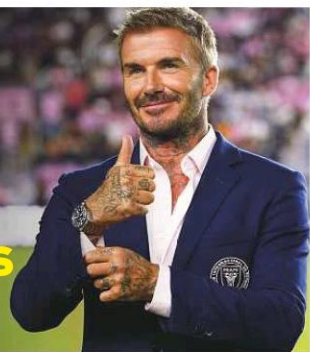




DAVID BECKHAM REFLECTS ON HIGHS, LOWS IN NEW SERIES



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Hiker sets her sights higher following a fall



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Why Arabs must pay attention to Africa



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Abu Dhabi's non-oil economy grows 12.3% in Q2



■ Shaikh Hamdan chairs the MBRSC board meeting in Dubai, yesterday

2 UAE astronauts to go to space next year

HAMDAN REVEALS PLANS FOR AL MULLA, AL MATROUSHI

DUBAI
BY FAISAL MASUDI
Assistant Editor

By 2024, two new UAE astronauts will begin their space missions, it was announced yesterday.

The announcement came from Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Dubai's Crown Prince and Chairman of the Executive Council, as well as the Chairman of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC).

His remarks were made during a MBRSC board meeting, which he chaired on yesterday.

"By 2024, Mohammad Al Mulla and Nora Al Matroushi will embark on trailblazing space missions," Shaikh Hamdan posted on his account on X (formerly Twitter).

Satellite launch, lunar probe

He also shared updates on the launch of a satellite and a moon exploration project.

"The next phase of our journey will see groundbreaking Emirati space ventures... Next year, we will launch MBZ-Sat, the Arab world's most ad-

Next year, we will launch MBZ-Sat, the Arab world's most advanced satellite to date. The Rashid Rover 2 project will continue on..."
Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

vanced satellite to date. The Rashid Rover 2 project will continue on, as our determination to explore the moon remains."

Shaikh Hamdan said the Centre is committed to realising the UAE's vision to raise the Arab region's profile as a prominent player in the global space industry by undertaking ambitious projects that will bring enduring benefits to humanity.

Future projects

During the meeting, he was briefed about the Centre's ambitious missions and

future programmes. "In the next phase of our journey, we are set to implement exceptional projects that will open new horizons for space exploration."

"The UAE's rapidly advancing space sector is poised to evolve into a significant global contributor in the field, drawing from the rich expertise, knowledge and strategic partnerships we have acquired through unique initiatives and missions," Shaikh Hamdan said.

Feats discussed

During the meeting, Shaikh Hamdan was briefed on MBRSC's latest accomplishments, including the success of the longest Arab space mission, led by UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi and the UAE's collaboration with international space agencies and leading local and international universities.

The board meeting highlighted initiatives, including the satellite Payload Hosting Initiative in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, aimed at promoting space science and technology in developing countries.