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UAE public holidays announced for 2024

ABU DHABI

Gulf News Report

■he UAE Cabinet, chaired by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has approved the year 2024 official holidays calendar for both public and private sec-

As part of the Cabinet's ongoing efforts to enhance the organisation of work in government and private sectors, the resolution aims to enable all community members working in various sectors in the UAE, as well as families, to plan ahead for holidays, travel and personal activities. It also supports the national economy on all levels.

The calendar includes January 1, as an official holiday on the occasion of the New Year; Ramadan 29 to Shawwal 3, 1445 AH the Eid Al Fitr holiday; Dhu Al Hijjah 9, 1445 AH for the Arafat Day; Dhu Al Hijjah 10 to 12, 1445 AH to mark Eid Al Adha; Muharram 1, 1446 AH for the Islamic New Year.

The public holidays calendar includes 12 Rabi Al Awwal 1446 AH which marks the Prophet Mohammad's (PBUH) birthday, and December 2 and 3 as the National Day holidays.



UAE calls for Gaza truce at **BRICS summit**

SAUDI ARABIA URGES ALL COUNTRIES TO STOP EXPORTING WEAPONS TO ISRAEL

ABU DHABI

BY STEPHEN N.R.

Senior Associate Editor

resident His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan reiterated the UAE's call for the protection of civilian lives, unrestricted humanitarian access, and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

"The international community has a great responsibility to pursue all efforts aimed at ending the conflict and achieving a fair and lasting peace," Shaikh Mohammad told a virtual summit of the BRICS group yesterday.

Pretoria hosted a virtual meeting of BRICS - a group of major emerging economies that includes Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – aimed at drawing up a common response to the Israel-Hamas conflict.

The group agreed in August to expand by adding the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt and Argentina as members.

Saudi demand

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad Bin Salman demanded a serious start of comprehensive peace process to establish a Pal-

estinian state along the borders of 1967.

"The Kingdom's position is constant and firm; there is no way to achieve security and stability in Palestine except through the implementation of international decisions related to the two-state solution," Prince Mohammad said. He also called on all countries to stop exporting weapons to Israel.

At the summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping urged all parties in the Gaza conflict to immediately cease fire, end all attacks against civilians and release civilian detainees to avoid more loss of lives and suffering, according to Chinese state media.

It is also important to ensure the safe and smooth passage of humanitarian relief, expand humanitarian aid to people in Gaza, and stop the forced relocation and the cut-off of water, electricity and oil that targets people in Gaza, Xi said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin called for a political solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and said regional states and members of the BRICS group of countries could be involved in efforts to reach such a settlement.

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BUSINESS

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Dubai Taxi Company IPO sells out within one hour

Price range set between Dh1.80 and Dh1.85 per share

DUBAI

BY MANOJ NAIR

Business Editor

ubai Taxi Company (DTC) got tremendous support from its to-be investors when it kicked off the subscription period for its upcoming initial public offering (IPO) yesterday, raising the chances for the taxi operator to raise the stake it currently plans to offer.

Aiming to raise as much Dh1.16 billion (\$315 million) from the IPO, with a Dubai Financial Market (DFM) listing expected on December 7, the taxi operator set an ini-

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tial share price range for its shares, after which it received enough orders within just an hour of opening.

Investor appetite

Dubai-based market analysts attribute this heavy investor rush to a visible spike observed in investor appetite for Dubai and regional IPOs. This, combined with a strong dividend policy and Dubai's growth story, makes for a

the amount Dubai Taxi

Company aims to raise

through the IPO

highly stable investment in any portfolio.

Government-owned DTC which plans to offer a 25 per cent stake through the IPO set a price range of between Dh1.80 and Dh1.85 per share, implying a total market valuation for the company at listing of Dh4.5 billion to Dh4.6 billion (\$1.25 billion).

DTC's final offer price is expected to be announced on November 30. Four of the announced 10 governmentowned enterprises listed on the DFM last year. The listing of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (Dewa) was the largest GCC IPO last year, raising \$6.1 billion. Dewa's offering size more than doubled to 8.5 billion shares amid strong investor demand.

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