

**UAE, CHINA DISCUSS STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC TIES**

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Li Qiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, yesterday discussed various aspects of cooperation and joint efforts to enhance and expand the strategic partnership between the two countries. **SEE ALSO P6**



**MOHAMMAD RECEIVES CHINA'S PREMIER OF STATE COUNCIL**

His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, yesterday received Li Qiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, who is visiting the UAE as the head of a high-level delegation.

## New firm to handle advert sites in Dubai

**DUBAI**  
**BY JUSTIN VARGHESE**  
Your Money Editor

A new company will be set up to manage, develop, and operate advertising sites in Dubai, with the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) and Municipality delegating their advertising-related functions and issuances of permits to the firm.

In his capacity as the Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE, issued a new law to create Mada Media Company as a private joint-stock firm (PJSC).

The firm will also handle investing in advertising technologies, and conduct research, while also ensuring compliance, form partnerships, own assets, and sign contracts with third parties.

The firm's board will be chaired by Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, with Hussein Mohammed Al Banna serving as Vice Chairman, with Wissam Al Abbas Hussain Lootah, Mariam Obaid Al Muhairi, Mohammad Yousef Al Mudharreb, Ahmad Hassan Mahboub, Moaza Saeed Al Marri, Shehab Hamad Bu Shehab, and Saeed Mohammad Al Marri, as its members.

# Six UN staff killed in Israel Gaza strike

ATTACK ON SCHOOL, WHICH ALSO CLAIMED LIVES OF SEVERAL CIVILIANS, DRAWS GLOBAL CONDEMNATION

### GAZA STRIP

Israel faced international condemnation yesterday after a strike killed 18 people, including six staff members of the UN agency, at a school-turned-shelter for displaced Palestinians in Gaza, where the Israeli military said it targeted Hamas militants.

The attack flattened part of the UN-run Al Jawni school in Nuseirat on Wednesday, leaving only a charred heap of re-

bar and concrete. "For the fifth time, Israeli forces bombed the UNRWA-run Al Jawni School, killing 18 citizens," Gaza civil defence spokesperson Mahmud Bassal wrote on Telegram, referring to the UN agency for Palestinian refugees.

UNRWA said it was the highest death toll among its team in a single incident.

"Among those killed was the manager of the UNRWA shelter and other team members providing assistance to displaced

people," it said on X. "Schools and other civilian infrastructure must be protected at all times, they are not a target."

The Israeli military said it had conducted a "precise strike" on Hamas militants within the school grounds. It did not elaborate on the outcome, but said "numerous steps" were taken to reduce the risk to civilians.

UN chief Antonio Guterres branded the strike "totally unacceptable".

His condemnation was ech-

oed by Israeli ally Germany, which said "humanitarian aid workers must never be victims of rockets".

Jordan and the European Union also criticised the attack, while Israel's main backer the United States called on it to protect humanitarian sites.

**EU outrage**

EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said he was "outraged" by the deaths and that the strikes showed a "disregard





of the basic principles" of international humanitarian law.


US Secretary of State Blinken said: "We need to see humanitarian sites protected, and that's something that we continue to raise with Israel".





Israeli military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Nadav Shoshani said UNRWA had not provided the names of its killed workers, "despite repeated requests".

—AFP  
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