

PM Shehbaz meets Qatari PM to strengthen trade and investment ties



Published on October 31, 2024

Document Date: Sun, Nov 30 2025 05:42:09 pm

Category: ,English,Pakistan - ,Snippets

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Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held a meeting with Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani during his visit to Qatar. The two leaders focused on enhancing cooperation in trade, investment, energy, and cultural exchange. Prime Minister Shehbaz stated that his visit to Qatar aims to further solidify the strong bonds of friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and Qatar, benefiting both nations. The leaders focused on enhancing bilateral

relations, particularly in trade, investment, energy, and cultural exchange. PM Shehbaz acknowledged Qatar's significant contributions to Pakistan's economic growth and expressed gratitude for its ongoing support across various sectors. He reiterated Pakistan's commitment to deepening economic ties and highlighted the potential for expanded collaboration. PM Shehbaz also thanked his counterpart for hosting a large number of Pakistani expatriates, who serve as a vital link between the two countries. The discussion included global and regional challenges, emphasising the necessity of peaceful solutions and mutual cooperation. PM Shehbaz commended Qatar's principled stance on the Gaza conflict and its efforts to promote peace and stability in the region, recognising its humanitarian initiatives and diplomatic engagements. The Qatari Prime Minister underscored Pakistan's strategic importance in regional dynamics and expressed enthusiasm for strengthening ties aligned with Qatar's vision for economic growth and stability. Both leaders agreed on the significance of maintaining high-level exchanges to foster understanding and cooperation. PM Shehbaz extended an invitation to Qatari investors to explore opportunities in Pakistan's diverse economic sectors, including agriculture, information technology, and tourism. He assured a conducive environment for foreign investors and discussed potential incentives to facilitate their entry into the Pakistani market. The Prime Minister expressed deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended by the Amir of Qatar and

Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani to him and his delegation. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif arrived in Doha on Wednesday for a two-day official visit, invited by Qatar's Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. Upon his arrival, the Prime Minister was greeted warmly by Qatari Minister of State Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, along with Pakistan's ambassador and other diplomatic staff, as reported by the PM Office Media Wing. Accompanied by federal ministers Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Mohammad Aurangzeb, Jam Kamal Khan, and Attaullah Tarar, Prime Minister is set to engage in bilateral discussions with Emir Sheikh Tamim and Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani. Additionally, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the cultural exhibition "Manzar: Art and Architecture in Pakistan from 1940 to Present" on Thursday, aimed at showcasing Pakistan's rich cultural heritage and the deep connections between the peoples of Pakistan and Qatar. Taking to X, formerly known as Twitter, the Prime Minister expressed his enthusiasm upon arriving in Doha, stating, "I look forward to a productive exchange of views with the Qatari leadership to further enhance our brotherly relations." Saudi Arabia has announced an additional \$600 million investment in Pakistan, bringing the total to \$2.8 billion. This announcement follows a productive meeting between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, during which the number of memoranda of understanding (MoUs) increased from 27 to 34. The news was shared by Saudi Investment Minister Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Falih at a joint press briefing with PM Shehbaz. The leaders discussed enhancing bilateral cooperation across multiple sectors, including trade, finance, agriculture, technology, and skilled labour.