

SciTech Arabia embraces digital transformation

The healthcare support company shifts communications to MS Cloud

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QATAR-BASED healthcare support company SciTech Arabia has announced the migration of its business communications environment to the Microsoft Cloud, in an effort to secure a flexible working environment for all employees across the organisation.

SciTech Arabia supplies cutting-edge medical and laboratory equipment and support services to healthcare and diagnostics centres across Qatar.

The company has seen rapid growth over the past four decades, enjoying a 25 percent market share and annual turnover of more than \$50 million. In recent years, it has entered other regional markets, including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Before migrating to the Microsoft Azure, SciTech faced several issues in the day-to-day operation of its technology infrastructure.

The company found it challenging to use email services when trying to provide end-users with a secure and controlled environment for its intra- and extranet.

Most importantly, SciTech discovered that confidential emails were being accessed by unauthorised personnel. Critical and confidential information held within SciTech's financial and ERP systems called for data replication, but the company did not have a

disaster-recovery platform. In addition, SciTech required a social platform for engaging its workforce outside of the office.

"I am at peace now," said Dr Hassan MP Kunhi, Managing Director, SciTech Arabia. "Having moved our business communications environment to a Microsoft platform, I feel we are in safe hands. Microsoft will handle our data security, leveraging the most advanced features in its arsenal."

With its built-in security measures, the Microsoft Azure platform serves as the right solution to address SciTech's requirements and provides the company with the data privacy, control, and transparency it requires.

The company evaluated a number of technology solutions in an effort to cover all emerging business needs, but chose to move critical components of its business infrastructure to the Azure cloud, and implement Microsoft Office 365 stop-of-the-line E5 Plan and Microsoft Enterprise Mobility Suite (EMS).

"Microsoft continues to stand behind the Government of Qatar, and enterprises across the country," said Haider Salloum, Small and Medium Business Director, Microsoft Gulf.

'Green economies must for global sustainability'

Doha Bank CEO says CSR can go a long way in ensuring sustainable development

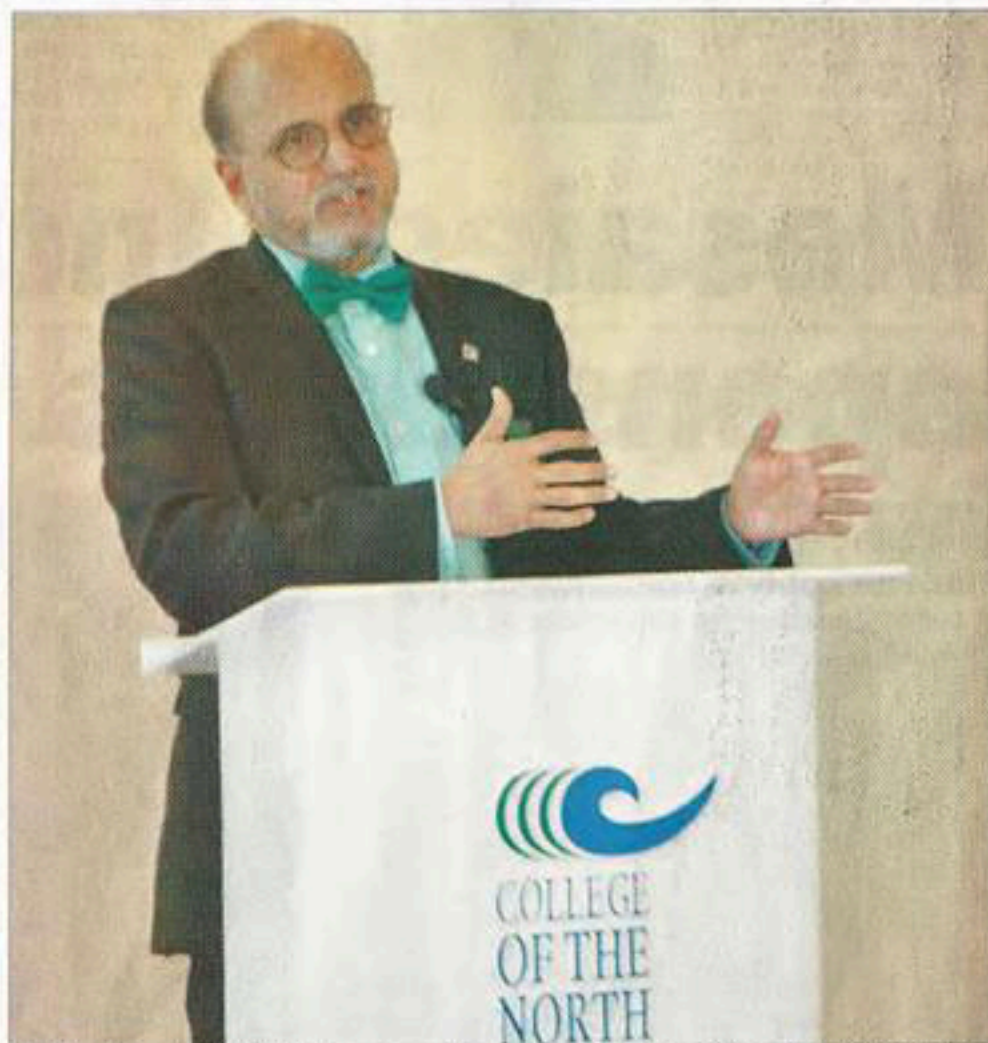
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CAPITAL rules for the banking sector are being redefined, as financial markets become volatile on account of changing economic dynamics, said Doha Bank Group CEO Dr R Seetharaman.

"We need to anticipate what policy shifts could do for the world's economic outlook. Technology, consumerism and re-regulation define the banking sector," he said while addressing a seminar on the College of North Atlantic - Qatar (CNAQ) campus on Tuesday.

Talking about environmental sustainability and corporate social responsibility in banking sector, Dr Seetharaman said, "Contentious issues are cropping up between developed and developing world on global trade and investment, which was reflected in the recent G20 finance minister's meeting. The lack of convergence between politics and economics could impact global growth. The global sustainability relies on building of green economies."

Highlighting the challenges of global warming, he said, "The main causes of global warming include increasing population, relying on limited resources, increased energy needs and increased industrial pollutants.



Doha Bank Group CEO Dr R Seetharaman speaks at a seminar held at the College of North Atlantic - Qatar (CNAQ) on Tuesday.

"China is the world's biggest emitter, responsible for 29 percent of global emissions in 2015. As the second biggest emitter, the US is responsible for 15 percent of global emissions in 2015. The EU is the world's third largest emitter, responsible for 10 percent of global carbon dioxide emis-

sions in 2015 and India contributes 6.3 percent of global emissions.

"Of the 9.9 billion tonnes of carbon in the form of CO2 emitted from fossil fuels in 2015, 41% came from coal, 34% from oil, 19% from gas and 5.6% from cement production. Of the total CO2

emissions in 2015, 44% stayed in the atmosphere plants absorbed 31% and the oceans 26%. The hurricanes and typhoons in recent years due to adverse climate change include Hurricane Bertha, Hurricane Katia, Typhoon Goni and Typhoon Sarika. The recent Abnormal El Nino in

Peru unleashed deadly downpours."

Giving insight on sustainable development, Seetharaman said, "Corporate social responsibility (CSR) contributes to sustainable development in the areas such as economic growth, social development and environmental consideration. Banks as responsible corporate citizens should adopt green banking as part of CSR and Sustainable development.

"Green Banking considers all the social and environmental factors with an aim to protect the environment and conserve natural resources. The COP 21 Paris meeting had come up with agreement to reduce global warming. The Millennium development goals have got redefined under a new framework sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which came into force from beginning of 2016 after adoption of the same at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015."

Highlighting Doha Bank's CSR activities, he said, "Doha Bank Group, as part of its corporate social responsibility demonstrate fair, open, efficient and consistent business practices to mitigate climate change and promote sustainable development.

"It advocates and practices Green Banking, which is one of its core business philosophies that would support the sustainability into the future. It has tracked the developments pertaining to various Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings and involved with various COP meeting delegations including COP 18 in Doha.