

Welcome to the latest issue of KPMG's Real Estate Monthly Pulse, which brings you the news highlights from the real estate and related sectors in Qatar. We hope you find this information valuable to keep you connected with the sector.



#### Residential:

#### Qatari Diar wins best sustainable housing project in the world

Three awards that are a part of International Property Awards ceremony namely, Best Sustainable Residential Development at the levels of the UK, Europe and, the world have been awarded to Qatari Diar, for its 'Chelsea Barracks' project located in Belgravia, London.

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# **Hospitality & Tourism**

# **Qatar Tourism signs agreement with Qatar Museums to establish new auto** museum

Qatar Tourism has entered an agreement to handover Doha Exhibition Centre for 10 years to Qatar Museums for the establishment of the Qatar Auto Museum. The venue will serve as a home to the country's latest museum which is dedicated to supporting Qatar's vision to developing unique cultural and tourist attractions.

### Hotels, apartments occupancy rises 56%

The hotel and hotel apartments in Qatar witnessed a robust performance with the overall occupancy rate touching 56 percent in February 2022. The hotels of all categories, ranging from five star to two and one star, have seen rise in occupancy rates and revenue per available room, according to the Planning and Statistics Authority (PSA) data.

# **Others**

#### About QR 453 mn deals signed at BYH Exhibition 2022

Build Your House (BYH) Exhibition 2022 which concluded in the month of March stimulated more trade than previous editions with about QR 453 mn deals signed during the three-day event. The expo drew around 10,300 visitors who were introduced to over 200 exhibitors and co-exhibitors.

# Ezdan Holding Group reports QR 1,443 mn revenue for 2021

The Board of Directors of Ezdan Holding Group has ratified the annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021, where the profits netted QR 61.11 mn. The Group's earnings per share (EPS) reported QR 0.0023.

#### Construction sector rebounds on increased economic activity

Qatar's constructions sector has registered healthy growth in the first quarter of this year as the economy gears up to host the biggest sporting event this year. The country witnessed issuance of 2,444 building permits during the first quarter of this year, reflecting a rise of around 13 percent compared to the fourth quarter of 2021.

#### Cityscape Qatar 2022 to showcase new real estate projects in June

The easing of pandemic related restrictions, roll-out of booster shots, changes in property regulatory, and the FIFA World Cup 2022 have all brought an optimistic outlook for Qatar's real estate industry. All these have created a new level of excitement and investors are keen on exploring opportunities in the country.

#### Mazaya to enhance real estate investments portfolio by QR500m

Mazaya Real Estate Development Company aims to enhance its real estate investments portfolio by QR500m, said Sheikh Salman bin Hassan Al Thani, Chairman of the company. He said "this is already underway, with investments of QR220m on properties with fixed income for several years and an estimated return of 7 percent".

#### Real estate deals rise to QR 4.9 bn in first guarter

Qatar's real estate sector has delivered an above average performance in the first quarter of the year with total deals reaching near QR 5 bn. The first quarter remained abuzz with deal making activity as total 1,251 transactions were recorded during January, February and March. The average size of real estate deals during the quarter was QR3.9m.

# Qatari Diar's investments in Qatar worth QR50bn: CEO

Qatari Diar CEO Abdullah bin Hamad Al Attiyah said that the company's investment inside the country has reached around QR 50 bn, in a nod to the large investments the company has undertaken projects including Lusail, Sheraton Park, National Convention Center & Commercial Avenue in Abu Hamour.

#### Qatar's construction sector evolving with new technologies

Eng. Ahmad Ali Al Ansari, Senior project engineering advisor to the permanent office of Ashghal discussed the topic 'Re-engineering Construction Supply Chains - A Proactive Approach' on the sidelines of the launch of 'National Product Week' which covered the supply chain management in Qatar. It focused on the local construction industry and shed light on the changing environment of the supply chain and the increasing demand for high standard and quality.

### Building permits rise by 42% to 988 in March

The number of building permits issued in March by municipalities in Qatar has increased by 42 percent to 988 from 697 in February, data released by the Planning and Statistics Authority (PSA) show.

### Realty deals cross QR1bn in March

Real estate trading in Qatar has crossed QR1bn during the last month. According to the weekly real estate data from the Ministry of Justice, the real estate transactions during the four weeks of March reached over QR1.3bn.

The momentum in the real estate sector is growing gradually in the country. With a consistent fall in the cases of COVID-19 in the country, the economic activities have returned to normal. The impact of optimism is now visible in the country's real estate sector, which is now abuzz with deal making activity.

#### Ezdan upgraded to B- by S&P with stable outlook

The report issued by S&P expects Ezdan revenue to increase by more than 40 percent in 2022, backed by hikes in rental rates in the residential and hospitality sectors due to economic activity in conjunction with Qatar's hosting of the international sports event, noted in its report that the stable outlook reflects the expectations of higher performance during the current year.

Sources: The Peninsula Qatar, Doha Times, Gulf Times

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