Ukraine: Street battles rage on Kyiv’s edge

Street battles and hand-to-hand combat. Ukrainian servicemen and civilians described heavy fighting on Kyiv’s northwestern edge, with Russian forces setting fire to the besieged capital. “A Gurkha,” said Stas, who fought in the battle of Gostomel and used incessant regular bombardments. “There is real street fighting now,” he told AFP in the flashpoint town of Buchau. “In some places, there is hand-to-hand combat,” said Blaž. Russian ground forces seized a Ukrainian paratrooper lieutenant from the Russian assault on Irpin. “In some places, there is hand-to-hand combat,” said Stas. At least 13 civilians, including women and children, were killed by Russian shelling attacks to reach further east of the capital. “There is real street fighting now,” he told AFP in the flashpoint town of Buchau. “In some places, there is hand-to-hand combat,” said Stas. At least 13 civilians, including women and children, were killed by Russian shelling attacks to reach further east of the capital.
Al-Attiyah visits World Defence Show in Riyadh

The Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmad Al-Attiyah visited the World Defence Show 2022, which opened in Riyadh on Sunday. HE Al-Attiyah toured the various pavilions at the show where he was briefed about the services, systems and equipment they provide. A large number of defence and security industry leaders from all over the world are taking in the four-day event under the theme of ‘A New Era of Security and Development’. Al-Attiyah expressed his appreciation of the role of Al-Jadid and, sea-defence systems, solutions, and information security.

Shura Council approves draft law on real estate

The Shura Council held yesterday its week-long meeting, under the chairmanship of Speaker of the Council Hassan bin Hashim bin Abdullah al-Ghanim. At the outset of the session, HE Secretary-General of the Shura Council Dr Ahmad bin Khalfan Al-Hashimi said: “The agenda of the meeting was approved and the minutes of the previous meeting were presented for approval.”

During the meeting, the council reviewed the supplementary report of its Services and Utilities Committee, regarding a draft law on the temporary appropriation and appropriation of real estate for the public benefit. The committee discussed the provisions of the draft law, and the council decided to approve the document.

50% increase in bilateral trade between Qatar and Italy in ‘21

The bilateral trade between Qatar and Italy increased over 50% in the first six months of 2021, said Sari D. M. Main, Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation who was on a short visit to Qatar. Sari D. M. Main also noted that the crisis unfolding in Ukraine underlines the importance of dialogue and cooperation between the two countries’ authorities.

The bilateral trade has recovered after the pandemic crisis and increased by more than 50% in the first 10 months of 2021. It’s a positive trend bound to accelerate as Italy is the main destination of Italian companies and an increasing number of Italian companies, such as infrastructure and energy, digital and green economy and innovation,” M. D. Main told Gulf Times.

“Equally promising are Qatar investments in Italy, attracted to the country’s potential as a priority for our government, throughout the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, part of the €750bn package that the European Union allocated in response to the pandemic crisis. Italy is implementing ambitious structural reforms and economic and social recovery measures. In this context, we have identified several high-potential investment opportunities and foreign investors,” he said.

Regarding the emerging scenarios of Ukraine crisis D. M. Main said that Italy is taking all necessary measures to support energy security, but it also mitigates the effects of a possible energy and gas supply crisis. “Qatar is a close and very reliable partner for us. We aim at increasing the current volume of gas to secure our supply and beyond the quantities already agreed upon,” Italy is working to-wards energy transition, investing in renewable sources, but finds it is a long-term goal, while for the next few years natural gas remains our main source of energy, he added.

The minister underscored that Qatar is a longstanding friend of Italy. “I already had several productive meetings with my friend, Sheikh Mohamed, Qatar’s Min-ister of Foreign Affairs and I was very pleased to exchange views with him once again. During my official visit before my arrival in Doha, the Italian Prime Minister had a fruitful conversation with His Highness the Amir,” D. M. Main said.

“I believe that my visit to Qatar, during which I had the Prime Minister and the Minister of Inner- ncy, helped further reinforce our bilateral partnership. We both reaffirmed our commitment to counter the crisis unfolding in Ukraine and ensure security among the states,” he added.

Assistant FM meets envoys

The Information and Cultural Affairs Committee of the Shura Council held a meeting yesterday, under the chairmanship of Committee President Khalid bin Ahmed Al-Obaidan. During the meeting, the committee reviewed the reports it has received from students of Qatar University to the committee’s inquiries, which were related to a number of educational and academic matters, and the university’s departments’ ability to complete the researches in the next meeting.

Austrian chancellor arrives in Doha

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmad Al-Attiyah met at the Al-Attiyah Palace yesterday with Austrian Chancellor Christian Kastner who is on a two-day visit to Qatar to discuss bilateral relations and the recent developments in the fields of security and defence to enhance cooperation and strengthen ties.

Schura committee holds meeting

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PM meets Austrian chancellor

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Doha – 8th March 2022

- Revenue of QAR 773 million and net profit of QAR 134 million for the year 2021 compared to QAR 759 million revenue and QAR 141 million net profit in the last year same period.
- Maintained industry leading net profit margin of 17% in year 2021.
- Increased market share in most of the categories.

During the fourth quarter of 2021, Baladna managed to achieve a revenue of QAR 210 million and net profit of QAR 32 million. This represents a revenue growth of 16% and net profit growth of 106% compared to the previous quarter. Earnings per share (weighted average) equated to QAR 0.070 for the year ending 31st December 2021.

Baladna managed to adapt these adverse market conditions through the introduction of new product lines and by growing our market share in existing segments through several marketing programs. We introduced 44 new products during the year expanding our total product portfolio to 268 products by end of 31st December 2021.

Through maintaining strategic inventories, effective buying and increase of our production and sales volume helped to manage the effect of higher global material prices specially feed, raw material and packaging materials. Our own research and development teams along with the introduction of more sophisticated industry technology have played a major role in launching new, high-quality products and facilitating our increased production and market requirements.

The most recent testimony is Baladna’s acquisition of a 5% shareholding in Juhayna Food Industries, a dairy company listed on the Egyptian Exchange (EGX).

Baladna’s acquisition of Juhayna Food Industries, Egypt

Baladna continued to achieve operational efficiencies across the value chain, in particular managing 37 milk yield per cow per day during extreme hot and humid weather conditions is a significant achievement. In line with the Company’s corporate strategy to expand in the strategically important markets outside Qatar, we have initiated discussions with our foreign partners of Indonesia and Philippines and expected to proceed with the feasibility studies during 2022. In addition, the feasibility study for the project in Malaysia is under progress and expected to be completed during the year.

Proposed Dividends for 2021
With the above-mentioned strong results, the Board of Directors decided to propose QAR 101 million (QAR 0.053 per share) dividends to the upcoming General Assembly for approval.

For the complete financial statements, please visit www.baladna.com/investor-relations

Financial Results
12 Months of 2020 compared to 12 months of 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue (Mn QAR)</th>
<th>EBITDA (Mn QAR)</th>
<th>NET PROFIT (Mn QAR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Operating Highlights
- Total herd size: 23,581
- Milk yield per cow per day: 37L
- Total products: 268
- New Products: 44

International Expansion Highlights
- Malaysia
- Indonesia
- Philippines

Baladna acquired 5% shareholding in Juhayna Food Industries, Egypt.

Proposed Dividends for 2021
QAR 101 Million
Dividends to be paid upon the approval of the general assembly
Dividends Per Share QAR 0.053 (5.3%)
Assistant FM meets US co-ordinator for efforts to relocate Afghans

Qatar's efforts in caring for and hosting families and children who were evacuated from Afghanistan. She also inspected service, educational, sports, recreational and health facilities. Jones expressed the US's appreciation for meeting reviewed the developments in Afghanistan, efforts to resettle Afghans and Qatar's hosting of the Afghan brothers. Jones toured the temporary housing and care

QATAR FUEL ADDITIVES COMPANY LIMITED
QFAC

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Tender Committee of QFAC invites qualified local suppliers to participate in the following:

Name of Tender: TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Tender No.: 01-01-01-2023

2. Description: Construction of Leigh Brinton Cabin, Police Shelter & Jetty at QFAC Site, Mesaieed

3. Contact Details:
   - Collection Office: Leigh Brinton Cabin, Police Shelter & Jetty at QFAC Site, Mesaieed
   - Tender Office: Leigh Brinton Cabin, Police Shelter & Jetty at QFAC Site, Mesaieed
   - Bid Closing Date: 4th April 2023

Interested parties are invited to collect the above documents as follows:

- Collection Dates: 1st-5th March 2023
- Collection Time: 09:00 am - 09:00 pm
- Location: The Gator Bus Terminal, 101st Floor, Merin Plaza

Tender fees:
- An amount above: (Non-refundable) can be paid at QFAC Office

Validity:
- Offers are valid from 1st March 2023 until 31st March 2023

Bill Bond:
- Each tender is to be backed by a bond equal to 5% of the estimated project cost

Authority:
- Tenders will be issued to the successful contractor with the following:
  - 1st Official Advice on Company Letterhead
  - 2nd Official Advice on Company Letterhead
  - Copy of Company's Commercial Registration

MoI, transport ministry take part in DI career fair

The Ministry of Interior (MoI), represented by the Kuwaiti General Intelligence Department, has participated in the fifth edition of the career fair by the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (DI), attended by more than 100 companies from various sectors in the country. MoI's participation, according to an official tweet, comes within the framework of its efforts to attract the best candidates to the MoI and to utilise the resources of the State. The MoI provides the professional fields, specialisations, and tasks of the various departments. These are in addition to highlighting the most prominent activities and roles of the various departments. These are in addition to the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Kuwaiti General Intelligence Department, which looked at the 45th annual career fair by the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (DI) and official sources said that the ministry pays considerable attention to attracting and sponsoring students and graduates through various channels. The MoI has started with its available training opportunities and voluntary work that could allow them to have more to contribute. MoI's participation in the career fair is part of the efforts of the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Kuwaiti General Intelligence Department, which looked at the 45th annual career fair by the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (DI) and official sources said that the ministry pays considerable attention to attracting and sponsoring students and graduates through various channels. The MoI has started with its available training opportunities and voluntary work that could allow them to have more to contribute. MoI's participation in the career fair is part of the efforts of the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Kuwaiti General Intelligence Department, which looked at the 45th annual career fair by the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (DI) and official sources said that the ministry pays considerable attention to attracting and sponsoring students and graduates through various channels. The MoI has started with its available training opportunities and voluntary work that could allow them to have more to contribute.
Three Qatari names on Forbes Mideast Top 50 Travel & Tourism Leaders list

Top 50 Travel & Tourism Leaders list

Three Qatari names have been named on the Forbes Mideast Top 50 Travel & Tourism Leaders list for the year 2022. The list highlights the key figures in the travel and tourism industry in the Middle East region. The three Qatari names listed are:

1. HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani, Chairman of Al Rayyan Hotels
2. QH Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah al-Thani, Chairman of Sheraton Hotels
3. HE Sheikh Fahad bin Abdullah al-Thani, Chairman of Airways Hotel

These individuals have been recognized for their significant contributions to the travel and tourism industry in Qatar and the broader Middle East region.

Kerala builder Skyline promotes luxury garden bungalows

A befitting send-off to Skyline Builders’ 60th year of play in the field of real estate was held at the company’s annual event this year. The high-profile event was attended by the government officials, corporate leaders, and guests. Skyline Builders has been instrumental in creating some of the finest luxury bungalows in various parts of the state. The event was a grand celebration of the company’s 60 years of excellence in the real estate sector.

Two Doha College students win at Young Musician of Gulf 2022

Two Doha College students, Yassine El habibi and Aurélien Deli, have won first and second place respectively at the Young Musician of Gulf 2022 competition. Yassine El habibi, a 12-year-old student, won the first prize in the piano category, while Aurélien Deli, a 14-year-old student, won the second prize in the violin category. The competition is organized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The two students were chosen from a pool of over 1000 participants from across the Gulf region.

Alfardan Automobiles debuts M2 CS Racing Safety Car

Alfardan Automobiles, a leading automobile dealership in Qatar, has officially announced the arrival of the all-new BMW M2 CS Racing Safety Car. The car is equipped with a powerful engine and advanced safety features, making it a perfect choice for racing enthusiasts and motorsport fans.

Plante Plant Million Trees crosses another milestone

Plante, the world’s largest non-profit organisation dedicated to planting trees, has crossed another milestone. The organisation has planted over 12 million trees across the globe, making it one of the largest tree-planting initiatives in the world. The milestone was achieved through a successful partnership with leading organisations and companies.

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Qatar Airways, OFA celebrate 50th Amir Cup final

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has conducted a joint inspection campaign of street vendors. The campaign identified four violations by street vendors, who were working without commercial licences. The Ministry has urged all citizens working without commercial licences to register and to report any violations pertaining to registration and licensing.

HMC’s surgery department opens new advanced wound care units

The surgery department at the HMC’s Main Medical City (HMMC) opened, in January, two new advanced wound care units at Specialized Clinics on Meilbas Street, Doha. The two units have been furnished with state-of-the-art equipment and stocked by highly qualified personnel.

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Ghana Walking Football Club inaugurated in Qatar

The event, which marks the Ghanaian Independence Day, was inaugurated under the patronage of Ghanaian ambassador to Doha, Mr. Dr. Rashad al-Fiqi, head of Advanced Orthopaedic Surgery at HMC, said. "We also use Negative Pressure Wound Therapy, where a vacuum machine is used to draw out excess fluid from wounds and provides a compressive force protecting the wound, ultimately helps promoting healing of acute and chronic wounds." The section is manned by a highly qualified 12-member nursing team with Dr. Mohamed al-Akkad, medical director of Veterinary Services Department.

Kalyan Jewellers launches campaign in support of women

Kalyan Jewellers, one of India’s leading jewellery brands, has launched the #KalyanThaliva# digital campaign method of International Women’s Day. The campaign has been featured in a video with the brand’s regional ambassador, Ms. Ritabhari Chakraborty, Pooja Sawant and Kinjal Rajpriya in unique and distinctive avatars, it was explained.

The campaign features a video with the brand’s regional ambassador, Ms. Ritabhari Chakraborty. The campaign communicates that today’s modern woman is smart enough to communicate and express herself, her work, her passion, her vision, her goals and her dreams. It was aimed at.

"The video asserts that a woman should be appreciated, respected and celebrated for herself, her work, her passion, her strength, her persona and her talent.”

The video aims to celebrate the woman who is more than enough. "The high decibel campaign encourages the woman to compete, to express herself, to be confident, to be proud and to communicate that she is more than enough. "The campaign has been promoted digitally, and can be viewed online.

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Qatar Charity participates in Soura Forum 2022, with distinguished humanitarian activities

Qatar Charity (QC) participated in the Soura Forum 2022, in cooperation with Akkas Photography Center of the Ministry of Culture. The forum was held at the Katara Cultural Village in conjunction with the Qatar Photography Day.

Qatar Charity’s participation in the forum consisted of organizing “A Journey of Hope” exhibition and launching the ‘Best Humanitarian Photo Competition’ in addition to holding a symposium on documenting in the humanitarian field.

On the sidelines of the forum, Mr. Ahmad Yousef Fakhroo, assistant CEO of the Resources Development and Media sector at Qatar Charity, expressed his happiness in partnering with the Ministry of Culture and Katara Cultural Village in organizing the forum, thanking the forum’s sponsors, patrons and supporters. Fakhroo said that Qatar Charity’s participation in the forum contributed to shedding light on humanitarian issues, adding that it is keen to utilize photos in achieving humanitarian goals. He also hoped for the continuation of such forums in the future.

“We are, as a humanitarian organization, very pleased to participate in the Soura Forum 2022, and provide a humanitarian aspect for this year’s edition of the forum to convey the suffering of the vulnerable and the message of photographers from the ground,” said Mr. Ahmed Omar AlSherawi, head of Relations and Community Responsibility section at Qatar Charity.

Mr. Abdullah Al-Musleh, head of Akkas Photography Center, praised Qatar Charity’s participation in the forum, noting that “it made a distinguished participation through the humanitarian exhibition to raise awareness of humanitarian issues.” He added that the Soura Forum is a mini-festival that brings together photographers from within and outside the State of Qatar to share experiences through several events and services provided by sponsors and supporters.

Mrs. Fatima Al-Emadi, head of the Soura Forum, thanked Qatar Charity for supporting the forum and participating in its various events, including the competition, symposium and exhibition, noting that the year’s forum shed light on the humanitarian aspect through photography and humanitarian documentation.

Best Humanitarian Photo Competition

Photographers from all over the world are participating in the ‘Best Humanitarian Photo Competition’, organized by Qatar Charity as part of the forum. The competition, which aims to shed light on humanitarian issues through photographic images, will continue until May 7, and the best three photos will be selected as winners.

Interested photographers can register for the competition through the following link: https://www.qcharity.org/blog/humanitarian-photography?lang=en

A Journey of Hope

“A Journey of Hope” exhibition sheds light on the importance of the humanitarian photo and its role in advocating humanitarian issues, showcasing the suffering of the underprivileged and the success stories of those sponsored by Qatar Charity under its orphan care initiative ‘Rofaqa’. The photos reflected the difference made by the sponsorship initiative in the lives of thousands of sponsored orphans, and the success stories created in Mali, Somalia and Sudan. The exhibition received praise from a large number of visitors.

Humanitarian Symposium

The humanitarian symposium titled “The documentation in the Humanitarian Field” dealt with many topics like the importance of photographing and documenting on the ground to convey the real suffering caused by humanitarian crises and poverty. The symposium also discussed the specifications of the most effective and attractive humanitarian photos, and the most important technical requirements when taking pictures and documenting, in addition to ethics and behaviors that must be adhered to when documenting humanitarian work. The symposium also shed light on the importance of humanitarian field visits by media professionals and social media influencers.

The symposium was participated in by Asma Al Hammadi, a broadcaster on Al Jazeera news channel, and Mohammed Al-Hammadi, broadcaster on Qatar TV, in addition to Mohammed Zayed, who also took part in the symposium remotely. The participants talked about their personal field experiences that they had during Qatar Charity’s delegations visits to the crisis hit regions and poverty-stricken communities.

Honorary Shield

At the end, Qatar Charity along with the forum’s sponsors, patrons, and participants, was honored. Mr. Abdullah AlKhalidi, head of Akkas Photography Center and Mrs. Fatima Al-Emadi, head of the Soura Forum, handed over the honorary shield to Mr. Ahmad Yousef Fakhroo, assistant CEO of the Resources Development and Media sector at Qatar Charity.
Researchers from Weill Cornell Medicine–Qatar (WCM-Q) have identified specific proteins that could form a basis for early risk prediction of COVID-19, which helped explain why some patients develop severe illness while others do not.

The WCM-Q Proteomics Core, a part of the Proteomics Core at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, identified nearly 5,000 proteins in blood from COVID-19 patients, and from patients with other, non-COVID-19 diseases. The researchers found that certain processes that are involved in the body’s response to infection are activated in COVID-19 patients, but are not activated in individuals with other diseases.

The findings, published in J Proteome Res, are significant because they may help researchers better understand the molecular processes underlying the progression of COVID-19, and in particular the body’s inflammatory response that leads to severe outcomes of the disease.

They studied the changes in the proteome of blood samples from COVID-19 patients, with and without complications, and from patients with other diseases. They used mass spectrometry to identify nearly 5,000 proteins in blood samples from COVID-19 patients and healthy controls, and from patients with other, non-COVID-19 diseases.

The researchers identified specific proteins that are associated with the body’s response to infection, and found that these proteins are activated in COVID-19 patients, but not in individuals with other diseases.

Project leader Dr. Marcus Bosch, the general associate dean for cross-campus Bioinformatics Centre and associate dean for cross-campus Bioinformatics Centre, said: “We have a very advanced team of researchers who are able to use this capability to verify and continue to study the proteins from the samples that we have collected.”

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They studied the changes in the proteome of blood samples from COVID-19 patients, with and without complications, and from patients with other diseases. They used mass spectrometry to identify nearly 5,000 proteins in blood samples from COVID-19 patients and healthy controls, and from patients with other, non-COVID-19 diseases.

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Project leader Dr. Marcus Bosch, the general associate dean for cross-campus Bioinformatics Centre and associate dean for cross-campus Bioinformatics Centre, said: “We have a very advanced team of researchers who are able to use this capability to verify and continue to study the proteins from the samples that we have collected.”

The researchers found that certain proteins are associated with the body’s response to infection, and that these proteins are activated in COVID-19 patients, but not in individuals with other diseases.
Iran seeks ‘details’ of Russia demands on nuclear deal

**FM Brief**

Iran yesterday said it is awaiting “details” of demands from Russia on its nuclear deal, as a sign of a tense relationship between the two countries. Iran has long called for the release of sanctions on Russia following its invasion of Ukraine.

The country’s foreign minister, Mohammad Hossein Bahrami, said there was no “security guarantee” for Iran to receive the sanctions relief.

Iran’s foreign minister, Mohammad Jenas, said it would be “very difficult” for his country to discuss the nuclear talks until it has “clear and detailed” information.

The talks are set to resume in Vienna on Tuesday, following a break due to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who is set to meet with Iran’s foreign minister, said the US was “willing to make significant concessions” but was also “willing to make Iran pay for its aggression.”

Iranian officials have previously warned that the US would be “very hard headed” in the talks.

**Fuel shortage in Yemen**

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has said Iran is not seeking a “total” withdrawal from the agreement, but a “partial” one, which would allow for nuclear inspections.

Zarif said the agreement was not “a deal that would make Iran a nuclear power,” but a “deal that would give Iran the right to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes.”

The talks are expected to resume in Vienna on Tuesday, with the aim of reaching a deal by the end of the month.

**Johnston defends UK’s Ukraine refugee policy**

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss has said the UK’s policy on accepting Ukrainian refugees is “far from perfect,” but adds that it is “complicit” in protecting the country from Russian aggression.

Truss said the UK had accepted 20,000 refugees so far, but adds that it is “not possible” to accept all those who want to come.

The UK has also faced criticism for not offering a path to citizenship for refugees, which many say is “unjust.”

**Modi’s party predicted to win key Indian state**

India’s ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is expected to win the state of Uttar Pradesh, according to polls.

The BJP is likely to win about 70 seats, while its main rival, the Congress Party, is expected to win about 30 seats.

The state is key to the BJP’s electoral strategy, as it is home to about 200 million voters, making it a crucial test of the party’s popularity.

**London building blaze**

Firefighters are working to put out a fire at a building in Whitechapel, London, which is believed to be an asylum seekers’ hostel.

The fire started on the 10th floor of the building and quickly spread to the other floors.

A spokesperson for the London Fire Brigade said the fire was first reported at around 6am this morning.

The cause of the fire is not yet known, but it is believed to be accidental.

The building is believed to house about 300 asylum seekers, who are living in overcrowded conditions.

The fire has caused disruptions to the local area, with some roads closed and public transport services delayed.

**Hundreds of bakeries shut in Lanka as cooking gas runs out**

A total of 2,500 bakeries have closed across Sri Lanka, according to the National Federation of Bakers.

The closure is due to a shortage of cooking gas, which is used to heat ovens and cook bread.

The situation has worsened in recent weeks, with many bakeries running out of gas and being forced to close.

The government has announced measures to help address the crisis, including importing more gas and reducing prices.

The situation is expected to improve in the coming weeks, with a new shipment of gas expected to arrive in the country soon.
Lasting harm of Covid school closures

Determining how to isolate Covid-19 risks to schools around the world has been tricky. While UK school leaders are currently debating whether to reopen before January—when the number of daily COVID-19 cases in the UK recently reached a record 100,000—many African countries may not have reached the peak of their outbreaks. Across Africa, most countries have shut schools for a total of three months, with some extending closures into July. A new study from the Guttmacher Institute and researchers at the University of Oxford looked at the potential effect of different school-closure strategies on maternal and child health and on the economics of the future. The study’s model shows that, although school closures may be necessary in the short term, they can have devastating long-term effects on educational outcomes and early child development.

In the short run, school closures have led to a decline in learning outcomes. Children who have missed out on school instruction for the past few months—especially those from low-income families—will face significant learning gaps when they return to school. In Sub-Saharan Africa, wherealf the children are enrolled in primary school, 20% of children are estimated to have missed at least three months of learning.

But the long-term effects of school closures are even more concerning. The study found that school closures will lead to a loss of 3.1 years of education in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is equivalent to a loss of $24.6 million in earnings for each child who misses a year of school. The loss in Sub-Saharan Africa is three times greater than the loss in high-income countries. If school closures continue for another year, the loss in Sub-Saharan Africa will be equivalent to $79.8 million in earnings for each child who misses a year of school.

The study also found that school closures will lead to a loss of $1.6 billion in earnings in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is equivalent to a loss of $1.6 billion in earnings for each child who misses a year of school. The loss in Sub-Saharan Africa is three times greater than the loss in high-income countries. If school closures continue for another year, the loss in Sub-Saharan Africa will be equivalent to $4.8 billion in earnings for each child who misses a year of school.

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Russia threatens + calls on the court to intervene if situation escalates:

- Russia will not stop its invasion in Ukraine.
- Russian forces have continued to violate international law.
- Russia has committed atrocities.
- The court should not be a bystander.
- Russia needs to bear responsibility for its actions.
- The court has an obligation to protect human rights.
- Russia is using military and other means to abduct and make disappear people.
- Russia has engaged in torture.
- Russia has committed crimes against humanity.
- Europe: We will not stop on Ukraine.

Ukraine and Russia continue to disagree on the court's role:

- Ukraine: The court has a responsibility to intervene.
- Russia: The court should not interfere in the military operations.

The situation remains tense, with an uncertain outcome.
Tributes paid to prominent Indian religious leader

By Vishwa Mohamed

Tributes were paid to prominent Indian religious and cultural leader Pandit Swamiabhaya Mahant Thangal at a commemoration programme in Doha yesterday.

Thangal, 74, the Indian Union Muslim League national chairman and Kerala state president, passed away in the southern state on March 9.

The opening ceremony was attended by Katara general manager Prof Khalid bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti, Agricultural Affairs Department director al-Khulaifi, and representatives of participating national companies and farms.

The festival is organised by the ministry in co-operation with the Ministry of Municipality’s Agricultural Affairs Department, the Agricultural Affairs Department, and the Agricultural Affairs Department in the Ministry of Health and Community Development.

The festival runs until March 12 and will then continue until March 20.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), Agricultural Affairs Department director al-Khulaifi said that the festival got under way yesterday at the 6th edition of Mahaseel Festival.

The festival is a platform for marketing national products including vegetables, dates, poultry, milk and its derivatives, as well as ornamental plants.

A number of Qatari farm owners, and seven national companies taking part in the festival, confirmed Katara’s continued support.

Agricultural Affairs Department director al-Khulaifi said that the festival has seen large numbers of visitors checking out the many varieties of fresh vegetables, dates, and ornamental plants available locally.

He said that local products are of high quality, and that the Mahaseel Festival is a platform for marketing national products including vegetables, dates, poultry, milk and its derivatives.

On the occasion, Brigadier Abdullah Khalifa al-Muftah, attended the opening ceremony.

He noted that Thangal was an inspiring leader who was simple and approachable for all.

Dr al-Sulaiti said that Katara is keen on bringing the farmers of Qatar, with the Ministry of Municipality’s Agricultural Affairs Department, and the Agricultural Affairs Department in the Ministry of Health and Community Development, together to exchange experiences, which will contribute to the development of local agricultural production.

He said that Katara has received the support and encouragement to farmers to market their products, noting that Katara has provided farmers with a forum to exchange experiences, which will contribute to the development of local agricultural production.

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