



OUT ON A LIMB!

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PRESSURE TO PERFORM MOUNTS ON TIGER WOODS

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Qatar Tribune

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DOW JONES	10,025 -14.00 PTS	QE	7,145 -55.00 PTS
SENSEX	18,179 -131.00 PTS	CURRENCY	Indian Rupee 12.88 Philippine Peso 12.45
WEATHER	HOT AND HAZY HIGH: 40°C LOW: 33°C		

Newsline

62 killed in Iraq suicide attacks

SUICIDE bombers and other attackers killed at least 62 people in coordinated attacks on Iraqi security forces throughout the country on Wednesday, less than a week before US troops formally end combat operations. (PG 7)

Ramadan Timing

Today	06: 00
Tomorrow	
Suhoor	03: 52



Dear QT Readers, Win 2 prizes daily during the Holy Month of Ramadan and a grand prize at the end of the month by answering the quiz questions on page 16. All the answers are to be found in the day's edition. (See page 16)

QE dips 55 points on global cues

BLOOMBERG DUBAI

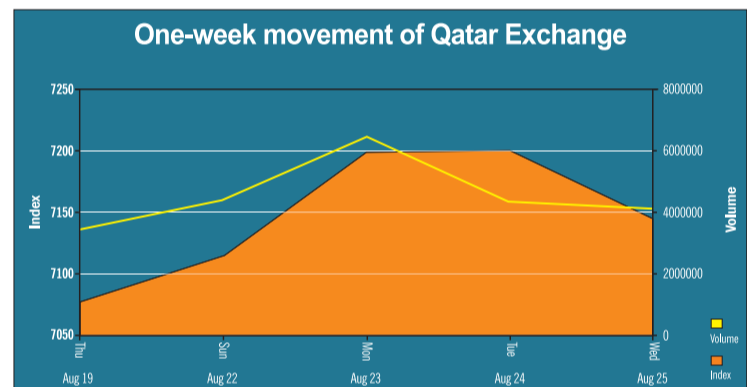
QATAR Exchange declined by 55 points, the most in almost six weeks, snapping seven days of gains, as a record plunge in US home sales and slowing export growth in Japan fuelled concern that the global economic recovery is faltering.

Industries Qatar lost 1.3 percent and Qatar Islamic Bank

retreated the most in more than a week. Qatar Exchange Index slipped 0.8 percent to 7,143.2, the most since July 15, at 12.07 pm in Doha. The Bloomberg GCC 200 Index fell 0.7 percent.

"Declines in global markets have reflected negatively on investor sentiment," said Ziad Dabbas, a financial analyst at National Bank of Abu Dhabi,

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HEIR APPARENT HOSTS IFTAR



The Heir Apparent His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani with Islamic scholar Sheikh Yousuf al Qaradawi at an Iftar organised in the honour of scholars, judges and elders, in Doha, on Wednesday.

Qatar achieves most of UN's MDG targets

MAYA MANSOUR DOHA

QATAR has achieved most of the goals under the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) programme in this decade, according to Qatar Statistics Authority's (QSA) third report on MDG.

The report was released by QSA President HE Sheikh Hamad bin Jabor bin Jassim al Thani at a press conference in Doha on Wednesday.

The report says that the number of economically active people in Qatar has risen from 60 percent of the population in 2004 to

76 percent in 2009, while that of working women's has increased from 27 percent to 35 percent; child mortality has registered a decline in the decade and enrollment in primary classes has increased.

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PM post contenders in Australia promise stability

AP
CANNBERRA

THE contenders to become Australia's next prime minister each promised on Wednesday to govern for a full term if three key independent lawmakers support their competing parties to form an administration after indecisive elections.

The independents are likely to decide whether Julia Gillard's Labor Party or opposition leader Tony Abbott's Liberal Party-led coalition forms a government after elections failed to give any party a majority in the 150-seat House of Representatives for the first time in 70 years.

Independents Rob Oakeshott, Tony Windsor and Bob Katter opened negotiations with the two leaders on Wednesday and presented each with wish lists including a demand for a pledge to govern for the full three years. A prime minister might be tempted to call early elections as soon as opinion polls showed a chance of winning a majority.

Gillard qualified her pledge, saying that a by-election due to a government lawmaker becoming sick could be enough to bring down a minority administration.

"If I was the incoming prime minister, out of this process, to the extent that I could control it, my guarantee to go full term is unequivocal," Gillard told reporters.

Conservative opposition leader Abbott said he told the independents "there would be no election prior to August 2013, should I become prime minister."

The independents say their top demand is for details of how much the competing election promises would cost the nation in areas including telecommunications, health and education.

Gillard said she was inclined to release what costings were available, and was seeking advice from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Congo plane crash leaves 19 dead

AFP
KINSHASA

A PLANE crashed on Wednesday after trying to land in western Democratic Republic of Congo, killing at least 19 people although two survived, a deputy provincial governor said.

The Filair Let-410 twin turboprop crashed just before 1200 GMT after failing to land at Bandundu after a 300-kilometre (200-mile) flight from the capital Kinshasa, and apparently running out of fuel, Vicky Mboso Muteba said.

"They have brought out the people, we have 19 bodies in the morgue and two survivors," said Mboso, the deputy governor of Bandundu province, north-east of Kinshasa.

The owner of the private airline Filair, Belgian Daniel Philemotte, 62, was at the controls and was among those killed, along with the co-pilot and stewardess, he added.

Mboso said that after an abortive attempt to land, the aircraft turned away and crashed towards the edge of Bandundu city, hitting a house whose residents had managed to flee in time.

There was no explosion, said Mboso, who was one of the first to arrive on the site along with soldiers from the UN mission in the country (MONUC).

"Subject to expert opinion ... the presumed cause could be a lack of fuel," he said.

The Czech-made Let-410 normally carries up to 19 passengers.

An official of Kinshasa's small city-centre Ndolo airport, from which the flight took off, confirmed the crash,



but did not provide any additional information.

DR Congo's aviation sector, which is littered with ageing Soviet-era planes, is generally viewed as being in a chronic state of disrepair and crashes are frequent.

All of the country's 50-odd

registered airlines have been placed on a European Union blacklist, banning them from flying into European airspace.

A Belgian diplomat in Kinshasa said Philemotte was a well-known businessman in the country, and had recently married a Congolese.

QE dips 55 points on global cues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the United Arab Emirates' second-largest lender by assets.

"It's the Holy Month of Ramadan, and that means trading is slower than usual."

The Standard & Poor's 500 Index on Tuesday tumbled to a seven-week low after a report showed purchases of existing homes plunged by a record 27 percent in July to the lowest in a decade of record keeping and worse than the most pessimistic forecast of economists surveyed by Bloomberg News.

The MSCI Asia Pacific Index dropped 1.4 percent and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index retreated 0.7 percent after Japan's export growth slowed for a fifth month in July.

About 4.1 million shares traded in Doha on Wednesday, compared with a six-month daily average of 8 million.

Industries Qatar declined the most since August 15 to QR100.3. Qatar Islamic Bank, the Gulf state's biggest Shariah-compliant lender, fell for the first time in eight days, dropping 1.3 percent to QR76. Commercial Bank of Qatar, the country's second-biggest lender by assets, decreased 1.5 percent, the most since July 26, to QR74.6.

In Qatar, there is some profit-taking on banks after recent gains, said Hassan El Salah, deputy head of institutional equities at Al Ramz Securities, an Abu Dhabi-based brokerage. The QE Banking Sector Index is up 4.6 percent this quarter.

Dubai's DFM General Index fell 0.3 percent to 1,488.67 and Saudi Arabia's Tadawul All Share Index declined 0.7 percent. Abu Dhabi's gauge slipped 0.3 percent. Oman's MSM 30 Index lost 0.2 percent and the Kuwait SE Price Index declined 0.5 percent. Bahrain's gauge gained 0.8 percent.

Qatar achieves most of UN's MDG targets

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The report has been prepared by QSA and the Permanent Population Committee (PPC) under the auspices of the UN Development Programme.

The QSA chief said that the report's main objective was to measure Qatar's progress towards achieving the MDG before 2015. "The report has been issued one month before the meeting of world leaders at the UN headquarters in New York on September 20-22 to discuss the steps to be taken to eradicate or at least curb hunger, poverty, diseases, illiteracy and gender discrimination in the world," he added.

He said that women's empowerment and gender equality were the major challenges facing the country and some more time was needed to achieve them. He hailed Qatar's high rank on most of the international indicators like transparency, human development and peace.

Speaking on the occasion,

Director for the Demographic Statistics Department Sultan al Kuwari said the report analysed statistical figures to measure the future development requirements of the country. "QSA has ensured the figures released are updated and from trustworthy sources," he added.

PPC Director, Dr Hassan al Mohannadi, highlighted Qatar's progress towards the goals. "Child mortality, also known as under-5 mortality, in Qatar has shown a steady decline from a high of 16.60 percent in 1990 to 8.8 percent in 2009. The report shows that the number of economically active people has risen from 60 percent in 2004 to 76 percent in 2009. The number of working women has increased in the same period from 27 percent to 35 percent. The figure for enrollment in primary classes was 92 percent for boys and 93 percent for girls in 2009."

The report states that woman participation in the workforce has increased from 30 percent in 2004 to 36 percent in 2009.



QSA President HE Sheikh Hamad bin Jabor bin Jassim al Thani at a press conference, in Doha, on Wednesday. (MANEESH BAKSHI)

'I have been through hell,' says Elin after divorce with Tiger

AFP
WASHINGTON

TIGER Woods's ex-wife Elin Nordegren has broken her silence about the couple's failed marriage, in a magazine interview expressing "shock and disbelief" upon learning

about his multiple infidelities, US television reported on Wednesday.

"I've been through hell," the former Elin Woods, whose divorce from the golf superstar became final this week, said in excerpts of the cover article to be published Friday in *People Magazine*.

A reporter for the magazine told NBC television's "Today Show" program she conducted an exhaustive interview with Nordegren, 30, for 19 hours over four days, scoring the first reported accounts of Elin's reaction to the sordid sex scandal that made headlines around the world.

Nordegren told the magazine she felt "absolute shock and disbelief" when she learned about her husband's multiple infidelities, in excerpts of the article read on the news program.

"I felt stupid as more things were revealed. How could I not have known anything?" she says. "The word betrayal isn't strong enough," Nordegren told *People*. "I felt like my whole world had fallen apart."

The former nanny also reportedly told the magazine that the stress from the scandal caused her insomnia and weight loss and in the days before the divorce was finalized this week, she says she began to lose her hair.

Woods, 34, and Nordegren issued a joint statement Monday saying that they were ending their "irretrievably broken" six-year marriage, wishing each other the best and promising to work together for their children's happiness.

Woods wed Nordegren in October 2004 in Barbados and the couple have a three-year-old daughter, Sam, and a 19-month-old son, Charlie.

The divorce was finalized by a Florida judge during a 10-minute hearing Monday in a conference room in Bay County Circuit Court.



Tiger Wood's ex-wife Elin Nordegren. (AFP)

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