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DOHA BANK, QDB JOIN HANDS TO BOOST CREDIT FLOW TO SMES PG 23





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TODAY'S BUSINESS QUOTES

Satisfaction does not come with achievement, but with effort, Full effort is full victory. - Mahatma Gandhi

GOLD		SILVER		100	COLUDE		PRICE	PERCENTAGE
RICE	PERCENTAGE	PRICE	PERCENTAGE	0	CHUDE	BRENT	66.64	+2.67%
,193.00	+0.85%	16.55	+1.45%		OIL	WTI	60.55	+2.19%



unches Qatar's network

t areas to benefit e upgrade started Aziziyah, Al Rayyayk, Salwa Road, ran, Forousiya and al Area, followed Bay, The Pearl-Vestbay Lagoon, eater Doha.

n, Forousiya and Indus-They were followed by The Pearl-Qatar, Westn, all of greater Doha as akrah, Wukhair and Al

e year-end we plan to onwide coverage of the ork," Ramy said.

uary this year, Vodafone se one of their network ling every network site ith the latest technology.

With this 65 percent of the network is brand new. Besides, the company installed 134 new outdoor sites, 42 indoor sites, 290 4G outdoor sites and 25 4G indoor sites.

With this, Vodafone has increased both 3G and 4G coverage, doubled 3G capacity, tripled 4G capacity and data capacity for better user experience," Ramy said.

"We have immediately seen the impact of this upgrade in terms of network speed. Based on Vodafone Qatar's analysis of Ookla Speed test results, Vodafone now has the fast-est data network in Qatar," he said.

Explaining the enhancements, Vodafone's Chief Commercial Officer Marc Norris, said: "Seventy percent of our 4G network sites in Qatar are now 4G+ capable, giving us the widest 4G+ coverage in Qatar with speeds of up to 150 Mbps and an average 30 Mbps.

Doha Bank CEO calls for single regulatory body

SATYENDRA PATHAK

DOHA Bank CEO R Seetharaman on Tuesday called for a single financial regulatory body to simplify the process of doing business in Qatar.

Speaking at the Exchange Views series organised by Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE), he said regulatory integration and harmonisation will boost investment in Qatar.

Seetharaman, who also participated in a panel discussion on Investment Climate in Qatar', said too many regulators like Qatar Central Bank (QCB), Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) Regulatory Authority, Qatar Financial Markets Authority (QFMA) and Ministry of Economy and Commerce were making the process of doing business in Qatar cumbersome.

Citing an example of the slow regulatory process, he said Doha Bank's proposal to launch an Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) on QSE is pending with regulatory authorities for the last four months. Such delays in getting approval, he said, make it difficult for businesses to run smoothly.

Citing another example, he said, Doha Bank had to shelve its plan to get a brokerage licence due to long delay in getting approval from the regulatory bodies. "We could not sustain such delays as it was affecting the bank financially," he said.

Describing Qatar as a country with higher financial stability compared to other emerging economies, Seetharaman said a single window for regulatory approvals will make the country an ideal destination for investment.



Experts at a panel discussion organised during the 'Exchange Views' series of Qatar Stock Exchange in Doha on Tuesday.

Plans to list QSE: Mansoori

SATYENDRA PATHAK

Stock Exchange OATAR (QSE) is planning to list itself on the Qatari bourse, a top official of the bank has said.

Talking to Qatar Tribune on the sidelines of the Exchange Views series in Doha on Tuesday, QSE CEO Rashid bin Ali al Mansoori said the exchange is in talks with its shareholder Qatar Holding about selling shares in an initial public offering to boost liquidity in the market.

He, however, did not give

any timeframe for the IPO to be launched.

"The matter is being discussed," he said, adding that it is for the shareholders to decide when to apply for the listing.

Asked about the possible listings on the exchange this year, Mansoori said Barwa Bank and Qatar First Bank are expected to float IPOs after getting regulatory approval.

He said QSE is likely to receive more international fund flows after its successful road show in London recently.

The panel discussion was organised with the purpose of bringing together decision-makers and industry profession-als to debate the Qatari capital

OFC Deputy CEO Yousef

al Jaidah, Amwal CEO Fahmi al Ghussain, QNB Asset Management AGM Ajay Kumar and Al Rayan Investment Asset Management Director Akber Khan participated in the panel discussion.