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## FM urges rights council to end siege violations

QNA

GENEVA: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H E Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani called on Human Rights Council to end the violations resulting from the illegal siege and the unilateral coercive measures taken by the siege countries against the Qatari people, and to hold accountable those responsible for these violations while compensating the victims.

Speaking yesterday during the high-level segment of the 37th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that he briefed the council during its previous session on the repercussions and violations of human rights due to the illegal and "unilateral coercive measures" taken by the siege countries against the Qatari

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people.

"This was reaffirmed in the last report of the technical mission of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) after visiting the State of Qatar in November," he said.

"It included an objective description of the grave and flagrant violations of human rights by the siege countries against the citizens and residents, be it in the State of Qatar or in their own countries, and this continues to this very day.

"Stemming from the just legal position of Qatar and to protect its legitimate rights, I call from this rostrum the Human Rights Council and all its mechanisms, especially special procedures, to shoulder their responsibilities and to work on putting an end to violation of human rights as a result of these racist unilateral coercive measures.

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Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H E Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani addressing 37th session of Human Rights Council in Geneva, yesterday.

## CSR Conference highlights Qatar's efforts in defeating siege

SIDI MOHAMED  
THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The 5th Conference on Social Responsibility and Awards, held yesterday, highlighted the efforts made by Qatari society and institutions in defeating the unjust blockade imposed by the neighbouring countries. The conference was aimed at spreading awareness about social responsibility through encouraging initiatives and highlighting achievements of individuals and companies in this field.

Organised by Dar Al Sharq under the theme "Responsibilities despite Challenges", the conference was held at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies under the patronage of the Governor of Qatar Central Bank and Chairman of the Social & Sport Contribution Fund (Daam) H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Saud Al Thani.

Speaking at the conference Sheikh Dr Thani bin Ali Al Thani,



The Chairman of Board of Directors of Dar Al Sharq Group, Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah Al Thani, launching the White Book at Conference on Social Responsibility and Awards, yesterday. PIC: EBRAHIM KUTTY

Chairman of Social Responsibility Committee, said that the conference this year is held under exceptional circumstances in view of the siege

imposed on Qatar, which is in place for more than months. He also lauded the efforts taken by individuals and authorities in Qatar to overcome the siege and

its effects in a short period. "Today's conference was the fifth edition since we started it in 2013. Our aim is to increase awareness and knowledge about

social responsibility and its positive impact on society and high-light activities by individuals, corporations and governmental and private institutions targeting the society," he noted. Chairman of the Board of Directors of Dar Al Sharq Group, Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah Al Thani and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Dar Al Sharq Group Sheikh Dr Khalid bin Thani bin Abdullah Al Thani also attended the event.

Addressing the conference, H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Saud Al Thani said that social responsibility has become a fundamental and important pillar of development at the international level. "The concept of social responsibility has grown and evolved in recent years to take institutional and methodological forms, which led to a growing role for national and private institutions in achieving sustainable development," he added.

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## Emir meets Speaker of Iraqi Council of Representatives



Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani met yesterday at the Al Bahr Palace with the Speaker of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, Saleem Abdullah Al Jabouri. The Speaker conveyed the greetings of Iraq President Fuad Masum and Prime Minister Haider Al Abadi to H H the Emir, wishing him good health and happiness and wishing the Qatari people more progress and prosperity. The Emir entrusted the Speaker to convey his greetings to Iraqi President and Prime Minister, wishing them health and wellness and the Iraqi people further development and progress. The Speaker also conveyed the Iraqi leadership and peoples' thanks to H H the Emir for Qatar's efforts in supporting Iraq at various levels, especially in the fight against terrorism, as well as the great support that Qatar has pledged for the reconstruction of Iraq at the international conference recently hosted by Kuwait. The Emir affirmed Qatar's firm stance and support to the unity, security and stability of Iraq. The meeting reviewed the strong bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries and ways to strengthen and develop them, in addition to the latest developments in Iraq and the region.

## 98% of Qataris satisfied with govt performance

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: As many as 98 percent of Qatari nationals have expressed satisfaction over the government's performance during the current siege and 88 percent believed that Qatar can survive the crisis for many years, a study conducted by Qatar University (QU) revealed.

The study showed that the citizens' expectations with regard to the future of business and trade in Qatar have improved to reach 96% after the siege, which were 72% before..

According to the study, 90% of Qatari nationals are interested in watching the news in order to get acquainted with the daily progress about the crisis. While, 62% of Qatari nationals find that Qatar should achieve full independence of regional alliances, which highlights the lack of trust in the regional environment. In this context, 86% of Qatari citizens find that Qatar should explore alliance opportunities with new countries in the region.

It was also noted that 84 percent of Qatari nationals were positive about Qatar's business

and trading, adding that the results have improved compared to the ones (around 55 percent) provided by a previous study conducted in January 2016.

The study which conducted by the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SERI) at the University has showed that more than 80 percent of Qatari citizens have a positive view about Qatar's economy. The results were unveiled at an event organised yesterday.

The study was conducted in November 2017 through

telephone interviews. A random sample of 889 Qatari nationals (18 years old and above), who are currently living in Qatar, provided their points of view about the Qatar's siege from a legal, political, economic, and social perspective.

On entrepreneurship, the study showed that 77 percent of Qatari nationals consider that there are many investment opportunities and 34 percent are planning to start an entrepreneurial project.

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## Health certificates for laundry workers to be discontinued

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) announced that the Department of Medical Commission will stop issuing the annual health certificates for the workers of the clothes laundries as of the beginning of next March, and only be obliged to perform the necessary medical examinations at Medical Commission when they enter the country for the first time for the purpose of obtaining a work visa. This action is in accordance with the recommendations of the concerned authorities in the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Municipality and Environment and the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, since the work of this group does not constitute a danger in the transmission of infectious diseases.