of it.”

This bid is a result of the hard work by the people of Doha. It’s also the result of our dedication over the years to develop sport in Qatar and in the region. Athletes are one of our most important priorities.

“We didn’t change our city to fit the Asian Games. We adapted the Games to fit our existing infrastructure. We have built our 200 sports facilities, which have hosted more than 50 major international championships. They have been tried and tested. It’s not only venues that are really hot management teams as well. There is no learning curve for Doha 2030. The crucial point that makes our bid unique is that we don’t just have the hardware but we also have the software.

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We have managed successfully to host this top Asian event (in 2006), Qatar has top infrastructure.

The Qatar Olympic Association President Khalid Al-Jaber, also a member of the bid committee, highlighted that Qatar’s sporting success was a result of his clear strategy of depending on well-equipped plans and activities to improve further.

“Qatar hosts 70 top events every year. The readiness of infrastructure and the well-structured transport system are supporting tools to facilitate the athletes and athletes’ fans. The future of sporting events is in line with Qatar’s National Vision 2030. Asian Games will require top class complexes and we are ready to host them,” he added.

Sheikha Althani, Director of Marketing & Communications of Qatar Olympic Committee, added that hosting the Asian Games means a lot for women.

“The top sporting events impact and influence positively in the society. Many regions in the world would like to host such events so that they attend the competitions. They would be proud of their own achievements and achievements of their champions,” she said.

Qatar successfully hosted the World Beach Games 2019 and will be hosting the World Surfing Championships in 2023. Qatar held the 2019 IAAF Athletics World Championships in October 2019, which was the first time the world’s athletes had returned to hold their global championships in the Middle East since 2006.

We are very proud of this historic moment. We would like to dedicate the hosting of this top Asian event to His Highness Sheikh Tamin bin Hamad Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance.

Qatar's National Vision 2030, set by the Supreme Committee of Qatar 2030, places sport in the national identity of the country.

Since the 15th Asian Games of 2006, Qatar has emerged as a great sporting nation – and the Qatari capital of Asia’s sports world at the 2030 Asian Games. Back then I vis...
Since the pandemic began this year, Vodafone Qatar responded rapidly to help the country’s organisations and businesses minimise operational disruptions through the activation of business continuity measures.

VODAFONE Qatar’s vision has always been to support Qatar’s ambitions to become ‘future ready’. As we begin to see the early signs of recovery from the pandemic, it is particularly important for the Qatar to continue the steps it has made in digital and technological innovation, positioning 2020 as a year we all remember for innovative and technical change across the country.

Vodafone Qatar’s support during the early stages of the pandemic will ensure the country’s ‘Smart’ credentials boost tech innovation as recovery begins.

In line with the National Vision 2030, Vodafone Qatar has invested heavily in building the foundation for Doha to become a smart, digital city. This commitment, towards becoming one of the most technologically advanced and resilient countries in the world, meant Vodafone stood side by side with the country as it adapted to the momentous changes we have all had to face.

Since the pandemic began this year, Vodafone Qatar, as a provider of vital communications infrastructure, responded rapidly to help the country’s organisations and businesses minimise operational disruptions through the activation of business continuity measures.

These included adding extra capacity to its fixed, broadband and mobile networks, and giving customers a greater range of affordable options to double their data allowance and speeds.

To encourage people to stay in their homes and practice social distancing, Vodafone pivoted their salesforce to support home delivery of services, handsets, routers and other hardware.

With the advent of home working now a reality, creating and keeping effective communications networks open was vital in maintaining business continuity. Vodafone’s partnership with Microsoft Qatar facilitated solutions by offering the nation’s businesses a free six-month trial of Microsoft Teams and all Office 365 solutions. Meanwhile, in the education sector, Vodafone ensured disadvantaged students received complimentary access to its services for continued learning online.

In addition to this support, Vodafone Qatar assisted public health agencies in national efforts to control the virus. Over four million health awareness messages were sent to workers across the country alongside free data to support the training of health ambassadors to work within their local communities, a scheme backed by Qatar’s Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Public Health.

Vodafone’s ability to support during the pandemic was built around its commitment to Qatar’s realisation of the 2030 National Vision.
Vodafone Qatar continues to heavily invest in Qatar's technology infrastructure. In 2020, the company expanded its fibre footprint while Vodafone’s 5G network reached new heights - covering more than 75 percent of Doha and other important urban centers in the country. Early adopters were able to use high-speed internet and capacity to stay connected with loved ones, study and work from home.

Social Wi-Fi and Giga TV solutions are two of Vodafone’s innovative business solutions that support companies’ efforts to bounce back quickly from the effects of the pandemic. For example, Social Wi-Fi lets businesses generate valuable data by transforming their free guest Wi-Fi into a customer engagement tool. Giga TV for Business allows companies to entertain their customers through broadcasting in public areas. Vodafone also developed bespoke products as a direct initiative to help businesses. The recent launch of Sharq V provides a number of preemptive plans that SMEs can select to ensure they have the flexibility to meet their requirements via a single, simple plan.

In addition to bespoke products, Vodafone’s expertise in digital transformation is revolutionising the nation’s energy and utilities sector. Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, Machine Learning and cloud computing are digital innovations underpinning the smart, streamlined services that companies can manage remotely, cutting costs and improving efficiency.

For example, an MoU signed in November 2020 with Qatar’s General Electricity & Water Corporation (Kahramaa), launched a groundbreaking IOT programme for the utility supporting their roll out of 600,000 smart meters as part of Kahramaa’s plans to completely digitise services, drive operational efficiencies, enhance customer experience and shape overall network planning and infrastructure helping Kahramaa to meet both environmental and sustainability targets. Vodafone Qatar is supporting enhanced mobility options in Qatar in partnership with the start-up Loop Mobility.

Vodafone Qatar is also ensuring people can stay connected while travelling and providing data that helps make their journeys more efficient on the Doha Metro.

The national tourist industry is an obvious sector benefiting from Vodafone’s expertise in digital transformation. Vodafone Qatar launched a groundbreaking IoT programme for the Qatar National Tourism Council (QNTC) in December 2020 will help the council develop the capability to track visitor trends in detail, enabling them to direct resources to best meet demands, especially in getting ready to welcome millions of visitors to the country for the FIFA World Cup in 2022. Alongside advanced analytics capabilities, Vodafone will be making sure it contributes to the best possible fan experience in 2022. In time for its official inauguration, Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium, popularly known as the Al Kawait Stadium, became the third arena to be covered by Vodafone’s Gigabit 5G technology, following Al Janoub and Education City Stadium. This technology will allow fans to experience an unforgettable World Cup, connecting more people than ever to the action both inside the stadium and out.

As more and more entities in Qatar increasingly realise the potential that technology offers and turn to it to enhance efficiency and sustainability, Vodafone remains committed to being at the forefront of the country’s national development supporting Qatar’s transformation into a truly twenty-first century smart country.

Launching innovative business solutions

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Continued from page 18

Sunday, December 27, 2020
In a tumultuous year rocked by the pandemic, QFC announced a string of measures to offer relief to the firms registered on its platform by extending deadlines for tax filings without late-filing penalties.

QFC: At the threshold of its 2022 target

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK
Doha

Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) Authority Chief Executive Officer Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida said that the Qatar Financial Centre sees it imperative to complement national measures and remains committed to offering its own relief and continued support to QFC firms during this crisis.

In November, QFC highlighted the strategic role of the aviation industry as an integral component of the global economy and showcased its suitability as an aircraft financing and leasing destination.

“While the international aviation industry continues to be affected by the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the development of new procedures will now begin to reverse international travel,” Jaida said while addressing a webinar, where speakers discussed QFC as a new frontier market in aircraft finance.

“The aviation industry is, at the same time, re-organising itself in ways that will make it more resilient to global challenges and the private sector will no doubt play a critical role in this. We believe that QFC provides a competitive alternative environment from where players in the aircraft industry can grow their business,” Jaida said.

“By our well-developed and comprehensive legal and tax regimes, the QFC is well suited to serve as a hub for the aircraft financing and leasing industry and to further contribute to boosting the growth potential of this sector in Qatar and the region,” he said.

The year also saw Magi Aviation Capital (Magi) opening a regional office in Doha. A QFC-registered company, Magi Aircraft Management ME will be the focal point for Magi’s origination and aircraft management activities in Qatar and the region.

The office will also focus on the development of aircraft finance and leasing expertise in Qatar, working alongside the QFC and other local partners.

In November, QFC also announced new regulations for operating a representative office in Qatar. The new regulations are designed for financial services enterprises to establish a presence in Qatar’s flourishing market and promote their products and services.

Under the newly announced representative office framework, financial institutions will be able to conduct a range of activities, including but not limited to, marketing the products and services of its group, carrying out market research or feasibility studies in relation to financial products or financial services on behalf of the head office, and serving as a liaison office for its group.

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Rose De Desert: Celebrating the Art of Floristry!

Rose De Desert is the first Qatar-based Luxury Flower Shop that is passionately dedicated to provide a unique experience to clients in their most memorable events of life, with our Premium Fresh and Endless Flower Collection. Most of our flowers are imported from premium farms of Ecuador, Netherlands, Kenya and Italy. The flowers are harvested to ensure the freshness, shape and the quality of the fresh flowers required for each event. We have a collection of more than 2000 different varieties of Fresh Cut Flowers and 200+ varieties of dried flowers that have been preserved naturally to maintain their original shape and beauty. Most of the flowers are imported from Ecuador, for its beauty, quality and vibrant colors.

Our floral design team has exceptional experience and skill to create stunning arrangements. The design team is able to better understand each customer’s preferences and wish list.

Rose De Desert offer a unique product with endless arrangements of flowers from around the world, our

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Celebrating The Art Of Floristry!

First Qatar Based Luxury Flower Shop

Qatar:

Celebrating The Art Of Floristry!

First Qatar Based Luxury Flower Shop

Qatar:

Qatar: The Road Ahead

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Qatar:

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First Qatar Based Luxury Flower Shop

Qatar:
Qatar real estate: Positive signs emerge amid virus upheaval

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK

ALTHOUGH Qatar’s real estate sector continues to experience headwinds amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and weaker oil prices, it is important to remember that there have been some positive signs. The global health crisis not only impacted the health of millions around the world but led to restrictions on travel, social mobility and closure of non-essential businesses.

Qatar experienced its first COVID-19 case on March 1, 2020. The government of Qatar was quick to respond by enforcing a range of measures in an effort to protect the spread of the virus. By December, Qatar had approximately 14,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19. In terms of testing, Qatar was ranked in the top twenty countries to have the highest testing per million people and also had one of the lowest numbers of deaths in proportion to the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

In addition to implementing efficient health strategies, the government also announced an economic stimulus package of QR75 billion in an attempt to counter the economic fallout and provide relief to those impacted the most by the constraints. The real estate market, like all sectors in Qatar, was impacted by the pandemic and its resulting concerns on mobility, travel and business. However, lockdown measures were implemented in March. By June 2020, there had been a good start, particularly Jordanian and Pakistani, according to real estate research firm ValuStrat.

However, lockdown measures were implemented in March. In June 2020, the government introduced a plan to ease the restrictions in four phases. By the end of November, Qatar was in the second leg of easing the fourth phase of restrictions.

The outbreak and the subsequent response measures to mitigate its impact have led to upsurge in almost all sectors of the country, including the real estate sector. However, the real estate decline has been much softer in the first half than what was witnessed in the same period in 2019, according to KPMG.

Cushman and Wakefield Qatar, in this third quarter real estate review, noted that the country was expected to see further downward pressure on residential rents as new demand fails due to COVID-19 measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic.

In October, the Barwa Real Estate (BRE) launched two residential projects — Madinatna for families and Barhath Al Janoub for workers — worth more than QR5 billion in the heart of Al Waqif.

In Qatar’s retail market, after maintaining a steady outlook for almost a year, the host performing malls in Qatar with stable occupancy have started to experience the heat in the quarter four rental market and witnessed a drop of 2.41 percent over Q3 and Q4 2020. While the malls having occupancy of less than 80 percent including the upcoming malls experienced a marginal drop in the rents by 1.23 percent during the initial two quarters of 2020.

Between March-May 2020, there was closure of all retail shops in shopping centres and considerable closure in department stores and departmental shops that sold food. In June 2020, with the advent of phase one, loss in non-essential retail shops was partially lifted.

In the hospitality sector, the pandemic has slowed the delivery of new hotel supply throughout the year. There are currently more than 20,000 rooms under construction, which will complete before the FIFA World Cup in November 2022. As many as 468 keys were added during the first half of 2020 with the opening of Pullman Hotel in West Bay, Imperium Residences in Najma, Doi Di Sabba Doha in Binheibrah and Al Leen Suites in Rawdat Al Khail and Dusit Hotel Suites in Al Sadd, according to ValuStrat research.

In a bid to diversify Qatar’s economy, the country has further opened its property market to foreigners, with a new law giving those purchasing home or stores the right to live in the nation forever. A new law will add to the limited number of locations where non-Qatari can buy real estate outright. Now a $200,000 (QR730,000) property purchase secures temporary residency for the term of ownership.

New law boost

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Earlier, investors needed sponsorship from a Qatari business as an individual for residency, but now a QR10,000 (Dh430,000) property purchase secures temporary residency for the term of ownership. A QR1 million (Dh4.3 million) worth purchase also享 the benefits of permanent residency, including free schools and healthcare.

The new law also incorporates ownership for various asset classes including shops, offices and residential villas in compounds and in locations. A further 16 locations have been identified where real estate can be held on up-to-year leases.

Despite the challenges of 2020, Qatar’s real estate market has held up remarkably well,” said CWQ General ManagerFold Brook.

“Whilst the dislocations of travelling have undoubtedly upset many holiday and work trips, this has meant an increase in domestic real estate transactions as well as a boost to the hospitality market in terms of staycations and F&B revenue, once hotels were allowed re-open,” he added.

As many as 988 keys were added during the first half of 2020. There are currently more than 20,000 rooms under construction, which will complete before the FIFA World Cup in November 2022.
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QSindhis Social Forum: At the forefront of community service

QSindhis Social Forum (QSSF) is a social and community welfare organization founded in December 2014. Over the last 6 years, QSSF has provided services and benefits to one of the renowned Pakistani organizations in Qatar. QSSF team has been actively participating in all major national level events in Qatar whether related to culture, sports, or community welfare. QSSF has recently arranged a blood donation drive in collaboration with Hamad Medical Corporation, where more than 100 volunteers participated in the noble cause of saving lives.

Core Committee Members:

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QSindhis Social Forum

Proudly Celebrating 6th Anniversary

QSindhis Social Forum aims to continue playing a constructive role in development and well-being of all Pakistani communities living in Qatar and Pakistan. Contribution in the development and progress of Qatar and Pakistan is the primary goal and of paramount importance for the forum. QSSF team will continue to work with the Qatari authorities and Pakistan Embassy to perform its activities to achieve this goal.
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