

Qatar Tribune

First with the news and what's behind it

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EXCLUSIVE

Select schools in Qatar to start new CBSE syllabus this year



Some Indian schools in Qatar are likely to introduce the

new Central Board of Education (CBSE) international syllabus from the next academic year starting in April. Talking to Qatar Tribune, CBSE Chairman Vineet Joshi said, "Initially, a pilot programme will be launched in about 25 schools of the Middle and Far East from the next..."

OPINION

The Republican Agenda



OK, the beast is starving. Now what? That's the question

confronting Republicans. But they're refusing to answer, or even to engage in any serious discussion about what to do. For readers who don't know what I'm talking about: ever since Reagan, the GOP has been run by people who want a much smaller government. In the famous words of the activist Grover Norquist...

ANALYSIS

The Lean Years



Asmall news item from Tracy, California, caught my eye

last week. Local station CBS 13 reported: "Tracy residents will now have to pay every time they call 911 for a medical

Nation Business Sports Chill Out

Business

Qatar plans business-friendly laws

GYANENDRA KESHRI

DOHA Qatar plans to update laws and make regulations more business friendly in a bid to attract foreign investments in various fields including energy, banking and industrial sector, State Minister for International Cooperation and Acting Minister of Business and Trade HE Khaled bin Muhammad al Attiyah said on Monday.

"We envision prospects for further development in the concepts and procedures of attracting investments.



We always update the laws and legislations regulating the investment activities in order to adapt with global changes and offer the best investment atmosphere," Khaled said at MENA economic conference, organised by Beltone Financial in partnership with the Qatar Exchange.

Qatar plans several changes in business regulations including introduction of a single market regulator, which would make easier starting of new business in the country.

Currently Qatar's financial system is regulated by three institutions – Qatar Central Bank, Qatar Financial Markets Authority and Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority.

The single market regulator will combine the operations all these three institutions.

Chairman and CEO of Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority Phillip Thorpe said that the operations of the three regulators were likely to be combined by the end of 2010.

Qatar announced the plan for single market regulator in 2007.

However, the plan was delayed because of the global financial and economic crisis.

Qatar's Acting Minister of Business and Trade Khaled pointed out that the global economic crisis had prompted governments across the world to intervene in the markets.

In line with the global intervention, Khaled said Qatari government had also taken necessary measures to thwart the negative effects of the crisis.

"We are now aware of the nature and requirements of such changes and we are striving, by means of the comprehensive openness policy, to cope with various developments worldwide in many domains," Khaled added.



emergency. But there are a couple of options. Residents can pay a \$48 voluntary fee for the year, which allows them to call 911 as many times as necessary...

Our Group



Qatari government recently announced major changes in its taxation policy aimed to attract more foreign investments.

The corporate income tax rate for foreign companies has been reduced to a flat 10 percent, effective January 1, 2010 from the earlier progressive rate of up to 35 percent.

Local companies are not required to pay any tax.

Talking to Qatar Tribune on the sidelines of the conference, Chief Executive Officer of Beltone Financial Aladdin Saba said the proposed regulations would make Qatar one of the most attractive investment destinations.

“We are very optimistic on Qatar.

Infrastructure has improved substantially.

These regulatory changes make Qatar one of the most preferred investment destinations in the world,” said CEO of Beltone Financial, which manages over \$4.7 billion asset in different countries across the world.

Beltone Financial operates in Qatar under the licence of the Qatar Financial Centre.

On the importance of MENA Conference, Saba said it would play an important role in marketing Qatar as an attractive investment destination.

A large number of investors from the United States, Europe and other countries of the Middle East on Monday held meetings with the heads of local companies to explore investment opportunities.

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