

6 28010 002330

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9, 2024  
RABI AL THANI 6, 1446

[gulfnews.com](http://gulfnews.com)

# GULF NEWS



Scan for  
our social  
media

NATION | P2

**Parents form  
group to battle  
screen scourge**



THE VIEWS | P8

**Future of  
Lebanon hangs  
in balance**



BUSINESS | P5

**New Expo City  
masterplan a boost  
for Dubai South**



TELL ME WHY

**SELF-DOUBT  
IS MAKING  
PEOPLE ILL**

Marissa Peer, award-winning therapist  
and a best-selling author, explains



Scan the QR code  
for Episode 48,  
part 1, of the  
podcast

800 916  
[www.abccargo.ae](http://www.abccargo.ae)

**WINTER  
WONDER  
OFFER**

**A B C**

**CARGO, COURIER,  
SHIPPING, LOGISTICS**

\*T&C Apply



AFP

Smoke billows from the site of an Israeli air strike on a southern Lebanese village, on Monday. The Israeli army said it had deployed another division to participate in operations in Lebanon.

## Hezbollah rains rockets on Haifa as Israel intensifies ground offensive

Over 1,100 Lebanese killed, more than a million displaced in less than two weeks

**DUBAI**

BY STEPHEN N. R.  
Senior Associate Editor

Hezbollah pounded Haifa with more than 100 rockets yesterday, marking the heaviest attack yet on the northern Israeli port city, as group's deputy chief Naim Qassem said the leadership was in order, despite heavy Israeli air strikes. "The party's leadership and the resistance (Hezbollah)

are meticulously organised... We have overcome painful blows," Qassem said in a televised speech.

His comments came as Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said Hashem Safieddine, who was in line to replace the group's assassinated leader Hassan Nasrallah, was likely killed in last week's strike in Beirut.

**More troops deployed**

Israel intensified its ground offensive against the militant group along Lebanon's southern coast, deploying more troops and urging civilians living near the Mediterranean to evacuate.

Israel's bombardment of

Lebanon has killed more than 1,100 people and displaced upwards of a million in less than two weeks.

US officials told Axios that the Biden administration is increasingly distrustful of what Israel is saying about its military and diplomatic plans.

"Our trust of the Israelis is very low right now and for a good reason," says one of the four US officials who spoke with the outlet.

Meanwhile, UN humanitarian officials called yesterday for urgent action to stop the escalating conflict in Lebanon from spiralling into a similar scene of devastation as seen in Gaza.

SEE ALSO P9

## Emirates will 'Be My Eyes' for blind travellers

Airline showcases its innovative services at AccessAbilities Expo in Dubai

**DUBAI**

BY ASHWANI KUMAR  
Chief Reporter

Emirates airline is further enhancing air travel accessibility for people of determination through a suite of new initiatives.

At the sixth AccessAbilities Expo in Dubai World Trade Centre, the national carrier showcased its latest products and innovative services including an app providing accessible video support to the visually impaired, a wheelchair-accessible chauffeur-driven vehicle, a sign language robot, a new protective transportation device for wheelchairs, among others.

Emirates said it is set to be-



**How it works**

Once Emirates is integrated into the app, users with disabilities can select the airline from the company profile list. They can then call the Emirates call centre through a live video or audio call asking for help with ticket bookings, knowing flight schedules or directions to the check-in counter at the airport, etc. The user can take videos or photos and send them to the Emirates agent, who will guide them as required.

SEE ALSO P4

## UAE approves Dh71.5 billion budget for 2025

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PENSION SECTOR GETS LARGEST SHARE AT 39%

**DUBAI**

BY KHITAM AL AMIR  
Chief News Editor

The UAE Cabinet yesterday approved the federal budget for the fiscal year 2025, with total expenditures amounting to Dh71.5 billion. The meeting was chaired by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

The 2025 federal budget is the largest compared to the previous years, reflecting the strength and resilience of the national economy and the sustainability of its resources. This marks a significant step in supporting the UAE's continued growth and development across various sectors. The approval of the 2025 budget is part of the multi-year financial plan (2022-2026).

The budget is allocated across key sectors, including social development and pensions, government affairs, infrastructure and economic affairs, and financial investments, alongside other federal expenses.

A total of Dh27.859 billion has been allocated to the social

development and pension sector, representing 39 per cent of the total budget. Meanwhile, Dh25.570 billion has been designated for the government affairs sector, accounting for 35.7 per cent of the budget.

**Government's commitment**

The infrastructure and economic sector will receive Dh2.581 billion, making up 3.6 per cent of the budget, while the financial investment sector has been allocated Dh2.864 billion, representing 4 per cent of the total budget.

Other federal expenses have been allocated Dh12.624 billion, accounting for 17.7 per cent of the total budget. This allocation reflects the government's commitment to addressing various needs across sectors while maintaining a balanced and comprehensive approach to public spending.

**The 2025 federal budget is the largest compared to the previous years, reflecting the strength and resilience of the national economy.**

**WORLD**

**Jammu & Kashmir gets first regional government in a decade | P10**

**NATION**

**How Dubai teachers, educators can apply for a Golden Visa | P3**

**SPORT**

**Women's T20 World Cup: Australia outclass New Zealand | P11**



**BUSINESS**

**New chapter of growth: Will Tesla's robotaxi live up to the hype | P7**



**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Bollywood star Sharvari on her slow and steady climb | P14**

Subscribe in print and online  
[www.store.gulfnews.com](http://www.store.gulfnews.com)  
[www.gulfnews.com/subscriptions](http://www.gulfnews.com/subscriptions)  
Tel: 600 587 234  
E-mail: [circ@gulfnews.com](mailto:circ@gulfnews.com)

PRICE UAE: Dh 5.00  
Bahrain: BD 0.500  
Oman: RO 0.500  
India: Rs 40.00  
S Arabia: SR 5.00  
Pakistan: Rs 100.00

**THE BIG CASH TICKET**

**\$100,000!**

**\$15,000!**

**\$10,000!**

**MUSCAT DUTY FREE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE WINNERS OF OUR CASH RAFFLE DRAW NUMBER 72**

GRAND PRIZE WINNER \$100,000  
**CHALLAPPRAYAM NASAR**  
TICKET NUMBER 1891

2nd PRIZE WINNER \$15,000  
**SHABAB PUTHIYA PURAYIL**  
TICKET NUMBER 1432

3rd PRIZE WINNER \$10,000  
**SUBASH KARUVAN VASO**  
TICKET NUMBER 2870

**السوق الحرة  
MUSCAT  
مسقط  
DUTY FREE**