



6 085010 120010

MAWALEH CENTRAL  
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES  
MARKET TO REOPEN  
TOMORROW **>A2**



Founded 1975 · Volume 45 No. 211 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group



ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY  
BASED ON HIGHER NON-OIL  
REVENUES AND OPTIMAL  
PUBLIC SPENDING.



TO ACHIEVE  
ECONOMIC  
GROWTH  
TARGETS



DIVERSIFICATION OF ECONOMY



INCREASING  
DOMESTIC  
AND FOREIGN  
INVESTMENTS



ENABLING THE PRIVATE SECTOR  
TO BOOST GROWTH AND  
CREATE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

# BUDGET 2021 – A ROADMAP FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS

The budget represents the first cycle of implementation of Oman Vision 2040

*Times News Service*

**MUSCAT:** Oman's budget for 2021 will act as a template for the next two decades of the country's economic development, the Undersecretary for Economy at the Ministry of Economy has said.

"This plan represents the first cycle of implementation of Oman Vision 2040, and is considered a roadmap for the next twenty years," said Dr Nasser bin Rashid Al Ma'awali, who said that the provisions of this budget were also designed with the 10th Five Year Plan in mind.

"This plan is important as it has been driven by the thoughts and vision of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik," he added. "This 10th Five Year Plan is a translation of the direction of progress His Majesty sees for this country."

The undersecretary was speaking in an interview with Shabiba FM, the radio arm of *Al Shabiba*, the sister Arabic publication of the *Times of Oman*, where he explained the importance of Oman basing its economy on renewable

## Budget assumes oil price at \$45

*Times News Service*

**MUSCAT:** Oman's budget is based on the assumption that oil will be at \$45 a barrel (OMR17.5) in 2021. This is a marginal rise of two per cent over last year's level. The price of Oman oil in 2021 is also a full \$20 lower (OMR8) as compared to 2019, when it cost \$65 (about OMR25) a barrel. However, assessments by a number of financial institutions show oil prices are

expected to climb slightly in 2021, compared to their decline in 2020, in large part due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Oil prices have experienced a decline in 2020 due to lower oil demand as a result of lockdowns and health measures being taken worldwide to control the spread of COVID-19 pandemic," said the 2021 budget report published by the Ministry of Finance. "The world's economic activity is anticipated to recover gradually in 2021, leading to improved global

oil demand and better oil prices." The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) October 2020 forecast expects oil prices to touch \$46.7 in 2021, compared to the average price of \$41.7 (OMR16) in 2020. Fitch (September 2020), however, expects oil prices to stay at \$45 (OMR17.5), an increase from \$4 (OMR1.5) since last year. The World Bank (October 2020) has forecast oil prices to hover around \$44 (OMR17), after dipping to \$41 (OMR15.7) in 2020.

Similarly, the Energy Information Administration, which conducted its forecast only in December 2020, expects oil prices to rise to \$48.53 (OMR19), as opposed to rates of \$41.43 (OMR15.9) this year. All three forecasts expect oil prices to rise significantly in 2021. The most optimistic of them is Energy Aspects (October 2020), which predicts the sale price per barrel to jump to \$58 (OMR22.5), compared to \$44 (OMR17) in 2020.

resources for it to be sustainable in the long-term. "This plan seeks to transform our country's economic structure," Al Ma'awali explained. "As the plan begins to be adopted, it is important our economy depends on multiple, sustainable resources, instead of ones that

can be depleted." Economic expansion and efficient spending are the objectives around which the five pillars that support Oman's State Budget for 2021 have been created. Higher non-oil revenues, economic growth and diversification, optimal public spending,

increasing domestic and foreign investment and enabling the private sector to help achieve economic growth and job creation were this year's main goals, Sultan bin Salem Al Habsi, the Minister of Finance, said. "In order to achieve fiscal balance, the government has

changed its strategies in dealing with the current situations," said the minister in this year's budget guide, released by the Ministry of Finance. "Therefore, the government has undertaken a set of measures, including issuing various financial circulars and instructions to

government units with the aim to reduce public spending and enhance its efficiency." This, Al Habsi added, was "in addition to enhancing non-oil revenues, implementation of governance, controlling employment processes, and strengthening internal controls." **>A3**

### TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

#### OMAN Shopping bags to be affordable for all

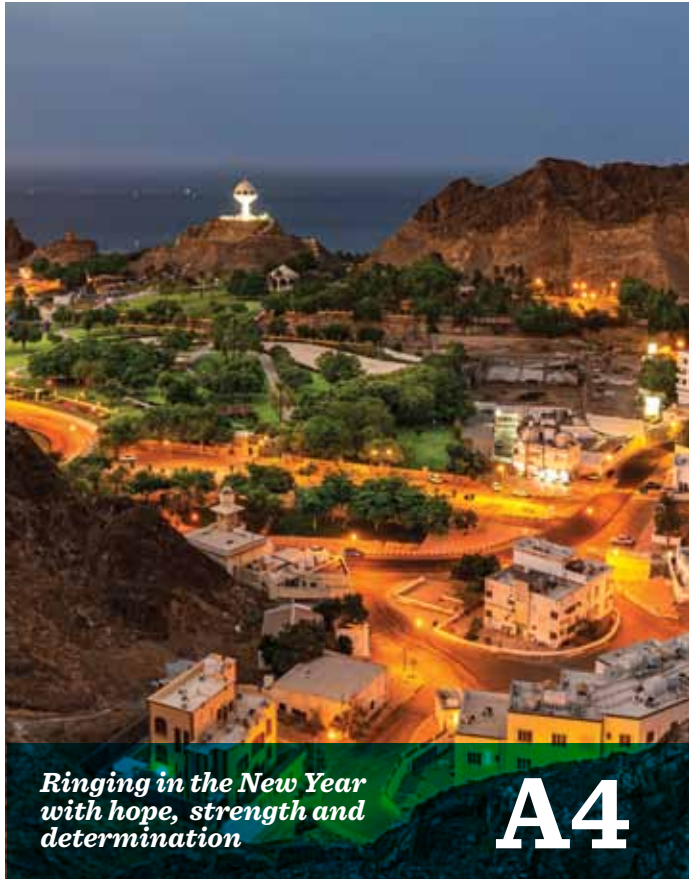
1 Reusable shopping bags have to be made affordable, Oman's CPA has said. **>A3**

#### WORLD India okays vaccines for emergency use

2 COVID-19 vaccines of SII, and Bharat Biotech have received nod in India. **>A6**

#### MARKET Over 47,000 SMEs registered in Oman

3 The total number of SMEs registered at November end stood at 47,802. **>B1**



*Ring in the New Year with hope, strength and determination*

**A4**

### IN ALL GOVERNORATES

## Over 7,000 vaccinated, no side-effects reported, says Minister of Health

**MUSCAT:** No unknown side-effects have been reported so far among the 7,600 people who have been vaccinated against coronavirus (COVID-19), Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Health, has said. He added that the vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech) has been distributed in all governorates of the Sultanate and that it is safe and secure. The minister, who went on tour of Bausher Polyclinic, said that there was a large turnout of citizens and residents wishing to get the vaccine yesterday, the 8th day of the immunisation campaign that kicked off last Sunday. Dr Ahmed reaffirmed that Oman has an established immunisation record and that the Sultanate topped a total of 127 countries in the management of immunisations. No vaccine was introduced in



the Sultanate before consulting specialised studies and clinical experiences. Vaccines given in Oman are registered in their countries of origin, he added. As many as four million people around the world took the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and, so far, no

serious side-effects have been reported, said Dr Ahmed, who urged target segments of society to take the vaccine, in health centres, and to ignore rumours. He reminded all to keep wearing face masks, wash hands with soap or detergents and to maintain physical distance. **>A3**



|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Dhuhr.....           | 12.17pm |
| Asr.....             | 3:18pm  |
| Maghrib.....         | 5:39pm  |
| Isha.....            | 6:54pm  |
| Fajr (Tomorrow)..... | 5:30am  |

# Mawaleh market to open from January 5

The market will be opened for customers from 1pm to 6pm and for wholesalers from 5am to 11am

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** With precautions put in place, Muscat Municipality has decided to reopen the Mawaleh Central Fruits and Vegetables Market from Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

A statement issued by the Muscat Municipality said, "According to the regulatory procedures and health that are decided by



**SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Customers have been advised to take all means of self-protection from coronavirus and maintain physical distance.

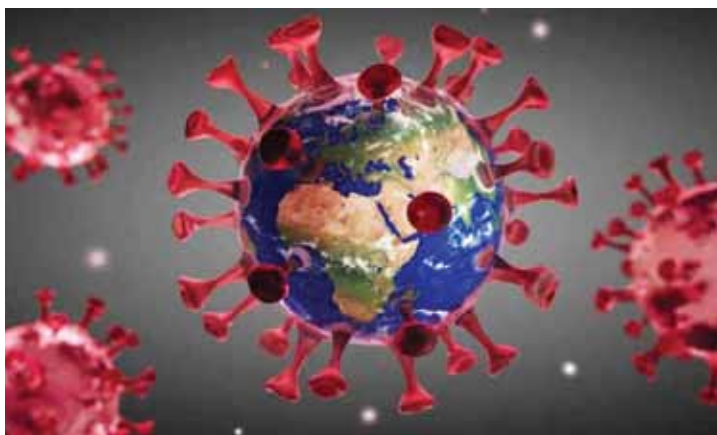
the Supreme Committee tasked with controlling coronavirus (COVID-19), it has been decided to reopen the Mawaleh Central Fruits and Vegetables Market for consumers starting on Tuesday, 5th January 2021."

The fruits and vegetables market will be opened for customers from 1pm to 6pm and for wholesalers from 5am to 11am.

"With the importance of alerting the market-goers to take all means of self-protection from

coronavirus and the necessity of physical distance, wearing masks, using sterilizers and commitment of health conditions are applicable to them while visiting the market," the statement added.

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH



**CASUALTY:** The total number of COVID-19 related death cases stood at 1,501, the Ministry of Health said.

## COVID-19 recovery reaches 94.5%

**MUSCAT:** The total number of positive COVID-19 cases in the Sultanate reached 129,404, while the number of recoveries stood at 122,266, comprising 94.5 percent.

Meanwhile, the total number of COVID-19 related death cases stood at 1,501, the Ministry of

Health said. The Ministry also pointed out that 13 cases were hospitalised over the past 24 hours, adding that the total number of current hospitalised COVID-19-infected patients stands at 77, of them 32 are in intensive care units (ICU). -**ONA**

## TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

# Oman Air to welcome guests from 103 countries

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, will welcome guests from 103 countries who can travel to the country without a visa.

The Royal Oman Police recently announced the plan, which eases travel requirements for guests who spend up to 10 days in the Sultanate. Guests are required to have a confirmed hotel reservation, health insurance, and a return ticket.

The new programme applies to citizens of countries throughout the world, including European nations such as Germany, France,

United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and many more.

Citizens of Turkey, Japan, Brazil, Russia, China, Egypt, Jordan and a number of other countries around the world are also eligible.

Visitors to the Sultanate can avail themselves of a number of options to experience Oman Air's award-winning service.

The national carrier recently earned two 2020 World Travel Awards, for providing the world's best service to the Middle East and the world's best First Class experience.

Oman Air also recently achieved the top tier 5-star status from APEX, an internationally recog-

nised organisation which rates airlines based on travellers' feedback.

Oman Air continues to maintain its comprehensive safety programme throughout all elements of the travel journey to ensure that guests fly confidently.

Masks are required when guests are on board the aircraft and in Oman's airports.

Distancing is maintained while guests board and exit the aircraft, which are carefully cleaned after each flight and at the end of every day.

Cabin crew all wear a full set of personal protective equipment, meal service has been modified to further ensure safety and a num-

ber of other steps have been taken to ensure that the airline's guests and crew are safe at all times.

Guests who are planning to travel to Muscat should visit the Civil Aviation Authority website, caa.gov.om, to ensure they are prepared to comply with requirements to enter the Sultanate.

Guests departing from Oman should also ensure that they are aware of all pre-departure requirements and requirements during their flights, which are provided at omanair.com.

Guests travelling outside Oman should ensure that they are aware of official requirements to enter their destination country.



**SAFETY:** Oman Air continues to maintain its comprehensive safety programme throughout all elements of the travel journey to ensure that guests fly confidently.

**شركة أمواج الخير**  
**AMWAJ ALKHAIR**

**Offers**

- Cleaning & Polishing for all buildings
- Marble grinding
- Pest Control
- Termite control [ Ramah ]
- Sterilization
- Cleaning the exterior Glass of buildings
- cleaning Billboards for stores and companies

**تقدم**

- التنظيف والتلميع لكافة أنواع المباني
- صقل الرخام
- مكافحة الحشرات
- مكافحة النمل الأبيض [ الرمه ]
- التعقيم
- تنظيف الزجاج الخارجي للمباني
- تنظيف لوحات المحلات والشركات

amwajalkhair1

96956577

96660721

تحت إدارة وإشراف عماني مباشر على الأعمال

## LEARN GERMAN IN 2021!

German language courses for adults, teenagers and children at the Goethe-Institut Muscat

**Register now!**

Tel.: 2460 3841 E-mail: info-muscat@goethe.de

[www.goethe.de/muscat](http://www.goethe.de/muscat)

@gi\_muscat

**GOETHE INSTITUT**

Sprache Kultur Deutschland

**100% Pure Cow's Milk**  
**100% Omani Products**

Follow us on  
**TFMOman**

OMAN



#WinningIsEasier With Maisarah Grand Prizes

**Grand Prizes**

Monthly Grand Prizes

**2,000**  
OMR

For 1 winner per month

Yearly Grand Prizes

**25,000**  
OMR

For 1 winner

**50,000**  
OMR

For 1 winner

**100,000**  
OMR

For 1 winner

Open Maisarah Prize Account today!

For more information visit: [www.maisarah-oman.com/Default/MaisarahPrizeAccount.aspx](http://www.maisarah-oman.com/Default/MaisarahPrizeAccount.aspx)

making life easy

2477 3777

Follow us on

Facebook Instagram Twitter

# Reusable shopping bags have to be affordable for all: CPA

The CPA will conduct regular checks to make sure businesses don't profit off customers

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Reusable shopping bags that must now be used to carry groceries following the single-use plastic bag ban from 1 January onwards are available at affordable prices, Oman's Consumer Protection Authority (CPA) has said.

The CPA will be conducting regular checks over sales of reusable bags in shops, to make sure businesses don't profit off customers by increasing their prices. "Based on the decision banning the use of single-use plastic bags issued by the Environment Authority, which began this implementation from January 1, we want to inform the consumers that environment-friendly bags are available in the local markets at nominal prices," said a CPA statement. The CPA asked shopkeepers to ensure bags were sold at fair prices, in addition to requesting them to follow all of the rules regarding their use and sale.

## Available

The Environment Authority has also said that enough reusable bags will be made available to cus-

tomers who visit supermarkets, shopping centres and other businesses in the country.

"Alternatives of various types are available in the local market,"

said the government body. "These include cloth bags, paper and reusable plastic bags, and there is ongoing coordination with all partners to provide alternatives

to ensure these are inexpensive purchases for the consumer. The decision to ban plastic bags includes only single-use ones used for shopping."

## Rationale

The decision to ban single-use plastic bags to protect the country's environment was made under Royal Decree No. 23/2020.

Among the problems posed by these bags are animals dying after choking on them, preventing sunlight from reaching the roots of trees, thereby stunting their growth, and the leeching of their chemicals into the environment over the long-term.

Female workers who make plastic bags handle chemicals that increase their chances of miscarriage, while similarly lowering testosterone levels in males.

## ECONOMY

## <FROM A1 Oil prices decline

The Reuters Oil Poll (October 2020) is more conservative, estimating oil prices to reach nearly \$50 (OMR 20), when compared to its 2020 forecast price of \$42.45 (OMR 16.3).

Projections from Futures Markets, conducted in November 2020, are also in the same vein, with prices expected to rise to \$49.6 (OMR 19), in contrast to the estimated 2020 rate of \$40.1 (OMR 15.5) a barrel.

Reduced demand for oil and gas impacted Oman's economy.

According to the ministry's budget guide, oil revenues fell by OMR1.1 billion last year, compared to estimated earnings, because its price dropped \$10 (OMR 4) from assumed price.

"Gas revenue dropped by OMR500 million as a result of a decline in natural gas price as well as lower sales," added the guide. "Non-oil revenue declined by OMR600 million due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic."

## BUDGET 2021

## <FROM A1 Budget aims to cut deficit

The Minister of Finance, said, "The 2021 budget outlines a ceiling for all government units, where the budget of each unit should not exceed the revised budget of the financial year for 2020.

"The budget continues to rationalise public spending and enhance its efficiency. It also seeks to contain the deficit and maintain its downward trend."

Public spending under Oman's 2021 budget is OMR10.88 billion, while revenues are expected to reach OMR8.6 billion, leaving a deficit of OMR2.24 billion. Incoming revenues represent 33 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices.

## Oil and gas

Incoming funds from the oil and gas industry are likely to contribute OMR5.4 billion, accounting for 63 per cent of total revenue. Among the oil and gas sector, oil is expected to contribute OMR3.6 billion (41 per cent) of the total revenue for the budget, while gas-based income will make up for another 1.8 billion (22 per cent).

Non-oil sources of income are expected to earn the country an-

other OMR3.2 billion, i.e. the remaining 37 per cent of revenue. Taxes will make up 51 per cent of earnings from non-oil revenues. An estimated OMR3 billion is expected to be recouped through taxation and fees, and the budget has made provisions for an additional OMR220 million to come from capital revenues and repayments.

## Lion's share

In this budget, current expenditures make up the lion's share of costs (OMR9.02 billion, representing 83 per cent of the funds for this year's budget).

OMR900 million (eight per cent) has been earmarked for investment-related expenditure, while subsidies and other concessions amount to a further OMR960 million (nine per cent).

Current expenditures occupy OMR4.1 billion of the allocated OMR10.88 billion (37.6 per cent).

80 per cent of this money will go towards salaries and other entitlements of ministries and government bodies (OMR3.3 billion), with the rest of the money being spent on subsidies and related financial aid, service costs, com-

modities, and capital costs.

"The budget has been prepared in consistency with the fiscal framework of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, and in a way that leads to achieving national priorities and fiscal sustainability," explained Al Habsi, the Minister of Finance. "A sustainability that is based on higher non-oil revenues and an optimal level of public spending."

"The 2021 budget outlines a ceiling for all government units, where the budget of each unit should not exceed the revised budget for the financial year of 2020," he added.

## Rationalisation

"The budget continues to rationalise public spending and enhance its efficiency. It also seeks to contain the deficit and maintain its downward trend. We truly value the efforts exerted towards the State's General Budget," he said.

"We also affirm the significance of the combined efforts of all concerned entities, along with the participation of our society and private sector, to uplift our national economy towards achieving Oman Vision 2040."

Inviting all Omani Companies  
(MSME & Large) across all sectors

CONSTRUCTION, AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION, HEALTH,  
HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL, IT, MANUFACTURING, OIL & GAS,  
TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS

to join

**JSRS**  
joint supplier  
registration system

The JSRS Certified Suppliers Network

Be JSRS Certified  
and access procurement opportunities  
from all 22 O&G Operators of Oman, including  
PDO, BP, Oxy Oman, Shell Oman & Others.

To know more, visit:  
[www.businessgateways.com](http://www.businessgateways.com)  
Avail B2B Networking with Reputed Global Companies

## VACCINATION

## <FROM A1 Good response to drive

During the tour, which included a visit to the Al Seeb Polyclinic, the Minister viewed the smooth process of vaccination for the target groups, the daily statistics of vaccinations, as well as the mechanisms of receiving the target groups.

Meanwhile, Dr. Hanan Al Mahrooqi, Head of Bausher Polyclinic, said that many citizens and residents have responded to the immunisation campaign, which is progressing at a rapid pace. In a statement, Dr. Hanan said that COVID-19 immunisation is still in its first phase and that the Ministry of Health, represented by the Directorate General of Health in Muscat Governorate, dedicated certain areas for the reception of segments of entitled COVID-19 recipients.

Dr. Hanan pointed out that certain criteria govern the acceptance of people in immunisation centres, which operate in all days of the week, except Friday and Saturday, from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm. -With

ONA inputs

**Own your tomorrow.**

With Audi Oman

#FutureIsAnAttitude

**5** | year road side assistance

**5** | year or 75,000 kms service package\* which ever comes first

**5** | year or 150,000 Kms manufacturer warranty which ever comes first

**1** | year insurance

**1** | year registration

**Terms & Conditions apply**

Offer valid from 15th Dec 2020 to 14th Jan 2021 | Offer not valid on MY 2021

Offer not valid in conjunction with other special deals | Images are for illustrative purposes only

\*5 Years or 75,000 KMs Service Package A4, A6, A8, Q3, Q5, Q7, Q8 and 3 Years Service Package on A3 & S3 models

**Premium Motors LLC** Alfardan Heights Building, Almaardh Street, Way Number 61, Building # 376/1

Tel. +968 22845111 [www.audi-oman.com](http://www.audi-oman.com)

التميز للسيارات  
**Premium Motors**

# RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH HOPE, STRENGTH AND DETERMINATION

People in Oman welcome the new year with good wishes and hope to overcome the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021.

## Dr Fatima Al Yaqubi

Head of the Tuberculosis and Acute Respiratory Diseases Department at the Infectious Diseases Department



In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the world witnessed health, social and economic repercussions that affected all the sectors of the world. We hope peace will prevail and the earth will regain its vitality and the countries of the world will begin to restore diligent work in their activities while adhering to the precautionary measures.

I also hope that the international community will work together to reach an end to this situation through universal coverage of the COVID-19 vaccine. On local level, my aspirations are for the people to join hands in overcoming this crisis and for the different sectors and individuals to study what happened in 2020, and learn from the lessons in order to develop plans that help us overcome obstacles and achieve goals. On personal level, I intend to benefit from the lessons that the pandemic taught me to reach my life and work goals.

**Mohammed Al Mamari**  
Director of Social Development in Muscat



At the global level, we are looking forward to the end of the Corona

epidemic and the end of the conflict in the Middle East region.

At the national level, we are looking forward to the completion of the digital transformation system and the development of dialogue methods in the work environment and in parliamentary councils, and for the government to end the file of job seekers, get out of the tax crisis, improve the level of income and livelihood of citizens, diversify sources of income and the national economy. We look forward to issuing a new labour law to replace the current civil service law and open the door for promotions.

On personal level, I will focus on studies such as learning a new language, increasing the rate of reading, obtaining a doctorate and following a healthy lifestyle through exercise and healthy nutrition and creating a local tourist schedule for the most important tourist attractions in the Sultanate and participate in volunteer work to promote social solidarity and charitable work.

**Hafiz M. Shoaib Nawaz**  
Lecturer, Media Studies Department in Al Bayyan College



I always believe in planning for the future because this is one of the amazing abilities gifted by the Almighty Allah to humans. But 2020 has taught me something so powerful that I had to skip this fundamental aspect of life. Rather than just planning, I have decided to enjoy the present moment and to be more kind. I want to be thankful for all the blessings. I wish and pray for all, especially the Omani people. May more prosperity, happiness and blessings be your way in this new year. Love you Oman!

**Ali Hassan Suleiman**  
CEO of Sandan Development Company

The aspirations of the year 2021 may be different from the aspira-



tions of the previous years after what the world went through in the past year in terms of global, regional and local events that changed many convictions, ideas and attitudes and also had a great role in looking and focusing on many details in aspects of public life and working life.

On a personal level, I see that there are many opportunities and challenges that may exist in the new year, and we must be very keen to work calmly and intelligently in dealing with them. We must also be flexible enough to deal with all the data and variables, and it will be the skill of flexibility and problem-solving and challenges will be one of the most important skills that must accompany us in the new year. The ability to create solutions continuously, high concentration and not being distracted in many things will make us stronger and more focused in the current year's journey with clarity of goals and how to achieve them with all success.

On a practical level, we are very encouraged by the current year under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, and the clarity of the features of Oman 2040 vision which focus on the economic sector and diversifying its sources.

In the new year we will work with dedication and sincerity and multiply the efforts and will continue the march and the hard work that we have done in the past years. In many of the projects that we are working on, such as the Sandan Industrial City Project, the Myriad Muscat Project and Al Seef Residential Complex Project, we will focus heavily on Sandan Industrial City as it is the first integrated industrial city in the Sultanate of Oman that is run by the private sector. We will focus our efforts in attracting more businesses and diversified commercial activities of the city and attracting investors from outside the Sultanate to the city of Sandan

in order to diversify industries and products and bring them to be manufactured in the Sultanate. And we will also work on the many new projects that will soon see the light and will complement the activities of the company "Sandan Development" through which we always strive to support the economic development wheel in the country and create business opportunities.

I would like to thank my team at the company and wish them more effort, giving and doubling the work, and we will all work to achieve all the goals and visions that we are working on.

**Mohammed Al Shariqi**  
Tour guide, Jabal Akhdar



We are looking forward to the government to support the citizens to invest in the country, as well as to facilitate the necessary procedures to obtain the necessary permits. We also hope to develop the tourism sector, increase interest in this area, support tourist guides and facilitate procedures for them.

**Haitham Ba Omar**  
Omani photographer



In the new year, I expect, God willing, that good will prevail over the Sultanate under the leadership

of His Majesty the Sultan, especially after the decisions recently taken by the government for the sake of financial balance. Globally, I do not expect that the world will return to what it was before, but rather that it will be better and faster, especially since Corona taught us a lot during in 2020.

**Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Maamari**  
Winner of the Youth Excellence Award in media



In 2021, we seek many hopes and ambitions that we are working to achieve. We are starting this year with determination and strength in order to work to provide added value in the youth sector that has a prominent role in building societies and nations. We have to work to develop ourselves, refine our skills and develop our sense of initiative to create solutions and alternatives for all the challenges that we will face in the current year and the coming years. This is in addition to our tireless work and spreading the spirit of teamwork and discipline to increase the productive capacities of the team.

On the general level, there are many opportunities and challenges that we will face in the coming period, but we will be able to overcome them with the arms of our ambitious youth, as well as work to build the capacities of the youth and empower them with knowledge and skill to be leaders capable of creating the future. The work will be collective and complementary between individuals, institutions and bodies with competence to focus. All efforts are to empower the Omani people with knowledge, skill, culture and capability to lead Oman's future.

Our aspirations are great and our ambitions are high under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, as well

as the beginning of Oman 2040 Vision, which focuses heavily on building and empowering the capabilities of Omani people.

On a personal level, I will work on designing and implementing three programmes in the field of social innovation targeting the youth, and they will have a great role in empowering and building the capabilities and skills of the youth. I will also have a lot of participation at the local and external level to work on refining and developing the personal experience and then sharing the experience as much as possible with young people in the Sultanate.

I look forward to the new year to be a year of recovery for what we have gone through in the past year. It will also be a year of recovery in many sectors for the youth to create opportunities and work on them. It will help the youth to gain skills with continuous learning and going through the experiences will teach them a lot, and be a role model.

**Usha Santhosh**  
Indian expatriate living in Oman since 1987



The year 2021, must celebrate the indomitable human spirit and give solace to all. The roller-coaster 2020 ended with the arrival of the much-awaited 2021 and was welcomed with hope and positivity. The transition needs immense commitment to ensure that during 2021 we shall put the once-in-a-lifetime lessons to proper use and claim 2021 as our year. The shift has to start with oneself and involve the whole world. This needs immense consciousness, faith, patience, cooperation, acceptance and tolerance. I hope the year 2021 will cut the travel barriers, become more senior citizen friendly, create new employment opportunities.



Follow us on  
**TFMOman**



OMAN



ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION



**CEMENTING BONDS:** The summit coincides with the 40th anniversary of foundation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), established on May 25, 1981. — **ONA**

## GCC Summit to begin on Tuesday

**L-ULA (SAUDI ARABIA):** The 41st GCC Summit will begin on Tuesday at Al Ula city of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Realising integration**

The summit coincides with the 40th anniversary of foundation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), established on May 25, 1981 with a view to realising in-

tegration among member states in all fields and cementing bonds among its peoples.

The Council also aims to establish identical systems for economic, financial, commercial and customs sectors, promoting scientific and technological progress by setting up research centres, implementing joint projects and encouraging the private sector. — **ONA**

UNIVERSITY OF NIZWA

## Licencing of first programme at PhD level for private college approved

**MUSCAT:** The Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, represented by the Institutions and Programmes Licencing Committee, has approved licencing of the first programme at the PhD level for a private college which is the University of Nizwa, under the name Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Chemistry.

Fadia bint Saif Al Ma'ani, director of the programmes supervision department at the Directorate General of Private Universities and Colleges said that the Ministry has agreed for

the private universities, as a first step, to apply for licencing programmes at the PhD level as part of the Ministry's belief on the significance of PhD programmes for achievement of comprehensive development and for creation of scientific and research environment that contribute to the country's development.

She said that the PhD programme in Chemistry, designed by the University of Nizwa is aimed to provide quality educational services to PhD students in the main fields of chemistry and



to develop the skills of students in the field of research.

The programme also aimed to prepare the graduates for positions at the reputed industrial, academic and research institutions.

The Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation has received an application from the University of Sohar for licencing a PhD programme in Engineering, which is expected to be submitted to the Institutions and Programmes Licencing Committee to consider in its next meeting. — **ONA**

## NAILA AL MA'AMARI'S ART EXHIBITION TO OPEN TODAY

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, represented by the Omani Society for Fine Arts, will open an art exhibition for artist Naila Al Ma'amari on Monday. It will be inaugurated under the auspices of Sayyid Said bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary for Culture at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth. The function will be held at 4pm on the premises of the Society. — **ONA**



## Trending ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**MOST READ ON FACEBOOK**

44,720 REACH of Oman

The measure is one of many made available by the Ministry of Labour.

**Expired ID cards of expat workers stuck outside Oman can now be renewed**

TMESOFOMAN.COM

**Expired ID cards of expat workers stuck outside Oman can now be renewed**

A story on expired ID cards of expat workers got 7,799 engagements and reached 44,720 people on Facebook.

**MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK**

1,700 VIEWS

**The 9am Morning Minute video**

The Morning Minute video got 1,700 views and reached 6,000 people on Facebook.

**MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM**

1,628 VIEWS

**Oman may record marked decrease in temperatures: CAA**

The Morning Minute video got 1,628 views and 95 likes on Instagram

### DYNAMIC LIKE A PRO

### R.O. 11,895/-\* Only

## ACADIA SLT AWD

- 3.6L / 310 HP
- 8" Touch Screen Infotainment System
- Leather Seats
- 18" Alloy Wheels
- Tri-Zone Automatic A/C

\*The above price is for 2019 Model Year / 2019 Year of manufacture. Vehicle shown is for illustrative purpose only.

/GMC.OMAN /GMC.OMAN GMC Oman gmc.moosagroup.com

**MOOSA ABDUL RAHMAN HASSAN & Co. LLC**  
CR NO. 1002104

Ghubra: 9450 0004 Salalah / Sohar / Nizwa / Sur / Ibri: 94106970

**800 76 200**

## A TASTY SNACK FOR ANYTIME OF THE DAY!

**A name you can trust!**

**الصفا A'SAFFA**

Omni

asaffa.com

## Kid's Dental Checkup

**Free check up and Fluoride varnish for first visit**

**Free Dental goodies for every child**

T&C apply. Limited time offer

For bookings, please call or whatsapp **98525020**

AL ESSA DENTAL CENTER  
RUWI | AL KHUWAIR  
www.alessadental.com



## Abduction bid foiled

**KABUL:** At least 20 passengers were kidnapped by anti-government armed terrorists in the highway in Afghanistan's Baghlan province. However, the police later have said that the "attempt to abduct the passengers" was foiled by security forces. **-ANI**

APPROVED

## COVID-19 vaccines approved for emergency use in India

**NEW DELHI:** COVID-19 vaccines of Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech have been granted permission for restricted use in emergency situation, said Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) on Sunday.

"After adequate examination, CDSCO has decided to accept the recommendations of the Expert Committee and accordingly, vaccines of M/s Serum and M/s Bharat Biotech are being approved for restricted use in emergency situation and permission is being granted to M/s Cadila Healthcare for conduct of the Phase III clinical trial," said VG Somani, DCGI, during a media briefing today.

"We'll never approve anything if there is slightest of safety concern. The vaccines are 100 per cent safe. Some side effects like mild fever, pain and allergy are common for every vaccine. It (people may get impotent) is absolute rubbish," he added.

The SEC of Standard Drug Organisation met on 1st and 2nd Jan and made recommendations in respect of proposal of restricted emergency approval of COVID-19 vaccine of SII, according to DCGI.

SII Pune has submitted safety immunogenicity and efficacy data generated on 23,745 participants aged more than or equal to 18 years or older from overseas clinical studies, he added.



Printed and published by:  
**Muscat Media Group**  
Post Box: 770,  
Postal Code: 112

Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali  
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zedjali  
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali  
Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

**EDITORIAL:** Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com  
**ADVERTISING:** Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com  
**CIRCULATION:** Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com



**COVID-19 VACCINE:** This vaccine is developed on Vero cell platform, which has well-established track record of safety and efficacy in the country and globally.

cal studies, he added.

The overall vaccine efficacy was found to be 70.42 per cent. Further SII was granted permission to conduct phase 2/phase 3 clinical trial on 1,600 participants within the country.

"The firm also submitted the interim safety and immunogenicity data generated from this trial and the data was found comparable from the data from overseas clinical studies," said Somani.

"After detailed deliberations SEC has recommended for grant of permission for restricted use in emergency situation subject to certain regulatory conditions. The clinical trial ongoing the country by the firm will continue," he added.

Bharat Biotech has developed a vaccine named covaxin in collaboration with ICMR and National Institute of Virology, from where they received the virus seed strains. This vaccine is developed on Vero cell platform, which has well-established track record of safety and efficacy in the country and globally.

The firm has generated safety and immunogenicity data in various animal species such as mice, rats, rabbits, Syrian hamster, and also conducted challenge studies on non-human primates (Rhesus macaques) and hamsters. All these data has been shared by the firm with CDSCO. Phase I and Phase II clinical trial results have demonstrated that the vaccine is safe. **-ANI**

MAJOR LANDSLIDE

## Fifth body found among collapsed houses in Norway landslide



**OSLO:** Norwegian rescue teams discovered a fifth body on Sunday, four days after a landslide buried several homes in a small village.

A police statement announced that "just before 6 a.m. a deceased person was found."

Rescue teams again worked through the night in the vicinity of the landslide, where five people, including two children, are still thought to be missing.

A fourth body was uncovered on Saturday. Police also confirmed that the first body they had found on Friday was of a 31-year-old man.

Search teams have been hindered by unstable ground, poor weather conditions and a limited number of daylight hours.

As such, they have resorted to the use of heat-sensitive drones, helicopters and rescue dogs. Authorities say the chances of a second landslide are relatively low.

### Norway's second-biggest earthfall

On Wednesday morning, a torrent of mud buried parts of the Ask village, 25 kilometers (15 miles) northeast of the capital Oslo.

At least 10 people were injured, one of which had to be transported to Oslo for treatment.

Experts explained that the disaster was caused by a "quick clay slide" measuring around 800 by 300 meters (2624 by 984 feet).

There had been warnings of potential accidents due to the clay since 2005. Prime Minister Erna Solberg called it one of the biggest landslides in the country's history. Norway's King Harald V and his family were planning to visit the village on Sunday to pay their respects.

More than 1,000 people from the 5,000 living in the village were evacuated and authorities said that up to 1,500 may have to be relocated. **-AP**



## Sultanate of Oman Ministry of Health

### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Health invites specialized companies to participate in the following Tenders: -

| Tender Ref. | Description                                                                                                                                               | Last date for Collection of tender Document | Closing Time/ Day/ Date                    | Eligibility                                                               | Tender Fee (Non-Refundable) |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 292/2020    | Supply of Pharmaceuticals for the Royal Hospital                                                                                                          | 07/ January / 2021                          | Before 08 am on Wednesday 27/January/2021  | Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board                        | R.O 25.000 Per set          |
| 294/2020    | Supply of Surgical Items (Covid 19)                                                                                                                       | 06/ January / 2021                          | Before 08 am on Wednesday 13/January/2021  | Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board                        | R.O 25.000 Per set          |
| 295/2020    | Supply & Installation of Computers for the Renal Dialysis Unit at Wilayat Al-Amerat in Muscat Governorate                                                 | 07/ January / 2021                          | Before 08 am on Wednesday 27/January/2021  | Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board                        | R.O 25.000 Per set          |
| 296/2020    | Provision of Operation and Maintenance of Equipment Services at Various Health Facilities at Directorate General of Health Services in Muscat Governorate | 14/ January / 2021                          | Before 08 am on Wednesday 10/February/2021 | Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board in the Excellent Grade | R.O 274.500 Per set         |

- All Specialized and interested Companies registered with Tender Board on the above mentioned Grade may obtain Tender documents from the E. Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document.
- Tenders should be submitted on line on the given website signed and sealed. The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee or a certified Cheque issued by a Local bank for not less than One percent (1%) for the Tender value validity for (90) days from the Tender Submission date, addressed to The Chairman of the Tender Committee before one day of date submission.
- The Original Bank Guarantee should be submitted to the office of Director of Purchase and Tenders one day before the submission date for all Tenders.
- Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender.

(<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)  
Any Clarification, you may contact via  
Telephone: 24166670  
Email id [etenderhd@ita.gov.om](mailto:etenderhd@ita.gov.om)



Follow us on  
**TFMOman**

PROTEST



# Mitch McConnell, Nancy Pelosi’s homes vandalised with graffiti

**WASHINGTON:** The homes of US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi were vandalised over the New Year holidays in apparent acts of protest.

The troublemakers, angered by McConnell’s refusal to increase the US coronavirus stimulus relief checks, on Saturday scrawled on the Republican’s Kentucky home door: “Weres [sic] my money.”

The vandals also spray-painted his window with the words: “Mitch kills the poor.”

A day earlier, reports emerged that someone had spray-painted a similar message on the garage door of Pelosi’s San Francisco home.

A photo published by a tabloid on Twitter showed the words, accompanied by an anarchist symbol: “Cancel rent! We want everything!”

The vandals had also left a pig’s head and fake blood on the Democrat’s driveway.

**Republicans reject increased support for millions of Americans**

McConnell, who even defied Trump’s demand to increase pan-

dem relief checks for most US residents from \$600 (€494) to \$2,000, responded to the incident by calling it a “radical tantrum.”

“I’ve spent my career fighting for the First Amendment and defending peaceful protest,” the Republican lawmaker said. “I appreciate every Kentuckian who has engaged in the democratic process whether they agree with me or not. This is different. Vandalism and the politics of fear have no place in our society,” he said.

A police spokesman told AP that there were currently no suspects.

A bill to increase the relief payments was passed by the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives but then blocked by Senate Republicans, led by McConnell, on New Year’s Day.

Congress had already approved the lower payments in late December. The government has already started sending out the payments as part of the scheme giving \$600 to all Americans earning less than \$75,000. Critics have said that the one-time payment will bring little benefit to the many people who have been left in difficult financial circumstances due to the pandemic. -ww

COMMENTARY

## Call to WTO to exempt member countries from enforcing some patents and IPRs

**A PROPOSAL BY INDIA,** South Africa and eight other countries calls on the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to exempt member countries from enforcing some patents, and other Intellectual Property (IP) Rights under the organisation’s Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, known as TRIPS, for a limited period of time.

It is to ensure that IPRs do not restrict the rapid scaling- up of manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines and treatments. While a few members have raised concerns about the proposal, a large proportion of the WTO membership supports the proposal. It has also received the backing of various international organisations, multilateral agencies and global civil society.

Unprecedented times call for unorthodox measures. We saw this in the efficacy of strict lockdowns for a limited period, as a policy intervention, in curtailing the spread of the pandemic. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its October 2020 edition of World Economic Outlook states “...However, the risk of worse growth outcomes than projected remains sizable. If the virus resurges, progress on treatments and vaccines is slower than anticipated, or countries’ access to them remains unequal, economic activity could be lower than expected, with renewed social distancing and tighter lockdowns”. The situation appears to be grimmer than predicted, we have already lost 7 percent of economic output from the baseline scenario projected in 2019.

It translates to a loss of more than US \$6 trillion of global GDP. Even a one percent improvement in global GDP from the baseline scenario will add more than US \$800 billion in global output, offsetting the loss certainly of a much lower order to a sector of economy on account of the waiver.

Merely a signal to ensure time-



ly and affordable access to vaccines and treatments will work as a big confidence booster for demand revival in the economy.

With the emergence of successful vaccines, there appears to be some hope on the horizon. But how will these be made accessible and affordable to the global population? The fundamental question is whether there will be enough of COVID-19 vaccines to go around. As things stand, even the most optimistic scenarios today cannot assure access to COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics for the majority of the population, in rich as well as poor countries, by the end of 2021.

All the members of the WTO have agreed on one account that there is an urgent need to scale-up the manufacturing capacity for vaccines and therapeutics to meet the massive global needs. The TRIPS Waiver Proposal seeks to fulfil this need by ensuring that IP barriers do not come in the way of such scaling up of manufacturing capacity.

**Existing flexibilities under the TRIPS pact**

The existing flexibilities under the TRIPS agreement are not adequate as these were not designed keeping pandemics in mind. Compulsory licenses are issued on a country by country, case by case and product by product basis, where every jurisdiction with an IP regime would have to issue separate compulsory licenses, practically making collaboration among countries extremely onerous. While we encourage the use of TRIPS flexibilities, the same are time-consuming and cumbersome to

implement. Hence, only their use cannot ensure the timely access of affordable vaccines and treatments. Similarly, we have not seen a very encouraging progress on WHO’s Covid-19 Technology Access Pool or the C-TAP initiative, which encourages voluntary contribution of IP, technology and data to support the global sharing and scale-up of the manufacturing of COVID-19 medical products. Voluntary licenses, even where they exist, are shrouded in secrecy. Their terms and conditions are not transparent. Their scope is limited to specific amounts or for a limited subset of countries, thereby encouraging nationalism rather than true international collaboration.

**Is there a need to go beyond existing global cooperation initiatives?**

Global cooperation initiatives such as the COVAX Mechanism and the ACT-Accelerator are inadequate to meet the massive global needs of 7.8 billion people. The ACT-A initiative aims to procure 2 billion doses of vaccines by the end of next year and distribute them fairly around the world. With a two-dose regime, however, this will only cover 1 billion people. That means that even if ACT-A is fully financed and successful, which is not the case presently, there would not be enough vaccines for the majority of the global population.

During the initial few months of the current pandemic, we have seen that shelves were emptied by those who had access to masks, PPEs, sanitizers, gloves and other essential Covid-19 items even without their immediate need. The same should not happen to vaccines. Eventually, the world was able to ramp up manufacturing of Covid-19 essentials as there were no IP barriers hindering that. At present, we need the same pooling of IP rights and know-how for scaling up the manufactur-

ing of vaccines and treatments, which unfortunately has not been forthcoming, necessitating the need for the waiver.

It is the pandemic – an extraordinary, once in a lifetime event – that has mobilised the collaboration of multiple stakeholders. It is knowledge and skills held by scientists, researchers, public health experts and universities that have enabled the cross-country collaborations and enormous public funding that has facilitated the development of vaccines in record time – and not alone IP!

**Way forward**

The TRIPS waiver proposal is a targeted and proportionate response to the exceptional public health emergency that the world faces today. Such a Waiver is well-within the provisions of Article IX of the Marrakesh Agreement which established the WTO. It can help in ensuring that human lives are not lost for want of a timely and affordable access to vaccines. The adoption of the Waiver will also re-establish WTO’s credibility and show that the multilateral trading system continues to be relevant and can deliver in times of a crisis. Now is the time for WTO members to act and adopt the Waiver to save lives and help in getting the economy back on the revival path quickly.

While making the vaccines available was a test of science, making them accessible and affordable is going to be a test of humanity. History should remember us for the “AAA rating” i.e. for Availability, Accessibility and Affordability of Covid19 vaccines and treatments and not for a single “A rating” for Availability only. Our future generations deserve nothing less.

*Brajendra Navnit, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the WTO.*  
*The views expressed above are solely of his own.*



6,000+ items delivered on same day  
within 2 hours all over Muscat







Download the app and start shopping

# Kyle Jamieson takes five as Pakistan all out for 297 on day one

Pakistan witnessed a poor start as Masood was given LBW off Southee's delivery in the third over

**CHRISTCHURCH:** New Zealand's Kyle Jamieson scalped five wickets on Day 1 of the second Test against Pakistan but with the help of Azhar Ali and Mohammad Rizwan's brilliant show, the visitors managed to rack up a decent total in their first innings here on Sunday.

New Zealand bundled out Pakistan on 297 in 83.5 overs on the opening day of the second Test. After being asked to bat first, Pakistan witnessed a poor start as Shan Masood was given LBW off Tim Southee's delivery in the third over.

Abid Ali was then joined by Azhar on the field. The duo took the team over the 50-run mark but soon after that, Jamieson picked his first wicket of the day, removing Abid (25).

Jamieson dismissed Haris Sohail and Fawad Alam as well in his subsequent overs, reducing Pakistan to 83/4. The match then witnessed a brief halt due to rain.



PAKISTAN VS NZ: Jamieson dismissed Haris Sohail and Fawad Alam, reducing Pakistan to 83/4

The play resumed shortly with Azhar and Mohammad Rizwan on the field.

Azhar and Rizwan played brilliantly and brought the visitors back in the game. Both completed their respective half-centuries, taking Pakistan over the 150-run mark. As the visitors started to gain some momentum, Jamieson struck again and sent Rizwan back to the pavilion. Rizwan scored 61

runs before being caught behind which brought Faheem Ashraf out in the middle.

Matt Henry then dismissed Azhar, who fell seven runs short of completing his century. Jamieson then got hold of Ashraf, who played a knock of 48 runs. After the completion of 72 overs, Pakistan were playing on 260/7, with Zafar Gohar and Shaheen Afridi on the field.

The duo managed to add 22 runs on the board before Southee removed Gohar (34) and Trent Boult dismissed Afridi (4). Boult then picked the wicket of Naseem Shah as Pakistan's first innings came to an end.

Brief scores: Pakistan 297 (Azhar Ali 93, Mohammad Rizwan 61, Kyle Jamieson 5/69) vs New Zealand.

-ANI



## PSG is one of the biggest clubs in world: Pochettino

**PARIS:** Paris Saint Germain's (PSG) newly-appointed manager Mauricio Pochettino said he is excited to take the charge of "one of the biggest clubs in the world" and believes that the club's "fantastic squad" has the capability to lift trophies.

The 48-year-old, Pochettino, has a history at PSG where, as a centre-back and club captain, he made 95 appearances for the Rouge and Bleu between 2001 and 2003, scoring six goals. "I think it's so exciting to be here and start to build this relationship again. And I always followed Paris Saint-Germain after playing here. I always had very good relationship with the fans, with the supporters. Paris is one of the biggest clubs in the world, and in a club like this, the win is not enough. You need to win of course but by playing well. The players here are some of the best here, they are the main actors and they need to love what they do on the pitch, it's really important," the club's official website quoted Pochettino as saying.

Pochettino came through the

ranks at Newell's Old Boys in his native Argentina, before moving to Europe to play for Espanyol FC and then PSG. Born in Murphy, Argentina, he won 20 caps and scored 2 goals for his country, and his fighting spirit made him a favorite of the Parc des Princes crowd during his 30 months in Paris.

Reflecting on the current playing squad of PSG, Pochettino said: "In this club, it's always been about excellence, the players have to deserve to wear the jersey. I think that it's a fantastic squad and I think that we can accomplish what this club and the players want because they are competitors and they want to lift trophies."

He also said: "Our main goal is to make sure everyone is heading in the same direction. We want to put a mentality in place, a philosophy, and that everyone takes part. The idea is for everyone to want to win for the club more than anything else. We want to be a strong club with a strong structure."

Sitting third on the Ligue 1 standings, PSG will take on St-Etienne on Thursday. ANI

## CRICKET

# Rahane is smart and born to lead cricket teams: Ian Chappell

**MELBOURNE:** Ajinkya Rahane is brave, smart, and born to lead cricket teams, former Australia captain Ian Chappell has heaped praises on India's stand-in skipper.

India secured an eight-wicket win over Australia in the Boxing Day Test. With no Virat Kohli, no Rohit Sharma, no Ishant Sharma, no Mohammad Shami, and the humiliation of getting bundled out for 36 at the Adelaide Oval, it was a brilliant turnaround by India to level the series. "It was no surprise that Ajinkya Rahane captained India flawlessly at the MCG; anyone who saw him in charge in Dharamsala in 2017 would have recognised a man born to lead cricket teams. There were a lot of similarities between that 2017 match and the one at the MCG. Firstly it was between the same two highly competitive rivals, then there was the valuable first-innings lower-order contribution from Ravindra Jadeja, and finally Rahane aggressively accumulating the required runs in a nervy pursuit of a moderate vic-



**BORN LEADER:** Ian Chappell has heaped praises on India's stand-in skipper Ajinkya Rahane.

tory total," Chappell wrote in his column on ESPN Cricinfo.

"The moment that caught my attention in the Dharamsala match was the time Rahane called on debutant left-arm wristspinner Kuldeep Yadav when David Warner and Steve Smith were involved in a century partnership. 'This is a brave move,' I thought, and it turned out to be a very smart one. Yadav quickly claimed the wicket of Warner - expertly caught by Rahane at first slip - and this prompted a five-wicket slide. That's part of Rahane's success as a skipper: he's brave and smart. However, there's much more to his leadership than just those two important qualities. He is calm when things could easily get out of hand. He has earned the respect of his teammates, one of the most important aspects of good captaincy. And he gets runs when they are needed, which adds to the respect his team has for him," he added.

Chappell said India knew that one man couldn't replicate the "su-

preme deeds" of Kohli and it was going to take an extra effort from all concerned to overcome his absence. He was also impressed with how Jasprit Bumrah and Ravichandran Ashwin produced a scintillating performance to boost India's confidence.

"There was Jasprit Bumrah, excelling as usual at the MCG, ambushing batsmen regularly. R Ashwin, with his new-found confidence in Australian conditions, exerted his influence over Smith, a vital early wicket that further boosted India's confidence. Inspired by the seniors, the debutants, Shubman Gill and Mohammed Siraj, made significant contributions as they adjusted quickly to Australian conditions," he said.

"Despite those valuable performances, the one that turned the match firmly in India's favour was the Johnny Mullagh medal-winning contribution from Rahane. The captain's century came at a time when India could eas-

ily have faded to a two-nil deficit, and it was this performance that gave his team the conviction that victory was attainable," Chappell added.

However, Chappell said this "tantalising series" is far from over but feels India have fewer selection headaches than Australia.

"This tantalising series is far from over. India still have concerns with yet another fast-bowling injury and an opening batsman in a quandary. However, despite coming off a disastrous collapse in Adelaide, along with the departure of their best batsman and the loss of two leading fast bowlers, India have fewer selection headaches than Australia. It's helpful that they have a strong, calm leader and a vibrant spirit that has built up under the Kohli-Rahane-Ravi Shastri coalition. If India do go on to repeat their last tour's success in Australia, the Mullagh medal won't be the only gong Rahane receives," Chappell concluded. ANI

## QUEENSLAND

# Disagreement over quarantine rules puts Brisbane Test at risk

**MELBOURNE:** With reports coming in that the Indian squad is not too keen to travel to Queensland if strict quarantine protocols need to be followed, the state's Health Shadow Minister Ros Bates has said that rules need to be followed. The response of the state's Health Shadow Minister has, therefore, put the fourth Test between India and Australia, slated to be played in Brisbane, at risk.

"If you look at it, we were quarantining for 14 days in Dubai before landing in Sydney and doing so for another 14 days. That means we were in a hard bubble for nearly a month before coming out. What we don't want now is to quarantine again at the end of the tour," Fox Sports quoted a source inside the Indian team as telling Cricbuzz.

"We aren't keen on going to Brisbane if it means being stuck in the hotel again, except for go-



ing to the ground. Instead, we don't mind being in some other city, playing both Test matches there to complete the series and returning home. All we're saying is the boys have been in various states of lockdowns and bubbles for nearly six months now. And it's not been easy for anyone," the source added.

Bates took to Twitter to post

a video and wrote: "Today I was asked about reports the Indian Cricket Team wants quarantine restrictions eased just for them, ahead of the upcoming Gabba Test. My response #Cricket #IndiavsAustralia @ICC @Crick-etAus." In the video, she can be heard saying, "if the Indians don't want to play by the rules, don't come." ANI

## BEGINNING JANUARY 14

# England team arrives in Sri Lanka for Test series

**COLOMBO:** England Test squad led by skipper Joe Root arrived in Sri Lanka on Sunday ahead of the upcoming two-match Test series, beginning January 14.

All members of England's touring party had tested negative for coronavirus before departure and now the visiting party would be needed to undergo a three-day isolated quarantine, and if they test negative for the coronavirus after those three days, they will be allowed to train individually and then after six days, they can train as a group.

Once the first ten days are over, then only England players and support staff can mix with the Sri Lanka players.

The official Twitter handle of England Cricket shared a video in which the members can be seen waiting for their luggage at Colombo airport.

Earlier, England Test skipper Joe Root said that rotation of players will be an integral part of cricket's new phase amid the coronavirus scare.



The coronavirus pandemic had put a full stop to all sporting activities before the England-West Indies series marked the resumption of international cricket in July last year.

"You look at the amount of cricket on this coming tour and it's unrealistic for everyone to get through the whole thing. Rotation

and rest are going to be an integral part of managing this next phase of games," ESPNcricinfo quoted Root as saying.

Ahead of the Test series against Sri Lanka, England had also appointed former South Africa all-rounder Jacques Kallis as their batting consultant.

After Sri Lanka, England will lock horns in a four-match Test series against India slated to begin from February 5 in Chennai. Jofra Archer and Ben Stokes who have been rested for the Sri Lanka series will be returning for England in the red-ball series against India.

England Test Squad: Joe Root(c), Moeen Ali, James Anderson, Jonathan Bairstow, Dom Bess, Stuart Broad, Jos Buttler, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Ben Foakes, Dan Lawrence, Jack Leach, Dom Sibley, Olly Stone, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood.

Reserves: James Bracey, Mason Crane, Saqib Mahmood, Craig Overton, Matthew Parkinson, Ollie Robinson, Amar Virdi. ANI

## CHINA'S e-COMMERCE

China's cross-border e-commerce transactions are estimated to reach 20.5 trillion yuan (about \$3.15 trillion) in 2022, according to a report from the National Intellectual Property Administration. The country's cross-border e-commerce sector has expanded rapidly in recent years.

# MARKET

## BUSINESS & FINANCE



## MSM INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSM index closed at 3,679.34 points, up 0.56 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.20 per cent at 522.55 points. Galfar Engineering, up 9.76 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Flour Mills, down 5.41 per cent, was the only loser.

# Over 47,000 SMEs registered in Oman

Among the governorates, Muscat topped the list with 33 per cent SMEs registered till the end of September 2020

**MUSCAT:** The total number of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) registered with the Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development at the end of November 2020 stood at 47,802, comprising an increase by 13.4 per cent compared to the same period of 2019, according to the data released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

Among the governorates, Mus-

cat topped the list with 33 per cent SMEs registered till the end of September 2020, followed by North Al Batinah with 16 per cent, Al Dakhiliyah with 13 per cent, Dhofar with 8 per cent, and the rest of governorates with 30 per cent.

16,024 SMEs were registered in the Governorate of Muscat at the end of November 2020, followed by North Al Batinah with 7,536, Al Dakhiliyah with 6,040, Dhofar with 3,979, South Al Batinah with 3,562, and North Al Sharqiyah with 3,214 SMEs registered.

This was followed by South Al Sharqiyah with 2,827, Al Dhahirah with 2,786 SMEs, and Al Buraimi with 1,025 SMEs registered.

625 SMEs registered in the Al Wusta and 184 SMEs registered in Musandam, which was the lowest among governorates registered at the end of November 2020.

The total number of SMEs registered in October 2020 stood at 47,220, while the number of SMEs registered in September 2020 stood at 46,577. - **ONA**



**NCSI DATA:** 16,024 SMEs were registered in the Governorate of Muscat at the end of November 2020, followed by North Al Batinah with 7,536, Al Dakhiliyah with 6,040, Dhofar with 3,979, South Al Batinah with 3,562, and North Al Sharqiyah with 3,214 SMEs registered. - **File photo**

## COMMERCIAL FLIGHT

# Boeing 737 MAX returns to US skies for the first time in almost two years

**WASHINGTON:** A Boeing 737 Max bound for New York took off from Miami International Airport with some 100 passengers on board for the aircraft's first US commercial flight since faulty sensor readings led to two crashes in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

"This aircraft is ready to go," American Airlines President Robert Isom said at a press conference ahead of the flight. Nevertheless, the airline gave passengers the chance to switch flights if they felt uncomfortable travelling with the Max.

In November, the Federal Aviation Administration approved changes that US planemaker Boeing made to automated flight-control software. In October 2018, Lion Air Flight 610 crashed into the Java Sea shortly after take-off, killing all 189 people on board. Five



**FLIGHT:** A Boeing 737 Max bound for New York took off from Miami International Airport with 100 passengers on board. - **AP**

months later, Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 ran into trouble on its way to Nairobi, and all 157 passengers perished. Investigations into both crashes pointed to issues with Boeing's new anti-stalling MCAS system. In both instances,

the faulty software was responsible for forcing the nose of the airplane down repeatedly based on incorrect sensor readings, with pilots unable to regain control.

The Max was grounded just days after the second crash as a result

The first passenger flight with a revamped Max occurred earlier this month in Brazil, with Gol airlines operating more than 540 flights and Aeromexico more than 80 since the restart, according to aviation tracking utility Flightradar24. - **AP**

## CONSTRUCTING NEW CAMPUS

# Bank Nizwa signs financing agreement with Arab Open University

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Bank Nizwa, Oman's leading and most trusted Islamic bank, recently signed an agreement with Arab Open University to finance the construction of its new campus in Oman. The signing ceremony was held at the Bank Nizwa head office in Muscat.

With education being a primary focus of the Oman Vision 2040, Bank Nizwa understands the importance of having a professionally skilled workforce to drive the economy and thereby attain prosperity.

The agreement was signed by Khalid Al Kayed, CEO of Bank Nizwa and Dr Moosa Al Kindi, Director of Arab Open University, Oman branch. The signing ceremony was held in presence of senior members of Bank Nizwa including General Manager, Wholesale Banking Narasimhan and Saif Al Rawahi, AGM-Investment and Government Banking, Treasury and Projects.

From AOU, the ceremony was attended in-person by Bader Al Busaidi, Assistant Director for Administration & Finance - AOU Oman and Mohammed Said- Financial Advisor to AOU, President. Prof. Naif Al-Mutairi, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Representing President and Prof. Omar Al Jarrah, Vice President of Planning and Development Affairs of AOU, Prof. Said Al Hallaq, Assistant to President for Administration and Finance virtually joined the signing ceremony from Kuwait.

Bank Nizwa has always been at the forefront of investing in ventures that help in the economic growth of the country. By supporting an institution like the Arab



**PARTNERSHIP:** The agreement was signed by Khalid Al Kayed, CEO of Bank Nizwa and Dr Moosa Al Kindi, Director of Arab Open University, Oman branch. - **Supplied picture**

Open University that is established on the principles of quality education and is dedicated to steering development in scientific, social and cultural spheres, Bank Nizwa has further reaffirmed its commitment as a responsible corporate citizen that believes in investing in the youth of the country.

"One of the key drivers of success in a country is defined by the quality of education provided to its youth who are the future of the country. By supporting such ventures that are dedicated to the advancement of skills of our youth, we will continuously have local talents that will be professionally

geared to take on new initiatives and contribute to the national economy," said Khaled Al Kayed, CEO of Bank Nizwa.

Al Kayed added, "Education is one of the key sectors that the Oman Vision 2040 focuses on and Bank Nizwa is committed to being a vital contributor to the nation's growing economy through strategic partnerships like these."

To build the campus, Bank Nizwa has signed a financing deal and the University has received a land allocation from the Ministry of Housing in South Al Mabela with a total area covering 37,850 sqm. The new Arab Open Uni-

versity falls under the Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AG-FUND) which is a regional organisation established in 1980 by the initiative of His Royal Highness the late Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz and the support of the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Under the guidance of its current president, Prince Abdul Aziz bin Talal bin Abdul Aziz, AGFUND works mainly in the field of development and growth at the international level through an effective partnership with the UN organisation and regional and international development organisations.

The first phase of the Arab Open

University was launched in October 2002 and then it started in Oman in February 2008. With 15 branches and centres in nine Arab countries, it aims to reach all Arab countries.

Established as a non-conventional academic institution, the Arab Open University has been reaccredited by the Open University Validation Service of the Open University in the United Kingdom for a period of five years (2017-2022) for the fourth time. The AOU has signed a series of memoranda with a number of international universities to offer academic programs required in the labour market.

On completion of the project, the university will help students enhance their skill set, increase knowledge and attain internationally acclaimed degrees, therefore, giving the country local talents in various sectors who possess the necessary expertise to take on leadership roles.

Spearheading the growth of Islamic finance, Bank Nizwa endeavours to solidify its leadership in the sector through initiatives that benefit the country and its people in the long run.

Along with financing construction projects for educational institutions, Bank Nizwa's corporate financing has closed several milestone transactions in different segments like manufacturing, utilities, retail, hospitality, aviation, logistics, tourism, waste management, metals and mining, medical, food sectors, and also fast-expanding sectors, like infrastructure and utilities.

Bank Nizwa has been undertaking various other initiatives that have helped fuel the economy, positively affecting the local communities and generating employment for the local workforce. Establishing itself as a leader in Sharia-compliant solutions, Bank Nizwa continues to diversify its client portfolio and invest in projects keeping in mind the best interests of the country.

By continuing to expand its client franchise organically by deepening client relationships, training and retaining talents, and investing in strategic ventures, Bank Nizwa has become the financial partner of choice for the people and enterprises of Oman.

## COMMENTARY

## Budget 2021 – Another fiscal reform to revitalise Sultanate's economy



**IN** 2020, there were a series of fiscal reforms amid several challenges arising from COVID-19 and consistent low oil price to boost Oman economy viz. power and water subsidy reform, the establishment of Energy Development Oman, development of Medium-Term Fiscal Plan 2020-2024 and real estate sector reforms.

Moreover, it also include introduction of VAT, expansion of excise duty base, the introduction of Country-by-Country reporting, revamp of government structure, the establishment of Oman Investment Authority and Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ), activation of membership of TIR – the global transit system, ambitious plan of Public-Private Partnership [PPP] and control on spending.

Budget 2021 is another fiscal reform with compressed deficit OMR2.24 billion, 8 per cent of GDP (revenue OMR8.64 billion, spending OMR10.88 billion). This deficit is 10 per cent lower than 2020 budgeted deficit and lowest budgeted deficit since 2015. This year-on-year decline trend in deficit since 2016 at the planning stage by the government shows commendable efforts and commitment with clear intention to achieve fiscal consolidation. These efforts certainly are stepping stones to control the worsening fiscal situation. The Part of 2021 deficit, OMR1.6 billion will be funded from debt and balance from the reserve. This lowest deficit resulting lower expected debt requirement

of OMR1.6 billion for 2020 will help the government to contain already mounted debt level to some extent and further will help to improve Oman's credit rating. By 2021, public debt is projected to reach OMR21.7 billion and 130 per cent of GDP by 2025.

The actual deficit of 2020 is estimated at OMR4.2 billion vis a vis budgeted OMR2.5 billion, low oil price and an unprecedented pandemic dent in the economy contributed this high deficit. This shows, still there are significant struggle points for government in 2021, to keep the actual deficit within defined budget deficit OMR2.24 billion government will need a continuous prudent watch on economic developments ahead and accordingly it will require to take customized measures on appropriate time. Though actual performance certainly will depend on post-pandemic economic recovery and oil price movement, to great extent it will depend on strict adherence to budget by each government unit.

The budget has many salient features reflecting the objective of Oman Vision 2040 and Tenth Five – Year Plan (2021-2025).

Spending decreased at OMR10.88 billion, 14 per cent lower than 2020, this is partially a reflection of fiscal measures taken in 2020 like subsidy reforms, rationalisation of spending etc. In 2021, the current expense budget of government units is lower by 5 per cent considering the financial impact of revamped government structure, early retirement and revision in the financial grade of new employees. Also, oil and gas production cost removed from the budget and transferred to EDO.

*The writer CA. Sarweshwar Biyani is the Vice President – Finance and Accounts, SV Pittie Sohar Textiles (FZC). Views expressed above are solely his own.*

MARKET

MSM index ends higher

Galfar Engineering, up 9.76 per cent, was the top gainer, while Oman Flour Mills, down 5.41 per cent, was the only loser

**MUSCAT:** The MSM index closed at 3,679.34 points, up 0.56 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.20 per cent at 522.55 points. Galfar Engineering, up 9.76 per cent, was the top gainer, while Oman Flour Mills, down 5.41 per cent, was the only loser. Shares of Galfar Engineering were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 423 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR0.72 million, with more than 7.3 million shares changing hands. Out of 27 traded stocks, 17 advanced, 1 declined and 9 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for OMR36,000 while foreign investors were net sellers for OMR18,000 followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR17,000

worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 5,674.93 points, up by 0.42 per cent. Al Anwar Holding, National Bank of Oman, United Finance, and Bank Muscat were up by 4.92 per cent, 2.50 per cent, 2.27 per cent, and 0.51 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 4,327.08 points, up 0.72 per cent. Galfar Engineering, Al Jazeera Steel, Al Anwar Ceramic Tiles, National Aluminium Products, and Gulf International Chemicals were up 9.76 per cent, 4.38 per cent, 4.26 per cent, 3.49 per cent and 2.94 per cent. Oman Flour Mills was down 5.41 per cent.

Services index was up by 0.66 per cent before closing at 1,602.28 points. Renaissance Services, Al Jazeera Services, OIFC, Sembcorp Salalah, and National Gas were up 2.94 per cent, 2.14 per cent, 1.11 per cent, 1.01 per cent, and 0.70 per cent respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES

| Index.....             | High.....     | Low.....      | Value .....   | Prev. Value..... | Diff.....  | Diff%      |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| MSM30 Index.....       | 3,679.52..... | 3,659.94..... | 3,679.34..... | 3,658.77.....    | 20.57..... | 0.56.....  |
| Financial Index.....   | 5,674.93..... | 5,651.08..... | 5,674.93..... | 5,651.08.....    | 23.85..... | 0.42.....  |
| Industrial Index.....  | 4,346.76..... | 4,310.13..... | 4,327.08..... | 4,296.09.....    | 30.99..... | 0.72.....  |
| Services Index.....    | 1,602.31..... | 1,591.82..... | 1,602.28..... | 1,591.82.....    | 10.46..... | 0.66.....  |
| MSM SHARIAH INDEX..... | 525.59.....   | 522.26.....   | 522.55.....   | 523.60.....      | -1.05..... | -0.20..... |
| MSM TOTAL RETURN.....  | 4,199.17..... | 4,176.81..... | 4,198.96..... | 4,175.48.....    | 23.48..... | 0.56.....  |

Trading Summary

| Volume .....   | Turnover ..... | Trades ..... | Market Cap.....     | Up..... | Down..... | Equal..... | Sec. Traded |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 7,321,151..... | 724,538.....   | 423.....     | 20,262,599,425..... | 17..... | 1.....    | 9.....     | 27.....     |

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

| RIN.....           | SECURITY NAME.....                 | VOLUME.....    | TURNOVER..... | TRADES..... | OPEN PRICE..... | HIGH.....  | LOW.....   | CLOSE PR..... | PREV. CLOSE..... | DIFF (RD)..... | DIFF %..... | LAST PR..... | LAST RD..... | LAST OFFER..... | PUR VALUE..... | MARKET CAP.....    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| REGULAR MARKET     |                                    |                |               |             |                 |            |            |               |                  |                |             |              |              |                 |                |                    |
| OM00000001772..... | AL ANWAR HOLDING.....              | 861,511.....   | 55,424.....   | 50.....     | 0.062.....      | 0.066..... | 0.062..... | 0.064.....    | 0.061.....       | 0.003.....     | 4.918.....  | 0.066.....   | 0.066.....   | 0.067.....      | 0.100.....     | 12,800,000.....    |
| OM00000002176..... | AL JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS.....     | 495,452.....   | 70,985.....   | 41.....     | 0.139.....      | 0.145..... | 0.139..... | 0.143.....    | 0.137.....       | 0.006.....     | 4.380.....  | 0.143.....   | 0.143.....   | 0.144.....      | 0.100.....     | 17,860,408.....    |
| OM00000003224..... | RENAISSANCE SERVICES.....          | 12,500.....    | 4,371.....    | 9.....      | 0.348.....      | 0.350..... | 0.348..... | 0.350.....    | 0.340.....       | 0.010.....     | 2.941.....  | 0.350.....   | 0.342.....   | 0.346.....      | 0.100.....     | 82,743,500.....    |
| OM00000005005..... | ALMAHA CERAMICS.....               | 44,147.....    | 9,868.....    | 7.....      | 0.222.....      | 0.225..... | 0.222..... | 0.224.....    | 0.220.....       | 0.004.....     | 1.818.....  | 0.225.....   | 0.225.....   | 0.230.....      | 0.100.....     | 12,320,000.....    |
| OM00000001525..... | OMAN INVESTMENT AND FINANCE.....   | 112,570.....   | 10,253.....   | 8.....      | 0.090.....      | 0.092..... | 0.090..... | 0.091.....    | 0.090.....       | 0.001.....     | 1.111.....  | 0.091.....   | 0.091.....   | 0.092.....      | 0.100.....     | 18,200,000.....    |
| OM00000001160..... | NATIONAL GAS.....                  | 37,000.....    | 5,326.....    | 5.....      | 0.143.....      | 0.145..... | 0.143..... | 0.144.....    | 0.143.....       | 0.001.....     | 0.699.....  | 0.143.....   | 0.142.....   | 0.143.....      | 0.100.....     | 12,240,000.....    |
| OM00000003026..... | OMAN TELECOMMUNICATION.....        | 7,559.....     | 5,446.....    | 2.....      | 0.736.....      | 0.736..... | 0.720..... | 0.720.....    | 0.716.....       | 0.004.....     | 0.559.....  | 0.720.....   | 0.720.....   | 0.724.....      | 0.100.....     | 540,000,000.....   |
| OM00000002796..... | BANK MUSCAT.....                   | 54,360.....    | 21,484.....   | 14.....     | 0.398.....      | 0.398..... | 0.394..... | 0.396.....    | 0.394.....       | 0.002.....     | 0.508.....  | 0.394.....   | 0.392.....   | 0.398.....      | 0.100.....     | 1,286,810,925..... |
| OM00000002440..... | AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HOLDING..... | 1,168,500..... | 83,124.....   | 66.....     | 0.072.....      | 0.072..... | 0.071..... | 0.071.....    | 0.071.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.072.....   | 0.071.....   | 0.072.....      | 0.100.....     | 6,390,000.....     |
| OM00000003968..... | OOREDOO.....                       | 18,196.....    | 7,133.....    | 22.....     | 0.392.....      | 0.392..... | 0.392..... | 0.392.....    | 0.392.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.392.....   | 0.392.....   | 0.396.....      | 0.100.....     | 255,170,138.....   |
| Total.....         | 10.....                            | 2,811,795..... | 273,415.....  | 224.....    |                 |            |            |               |                  |                |             |              |              |                 |                |                    |
| Parallel Market    |                                    |                |               |             |                 |            |            |               |                  |                |             |              |              |                 |                |                    |
| OM00000003521..... | GALFAR ENGINEERING AND CON.....    | 2,796,772..... | 125,855.....  | 73.....     | 0.044.....      | 0.045..... | 0.044..... | 0.045.....    | 0.041.....       | 0.004.....     | 9.756.....  | 0.045.....   | 0.045.....   | 0.000.....      | 0.100.....     | 13,049,129.....    |
| OM00000002168..... | AL ANWAR CERAMIC TILES.....        | 239,450.....   | 64,426.....   | 17.....     | 0.265.....      | 0.271..... | 0.265..... | 0.269.....    | 0.258.....       | 0.011.....     | 4.264.....  | 0.269.....   | 0.266.....   | 0.269.....      | 0.100.....     | 79,681,480.....    |
| OM00000001319..... | NATIONAL ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS.....   | 45,659.....    | 4,054.....    | 5.....      | 0.088.....      | 0.089..... | 0.088..... | 0.089.....    | 0.086.....       | 0.003.....     | 3.488.....  | 0.089.....   | 0.087.....   | 0.089.....      | 0.100.....     | 2,987,859.....     |
| OM00000002028..... | GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS.....  | 9,900.....     | 1,040.....    | 3.....      | 0.105.....      | 0.105..... | 0.105..... | 0.105.....    | 0.102.....       | 0.003.....     | 2.941.....  | 0.105.....   | 0.105.....   | 0.110.....      | 0.100.....     | 2,205,000.....     |
| OM00000001483..... | NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN.....         | 6,095.....     | 1,000.....    | 1.....      | 0.164.....      | 0.164..... | 0.164..... | 0.164.....    | 0.160.....       | 0.004.....     | 2.500.....  | 0.164.....   | 0.156.....   | 0.165.....      | 0.100.....     | 266,655,202.....   |
| OM00000002374..... | UNITED FINANCE.....                | 148,500.....   | 6,683.....    | 7.....      | 0.045.....      | 0.045..... | 0.045..... | 0.045.....    | 0.044.....       | 0.001.....     | 2.273.....  | 0.045.....   | 0.044.....   | 0.045.....      | 0.100.....     | 15,711,498.....    |
| OM00000002226..... | AL JAZEERA SERVICES.....           | 492,350.....   | 117,798.....  | 31.....     | 0.238.....      | 0.242..... | 0.238..... | 0.239.....    | 0.234.....       | 0.005.....     | 2.137.....  | 0.242.....   | 0.240.....   | 0.242.....      | 0.100.....     | 14,627,821.....    |
| OM00000004735..... | SEMBCORP SALALAH.....              | 35,700.....    | 3,570.....    | 6.....      | 0.100.....      | 0.100..... | 0.100..... | 0.100.....    | 0.099.....       | 0.001.....     | 1.010.....  | 0.100.....   | 0.099.....   | 0.100.....      | 0.100.....     | 95,457,195.....    |
| OM00000003000..... | ALMAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MAR..... | 78,640.....    | 53,120.....   | 7.....      | 0.672.....      | 0.680..... | 0.672..... | 0.676.....    | 0.672.....       | 0.004.....     | 0.595.....  | 0.680.....   | 0.680.....   | 0.684.....      | 0.100.....     | 46,644,000.....    |
| OM00000001095..... | DHOFAIR INSURANCE.....             | 6,734.....     | 1,104.....    | 2.....      | 0.164.....      | 0.164..... | 0.164..... | 0.164.....    | 0.164.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.164.....   | 0.160.....   | 0.000.....      | 0.100.....     | 16,400,000.....    |
| OM00000001707..... | OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY.....          | 24,205.....    | 10,215.....   | 2.....      | 0.422.....      | 0.422..... | 0.422..... | 0.422.....    | 0.422.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.422.....   | 0.422.....   | 0.000.....      | 0.100.....     | 37,853,400.....    |
| OM00000004768..... | AL MADINA TAKAFUL.....             | 582,041.....   | 45,204.....   | 36.....     | 0.078.....      | 0.079..... | 0.077..... | 0.078.....    | 0.078.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.079.....   | 0.078.....   | 0.079.....      | 0.100.....     | 13,650,000.....    |
| OM00000004933..... | AL SUWADI POWER.....               | 9,342.....     | 476.....      | 2.....      | 0.051.....      | 0.051..... | 0.051..... | 0.051.....    | 0.051.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.051.....   | 0.051.....   | 0.052.....      | 0.100.....     | 36,434,723.....    |
| OM00000005260..... | OMAN ARAB BANK.....                | 323.....       | 61.....       | 1.....      | 0.190.....      | 0.190..... | 0.190..... | 0.190.....    | 0.190.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.190.....   | 0.190.....   | 0.000.....      | 0.100.....     | 317,187,900.....   |
| OM00000005963..... | PHOENIX POWER.....                 | 6,698.....     | 342.....      | 1.....      | 0.051.....      | 0.051..... | 0.051..... | 0.051.....    | 0.051.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.051.....   | 0.051.....   | 0.056.....      | 0.100.....     | 74,592,674.....    |
| OM00000007084..... | MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION.....      | 4,147.....     | 411.....      | 1.....      | 0.099.....      | 0.099..... | 0.099..... | 0.097.....    | 0.097.....       | 0.000.....     | 0.000.....  | 0.099.....   | 0.097.....   | 0.105.....      | 0.100.....     | 15,088,389.....    |
| OM00000001400..... | OMAN FLOUR MILLS.....              | 22,800.....    | 15,966.....   | 4.....      | 0.700.....      | 0.720..... | 0.700..... | 0.700.....    | 0.740.....       | -0.040.....    | -5.405..... | 0.720.....   | 0.700.....   | 0.720.....      | 0.100.....     | 110,250,000.....   |
| Total.....         | 17.....                            | 4,509,356..... | 451,124.....  | 199.....    |                 |            |            |               |                  |                |             |              |              |                 |                |                    |

REPORT

China's cross-border e-commerce transactions to top \$3 trillion in 2022

**BEIJING:** China's cross-border e-commerce transactions are estimated to reach 20.5 trillion yuan (about \$3.15 trillion) in 2022, according to a report. The country's cross-border e-commerce sector has expanded rapidly in recent years, with small and medium-sized e-commerce platforms maintaining an annual growth rate of 30 per cent, according to a report from the National Intellectual Property Administration.

Cross-border e-commerce platforms have played a prominent role in ensuring anti-COVID-19 supplies and providing international assistance amid the pandemic, the report noted. As the sector continues to flourish, the report calls for global efforts to protect intellectual property rights. - Xinhua

MARITIME INDUSTRY

Breakbulk Middle East unites leading universities in region

**DUBAI:** As part of its vision to support the breakbulk and project cargo industry, Breakbulk Middle East (BBME), the GCC's leading breakbulk and project cargo event has tied up with leading players in the education sector for its sixth edition. Their primary goal is to enhance the professional competencies of students and the youth, who hope to be a part of the industry that is one of the most important pillars for a sustainable economy.

Held under the patronage of the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the two-day event that is scheduled to take place from February 9 to 10, 2021, aims to promote the growth of the industry by educating young aspiring professionals about the industry. Through the Education Day initiative, BBME brings together students from key universities and academies in the region and prominent leaders from the local, regional and international industry under one roof. Raising awareness about the career opportunities available in the industry is one of the main aims of the event that sheds light on the operations of the ever-evolving industry and provides insights on its business operations. The platform is an ideal destination for students looking to explore opportunities in the field and learn from distinguished names.

**Collaborating with industry leaders**

The breakbulk and project cargo sector play an essential role in the Middle East region. Countries like the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait among others are front-runners in this sector that represents a complex market, encompassing commodities as varied as steel and forest products, to heavy-lift shipments for wind turbines and equipment for construction work.

The UAE occupies the top-most position in many international maritime indicators, as it is the first in the Arab world and the fourth globally in the port quality index by Mordor Intelligence, global market research and consulting firm.

According to the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, in 2018, the total output for the logistics services sector reached AED219 billion. The sector is expected to see an increase of 8 per cent by 2021. Therefore, motivating students to contribute to the growth of the industry with enterprising ideas is fundamental to building a sustainable economy for future generations.

Through its pioneering initiatives, BBME hopes to open up new avenues for the younger generation, supporting them to contribute to the development of the industry, locally, regionally and globally.

# Are you planing to build your dream home

A smart home Enhances your Lifestyle Everyday....

## Playing Nicely with your beloved brands

dont ditch your favorite products  
We can help you to join them all together!

**"Save Energy"**  
**"Save money on your next utility Bill"**

Enjoy personalized smart living experiences  
Perfect for any Home- No matter the size  
Or Budget, New construction or Decades Old.  
Interested in Learning more about smart Homes?  
Call us for More Details

**NEW 4<sup>TH</sup> DIMENSION LLC Integrated Solutions**  
**CR Number:1362674**  
**info@new4thdimension.com**  
**Contact: 92094967 / 90987179**  
**www.new4thdimension.com**

**oman OASIS**  
BALANCED DRINKING WATER

**sifr**  
SODIUM FREE DRINKING WATER

# WINTER OFFER

Get 1 Raffle Coupon for every RO 20 spent.

## BUY & WIN EXCITING PRIZES

Buy from any of the offers (RO 50 or RO 20) or buy a coupon book worth minimum of RO 20.

15 ml: 22 CARAT 4 GMS GOLD COIN

3 ml: APPLE IPAD

90 ml: 10 OMAN OASIS 5 GALLON WATER COUPONS

45 ml: LULU GIFT VOUCHERS WORTH RO 10

60 ml: TROLLEY BAG

15 ml: MI FIT BIT WATCH

30 ml: AL MAHA PETROL VOUCHERS WORTH RO 10

To win, register your raffle coupon number at [www.omanoasis.com/season2020](http://www.omanoasis.com/season2020)

Offer valid from 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Total of 3 raffle draws will be held at Oasis Water Company, Acaib. Draw Dates: 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Winners will be intimated directly. Oasis Water Company employees are not eligible to participate in this promotion. Gifts shown are for illustrative purpose only. Actual may vary.

**Oasis Water Co. LLC,**  
PO Box 87, Rusayl 124,  
Sultanate of Oman.  
[www.omanoasis.com](http://www.omanoasis.com)

**CALL TOLL-FREE**  
**800 71 222**  
or GSM: **9275 5522**

Winner of His Majesty's Cup Award in 2012 & 2013 for Best Five Factories  
C.P. No.: 1/985/45/2 / M.M. No.: 48309/2020

ECONOMIC PAIN

US economy plunges into recession

**WASHINGTON:** After plunging into the worst recession in decades amid COVID-19 shutdowns in 2020, the US economy has been recovering in recent months.

With alarming case spikes and a long-delayed fiscal relief package, however, the recovery momentum is slipping away. Overshadowed even more by a behind-schedule vaccine rollout, the country will only find an uncertain and challenging economic recovery ahead.

What's worse, the economic pain inflicted by the pandemic has rippled unevenly across a variety of sectors, companies and communities, with certain service-intensive industries, smaller firms, and low-income Americans taking a disproportionate blow. Economists called this a K-shaped recovery, which widens inequality.

Amid COVID-19 shutdowns, the US economy shrank at an annual rate of 5 per cent in the first quarter of 2020, ending a decade-long economic expansion after the 2008 global financial crisis. Then the economy went into free fall, dropping at a revised annual rate of 31.4 per cent in the second quarter as COVID-19 fallout, registering the largest decline since the government began the records in 1947. - Xinhua

**SUNCITY HOTEL**  
RUWI, MUSCAT - OMAN  
(Near Mwasalat Bus Stand)  
For a comfortable stay, Well furnished spacious rooms

Quarantine special Package at affordable Rates

Tel: 24789801/24789802

# CONNECT

## PRINT EDITION

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021

**Tally** TALLY FOR **VAT** Tally Prime

POWER OF SIMPLICITY

For Tally sales, services or customization | Email: guru.prasad@rtsgroup.com  
Contact: TallyGuru +968-79248644 | Roudh Lotas Group LLC  
<http://www.rltsgroup.com/tally-accounting-software/>

## RENT

## VACANCY

## CARGO

**FOR RENT, FOR SALE?**

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

email: [classifieds@timesofoman.com](mailto:classifieds@timesofoman.com)

**AL NAMANI CARGO**  
DOOR TO DOOR AIR & SEA CARGO WORLD WIDE  
AIR CARGO & SEA CARGO

INDIA | BANGLADESH | INDONESIA | PHILIPPINES | SRI LANKA | ALL GCC SERVICE AVAILABLE

alnamanicargomct@gmail.com www.alnamanicargo.com

HO: RUWI 24 78 51 99, 24 70 25 28

Branches: GHALA 99 63 86 98 HAMRIYA 99 78 54 20 SOHAR 98 52 38 31 SEEB 96 96 10 85 REKROAD RUWI 95 58 74 10

For High Impact Professional | Oman Web Award Winner

**WEBSITES** **GULFCYBERTECH** E-Solutions

Designing & Maintenance  
E-Commerce Solns.  
Domain & Hosting  
Mobile Applications  
Email Ads & Promotions

Tel: 99818819 Email: 24130929 info@gulfcybertech.com  
www.gulfcybertech.com

**Quality car rentals at competitive prices.**

- Fleet of 2,000 vehicles
- Choose from a wide range of brands & models
- PDO, OXY and BP spec vehicles available
- Attractive rates for short-term & long-term lease

**ORBIT**  
Car Rental & Lease

Muscat 9014 6672 9679 0684  
Sohar 9731 6218  
Salalah 9429 9325  
www.orbit-oman.com

**SERVICE / WANTED?**

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

SEND EMAIL TO:  
[CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)

**BOOST YOUR BUSINESS**  
User-friendly Website Design & Development

WE PROVIDE CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS

- Tailor-made company websites
- E-commerce websites and mobile app development
- Interactive websites for hospitals and clinics - 'E-Doc Features'
- 360 degree digital marketing solutions such as Social Media Marketing (SMM), Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Search Engine Marketing (SEM), Pay-Per-Click (PPC), Facebook Ads and more

Email: [media@nexusnovel.com](mailto:media@nexusnovel.com)  
Call Us: 9944 0826

**CONTAINER SALES MODIFICATIONS & RENTALS**  
OFFICE, WORKSHOPS, PLANT ROOMS, TRAINING FACILITIES, ACCOMMODATION & ANY CUSTOM BUILT CONTAINER.

**CONTAINER SOLUTIONS L.L.C**  
Oman: PO Box 522, PC 322, Falaj Al Qabail, Sohar  
Tel: + 968 9358 5556, +968 99508921, + 26942610, Fax: + 968 26942611  
Email: [sales@containersolutions.com](mailto:sales@containersolutions.com) www.containersolutions.com

## FOR RENT

**LABOUR ACCOMMODATION FOR RENT**  
5000 BEDSPACE AVAILABLE Quarantine Facility also available

Staff Accommodation Separate / Dry stores / Land rent.  
Gold Store / Parking yard / Workshop area / Laundry  
Ladies Accommodation in separate camp  
Catering services with site delivery

With Covid-19 protocol we are providing 100, 300, 500, 1000 ACCOMMODATION BY SEPERATE BLOCKS

E-mail: [mjm968@yahoo.com](mailto:mjm968@yahoo.com)  
Al-Khoud-6, Opp: SQU  
98233199 / 79251313  
94 900 800

**FOR RENT**

3 BHK Penthouse Flat with Split A/Cs, Free Unlimited Broadband WiFi, Security access system, Pvt. Terrace & Secured car park.

Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj

Contact: 99657906 or 24702141

**WAREHOUSE**  
For Rent/ Sale

1000 SQM in Al Ansab, Bousher & Misfah.  
Direct from owner

Contact  
92951654, 99332902

**FOR RENT**

Super Deluxe 1, 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Panasonic VRF A/Cs, Free centralize gas, Kitchen appliances, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system, Free Unlimited High Speed Fiber Optic WiFi & Secured Car Park.

Behind Mazoun Complex, Ruwi

Fully Furnished Apartment Also Available

Contact: 96707247 or 24704141

**FOR RENT**

Deluxe 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Split A/Cs, Fixed wardrobes, Kitchen appliances, Free Unlimited Broadband WiFi, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system & Secured car park.

Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj

Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-

Fully Furnished Apartment And Transport For Office Also Available

Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

**FOR RENT**

Super Deluxe 1, 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Ducted VRF A/Cs, Free centralize gas, Built in wardrobes, Kitchen appliances, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system, Free Unlimited High Speed Fiber Optic WiFi & Secured car park.

Next to Sri Lankan School Wadi Kabir

Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-

Fully Furnished Apartment and Transport for Office also available

Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

## FOR SALE

OBG clinic for sale. Location Al khoud. Contact 99352793/99014851

**LAND FOR SALE**  
AL AZAIBA

PRICE:  
RO.300 THOUSAND  
NEGOTIABLE

CONTACT 92042451

## FOR RENT

**Brand new two bedroom** at Marsa Garden Al Mouj, Full equipped kitchen and built in cupboards and two bathrooms for OMR 600 kindly contact +968-93328511

**Industrial Land 1500m2** in Al-Ohi Industrial area in Suhar. Contact : 99231000

**1 BHK, 2 BHK flats for rent at Azaiba** - Next building Al Meera Hyper market. Contact 94934353 Email [hotapaz@omantel.net.om](mailto:hotapaz@omantel.net.om)

**Rent flat near Badr al sama hospital in Ruwi**, 4 Bedroom with AC & also Room for rent in Wadi Adei with AC. Contact 99345137

**Flat for Rent in Wadi Kabir(2BHK)**, sitting room(3 bathroom) A/C split near Jalalah mosque. Contact 99324402

## NRI

**15 cents land in Kozhikode, Thondayad.** Opposite to StarCare hospital on Kannur bypass, 250 meters from highway with black-top road frontage. Contact 91-7902216185

\*Classified Advertisement space booking with text, should be done till 12.00 noon for next day's publication.  
\* Subject to space availability

**WANTED**

**SERVICES &**

**Advertise here**

SEND EMAIL TO:  
[CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)

**Place Your Ad Here**

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

**SERVICES & WANTED**

[classifieds@timesofoman.com](mailto:classifieds@timesofoman.com)

**ADVERTISE WITH US**

**FOR RENT**

SEND EMAIL TO:  
[CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)



# CONNECT

Email: [dailyguide@timesofoman.com](mailto:dailyguide@timesofoman.com)  
[classifieds@timesofoman.com](mailto:classifieds@timesofoman.com)  
Tel: 24726666  
Ext: 465 / 431 / 456

## JOB VACANCIES

### JOB VACANCIES

NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES  
CO. looking for **Male Chemist** for:

- 1 - Quality Control Department
- 2 - Quality Assurance Department
- 3 - Analytical Development Laboratory

**Qualification Required Master of Science in:**

- Analytical Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- In Organic Chemistry
- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Bio Analytical Science
- Chemistry

Send your C V within two weeks to:  
Email ID: [npico@omantel.net.om](mailto:npico@omantel.net.om)

*( Omani Nationality Only )*

**PARAMOUNT KITCHEN EQUIPMENT**  
Looking for the following

#### SALES EXECUTIVE (R-OM-001)

Above candidates must have more than 3 year Experience/Knowledge of Kitchen Equipment industry or Similar with Oman D/L. Employee Should ready to joint immediately.

Interested are requested to send CV to [pro@paramountmuscat.com](mailto:pro@paramountmuscat.com)

#### REQUIRED

### PLUMBERS

A leading construction company required plumbers having 3-4 years experience.

Candidate who can change visa inside Oman is preferred.

Contact: 24813961/ 95148041  
e-mail: [maste@omantel.net.om](mailto:maste@omantel.net.om)

### VACANCY FOR PURCHASE EXECUTIVE

One of the largest and most reputed ISO certified manufacturing companies in the Sultanate of Oman has vacancy for competent professional in purchase functions.

Candidates should have Degree/Diploma in Engineering and 5-7 years of experience in GCC in purchase functions at a manufacturing organization and ideally should be in the age group of 30-35 years.

Please send resume within 7 days with salary expectations to:  
[omanrecruitments@gmail.com](mailto:omanrecruitments@gmail.com)

#### JOB VACANCIES

### ENGINEERS

A leading Engineering consultancy in Oman looking for a Fire Engineer, with a minimum of 5 years experience.

Only Omani citizens need to apply.

Send your resume to:  
[hr@milesmct.com](mailto:hr@milesmct.com)

#### URGENTLY REQUIRED

As a part of expansion, Vasanta Bhavan restaurant and mart located in different parts of Muscat is seeking CVs from suitable candidates for the following position:

- Captain/Cashier - 2nos.

- Waiter - 3nos.

- Woman Cashier for food court - 2nos  
- Filipino Preferred.

Kindly contact:  
Mr. Biju: 9271 3345

#### JOB VACANCY

A LEADING MONEY EXCHANGE COMPANY is looking for **Graduates/Postgraduates in Commerce** (Male/Female) with prior work experience.

Other Requisites: proficient in MS Office, Fluent in English and two more languages from, Arabic, Hindi, Urdu, Bangla, Tagalong, Punjabi, Malayalam, Telugu.

Less than 35 years as on 31/12/2020 and open to do outdoor marketing/sales visits.

email: [xchangecvoman@gmail.com](mailto:xchangecvoman@gmail.com)

#### URGENTLY REQUIRED

**Indian Chef/Cook for Private Family with experience in Arabic and Indian dish**

Please contact: 99735820

## JOB VACANCIES

#### MEDICAL

**Required nurse with MOH license** for immediate appointment for a clinic at Ruwi.Contact 78330763 between 9.30 to 12.30 & 5 to 8.30

**Femal Nurse required for a Clinic in Al Buraimi.** Contact +96892737149  
Email [drpkabbas@yahoo.co.in](mailto:drpkabbas@yahoo.co.in)

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**Looking for Electrician, Plumber, Carpenter, Foreman, Office Staff.** Contact 24709144  
Email [atf24704415@gmail.com](mailto:atf24704415@gmail.com)

#### PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

**Urgently wanted experienced Purchase manager/supervisor** for a super market in Qurum. Contact 91444677

**JOB VACANCIES, JOB WANTED?**

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

SEND EMAIL TO:  
[CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)

#### SALES/MARKETING

**Looking for experienced freelance sales executives** with valid Oman D/L for F&B division (Restaurants and coffeeshop products) for immediate placement. Interested candidates may send CV to [jabirappa@icloud.com](mailto:jabirappa@icloud.com) or Contact 92339651

**Required, Sales Helper** for Building Material Shop in Muscat, cv to: [mwmuscatcarrer@gmail.com](mailto:mwmuscatcarrer@gmail.com), whatsapp +968-78268276

**Digital Marketing** exec who can set up and run Google Display Network, Google Search campaigns required. Also required Social Media management executive to set up, community manage fb, IG, Twitter, LI, You Tube etc. Arabic knowledge is an advantage. WhatsApp CV to 99106556. Email: [socialdigitaloman@gmail.com](mailto:socialdigitaloman@gmail.com)

**We are looking for an experienced Sales Executive** with valid Omani DL. Contact: [printoman24x7@gmail.com](mailto:printoman24x7@gmail.com)

**Smart, dynamic Sales Executive**, 2-3 years of outdoor sales for a reputed Tile & Cladding stone company. Building material experience, Arabic knowledge, Oman Driving License preferred. Attractive package. Apply with photographs to [salesjobs@gmail.com](mailto:salesjobs@gmail.com) or 00968-96986963.

### CORPORATE GIFTS AND GIVEAWAYS

CONTACT US TODAY FOR:

Genuine Leather Products  
Custom-made Calendars  
Diaries, Organisers & Gift Sets  
USBs, Pens, Powerbanks,  
Mobile Accessories,  
Drinkware & many more

Email:  
[media@nexusnovel.com](mailto:media@nexusnovel.com)

## SERVICES

**PEST CONTROL**

**Best Service, Affordable Rates!!!**

**For Termite Treatment, Cockroach, Bedbug, Ants & Sanitizing Harmless & Odourless Pest Control**

**Contact : 95779845**

#### AI MALAKI AUDITING

1. VAT, WHT and Corporate Tax Filing
2. Statutory & Internal Auditing
3. Monthly and Yearly Accounting
4. Business Process Outsourcing

Website: [www.almalaki.co](http://www.almalaki.co)

Contact: 90608097

## SERVICES

**Accounting, VAT Implementation, Consulting, Advisory Services**  
Contact: 99884291 / 99741875.  
[VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM](mailto:VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM)

**Pest Control treatments - Cock-roaches, Ants etc** Ocean Centre LLC.  
Contact 9932 9289.  
Mail - [sales@oceancentre.co](mailto:sales@oceancentre.co)

**Disinfection & Sterilization Treatments.** Ocean Centre LLC.  
Contact 9932 9289.  
Mail - [sales@oceancentre.co](mailto:sales@oceancentre.co)

**Carpet & Sofa Shampooing, General Cleaning- Offices, Villas, Flats.** Ocean Centre LLC.  
Contact 9932 9289.  
Mail - [sales@oceancentre.co](mailto:sales@oceancentre.co)

**Carpet Shampoo**, marble & tile polishing, pest control & anti-termite treatment, general cleaning painting, Plumbing, Electrical, shifting. Contact Mundhir l-Rizaigti trading. LLC # 24810137, 99450130

## MATRIMONIAL

**Kerala based Nair boy** 45/175 Star Aswathi, BDS, MDS, MFDS Dental doctor, divorce working in UK, suitable proposals invited. Contact 00968-99344106, 00417-95423663, 0091-9207384572

## LOST

**MOHAMMED DULAL** lost Bang-ladshi passport no. BR0361079 .Finder please handover to ROP

\*Classified Advertisement space booking with text, should be done till 12.00 noon for next day's publication.  
\* Subject to space availability

## JOB WANTED

#### ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

**Accountant (CA Inter) - Indian (male)** with 10 years' experience Accounting. **Oman DL. Contact 94450401.**

**BCom Graduate** with DL & Experience looking for suitable placement. Contact 92695069.  
Email: [zameelpv@gmail.com](mailto:zameelpv@gmail.com)

**Looking for Senior Accountant Position.** Having 10 Years Experience, and DL also. Mob - 79202007

**Accountant** Indian Male, 34 years old, 9 years of experience in finance, Looking for suitable job. Contact 9874 8634

**Looking for Senior Accountant Position.** Having 10 Years Experience, and DL also . Mob - 79202007

**Indian Male, Bcom, MBA** 19 years experience in Budget,Banking,Audit, MIS,Payroll,ERP(Epicor,Sage,Tally, Oracle). NOC available. ready to join immediately. GSM 91190552.

**M.Com/CA**, 10+ yrs of experience in accounts, finance, banking, taxation, MIS seeking suitable opening. DL, NOC available. Contact 92930407, 79202015

**Assistant Accountant**, Indian male, B Com 12 years experience in Oman with D/L and NOC seeks suitable placement. Contact 96395258

**Looking for Senior Accountant Position** Having 10 Years Experience, and driving license also . Mob - 79202007

**Indian male accountant** with 5 years of accounting experience in Oman up to finalisation MIS, excel.seeks suitable positions. Contact: 93964920  
Email: [gokulah1993@gmail.com](mailto:gokulah1993@gmail.com)

**MBA Finance** 16+ Exp of Oman in Accounts up to finalization,looking for suitable senior position Contact: 92383882

**Sudanese 32 yrs**,6 yrs experience in Oman in Accounting & Administrative assistant.contact 94050251. email [danygalaxy184@gmail.com](mailto:danygalaxy184@gmail.com)

**Accountant, office administration**, back office.Contact 93403636.Email [munafshaikh22@gmail.com](mailto:munafshaikh22@gmail.com)

**Indian female, M.com** (Finance) & MBA (HR), 6 years experience seeking an opening in Muscat. Contact 95340104; [sunilasunil30@gmail.com](mailto:sunilasunil30@gmail.com)

**Part time accountant** with more than 12 yrs experience in different financial sectors.Good working knowledge of ERP softwares & advanced excel.Can do audit & certification & consultancy work. Contact 94197499. Email [ma.abdul1988@gmail.com](mailto:ma.abdul1988@gmail.com)

**Indian, Male working as Senior Accountant** over 16 years of experience in Accounts looking for a Job Contact: 95851920,78258270

**Available 31 years Oman experienced Data Entry Operator** in English/Hindi/Marathi & knowledge of Accounting. Contact +968 92720543

**Part time accountant** having 13 yrs experience upto finalization seeking job. Contact 79102100

## CARGO/LOGISTICS?



## PLACE YOUR AD HERE

EMAIL: [CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)

# CONNECT

## JOB WANTED

**SENIOR CORPORATE AND RETAIL BANKER**

With over 30 years experience in **Credit Management, Relationship Management, Credit Administration, Operations Management and Recoveries/IFRS9 Provisioning Methodologies** seeks suitable placement.

Email: [DolphinOcean367@gmail.com](mailto:DolphinOcean367@gmail.com)

**SR. Manager/GM/VP (Plant)**

Indian Male,with more than 23 years exp. in repair/ maint/deployment/logistic/procurement of Vehicles/Heavy construction equipment in a large reputed construction industry seeks suitable placement in senior management level. NOC available.

**Contact: 79198709**

**Moroccan Sales Engineer** with over 6 years of industrial experience in Oman looking for suitable opportunity.

**GSM: 93823132**  
Email: [mehdikassen@yahoo.com](mailto:mehdikassen@yahoo.com)

**Project Manager/Engineer Structural/Civil Engineer**

with 14 years of experience (8 years in USA and 4 years in Oman) in PEB, RCC, Pipeline, Offshore, and Marine structures and have Master degree from USA. Seeking for placement as Project Engineer or Manager.

**Please contact me on +968-93368626**  
[Irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com](mailto:Irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com)

**ELECTRICAL MANAGER**

**Graduate Electrical Engineer & MBA (Project Management) with 28 years' experience in Industrial Projects & Maintenance looking for senior role. NOC Available and can join immediately.**

**Contact: 968-94029112**  
Email: [sakthiveljothi@gmail.com](mailto:sakthiveljothi@gmail.com)

**Project Engineer**

32 yrs old - Having 10 years of experience (6 yrs in Oman) in oil & gas field - Intense work experience in fabrication of Pressure Vessels, Structural Steel fabrication & erection, Manufacturing of Skid Packages, Piping Spools & supports, Storage Tanks, Stack & Ducts, Pig Traps. EPC & Turnaround projects.

Having DL & Current Visa expires in Feb'2021.

Contact # [boopathiraja88@gmail.com](mailto:boopathiraja88@gmail.com) / 97412105

**QUALITY MANAGER**

Indian, Quality Manager, 18 years exp.4.3 years at Abu Dhabi, looking for top/senior management position in quality. Coordinating RFQ to Mass production, Time, Resource & Quality planning, Process design, Project execution, etc. Available to join shortly.

**Contact: 91-9952022345,**  
[venkatavaradu@rediffmail.com](mailto:venkatavaradu@rediffmail.com)

**HSE Eng/Advisor, Msc Env & NEBOSH IGC** with 10 years extensive construction, safety exp. Immediately available with NOC.

**Contact 95193937**

**Execution Architect/ Finishing Manager**

36, Male in design/ execution at consultancy & contracting with 13 Work experience in Hotel/Office/ Airport/ retail in Construction/Interior fit-out Space seeking Suitable placement. Knowledge on CAD/ MS office/ Planning/ Tendering/ Estimation. D/L and NOC available immediately.

**Contact: 78371040;**  
[architdesign2020@gmail.com](mailto:architdesign2020@gmail.com)

**FINANCE MANAGER**

Group-Finance Manager, 19 years' experience in Strategic planning, Finance, Accounting, Income tax, VAT etc. Qualified CPA, CMA, CIA. Looking for Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

**Contact 92148608 /**  
[soji\\_ansu@yahoo.com](mailto:soji_ansu@yahoo.com)

**OMANI HR/PRO**

Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.

**Contact 97264447**

**Chief Accountant MBA**

**Indian Male With 16 Years' Experience in all aspects of Accounting. NOC & Oman DL Available, seeks Suitable placement.**

**Contact: 97741485**  
Email: [stm.crg@gmail.com](mailto:stm.crg@gmail.com)

**SENIOR MANAGER / PROJECT DIRECTOR – CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Very widely experienced both in Consultancy and Construction looking for a placement at top management level or on partnership.

**Contact: winnerdandd@gmail.com**  
**Mobile/WhatsApp 95150850, 79163390**

**ENGINEER**

**BTECH IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING \*(EEE)\*** WITH 3 YEARS EXPERIENCES DIPLOMA IN PLC & SCADA. NOC, Oman Valid Driving License Looking for a suitable Job. **Contact 78227500**  
Email: [muhdfahiz007@gmail.com](mailto:muhdfahiz007@gmail.com)

**MicroMasters in Supply Chain Management, B-Tech in Mechanical Engineering 3 years industry experience as a Sales Engineer, Valid Oman DL.**

**Contact: 99137115**  
Email: [adimurali7@gmail.com](mailto:adimurali7@gmail.com)

**CIVIL ENGINEER**

16+ Years Experience In Site Supervision, Structural Engineering, ETABS, STAAD, ROADS, BRIDGES, Project manager, INDUSTRIAL. WORKED WITH SOHAR ALUMINIUM AND OCC. WITH ALL SAFETY Training & KNOWLEDGE. Available Noc & Valid Driving License.

**Call or Wts app 98333185**

**PURCHASE + STORES + ADMINISTRATION**

Indian Male 10+ yrs experience in Oman (Currently available in Oman). Experience in Engineering / Construction, Manufacturing, Trading Concern & Structural Steel Projects. Materials Management with administrative skills. Looking for suitable placement and ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.

**Contact: 78235621/bsda@gmail.com**

**Graduate Civil Engineer**

From India with over 11 years Project Management Experience with Consultant and Client in Oman with local release & driving license seeks suitable opportunities.

**Email: [contactsyedshams@gmail.com](mailto:contactsyedshams@gmail.com);**  
**GSM: +968 98500235**

**Smart Indian**, excellent English, Research & Technical Writing Skills, Double Masters (Finance, Journalism & Mass Communication), Arabic Speaker, 17years Oman experience in Airport Project, Hospital, Media, EPC seeks role in Admin/HR/Projects/Corporate & Marketing Communications/Operations/Customer Relations/Role in Chairman/CEO Office. Immediate joining. NOC.

**# 99283938 / [rajansampath@hotmail.com](mailto:rajansampath@hotmail.com)**

**FINANCE**

Indian, Group-Finance Manager, 19 years' world class experience in Strategic planning, Finance, Accounting etc. Multiple Professional qualifications in Accounting and audit. Looking for Top/Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

**Contact 99455353**

**ADMINISTRATION**

Indian, Male, having bachelor's degree looking for position in Office Administration/ Document Control, total 22 years of experience, 19 years in Oman with Oman driving licence. NOC available.

**Contact No. 99757759**

**GM / NSM / Head Of Sales**

Male 49 – Proven Business Manager with exceptional sales management skills. Chartered Institute of Marketing - UK, MBA in Marketing, 15+ years of FMCG sales & business management experience in GCC & OMAN. NOC/DL available.

**Email: [sljobseeker72@gmail.com](mailto:sljobseeker72@gmail.com)**  
**Contact: 96223114**

**I T**

**BCA Graduate** looking for placement in suitable IT company, having Oman Driving License. Presently on family joining visa.

**Contact on 93339660** for further details

**Omani DL holder Indian from Kerala looking for a job in F M C G sector.**

12 year experience in Oman. Speak Arabic, English, Hindi and Malayalam. Work experience in all over Oman.

**Interested please Contact 94022634**

## JOB WANTED

### ADMIN/HR

**Indian Male 43.y.o** seeking a suitable opportunity in Admin/Mktg/Ops Noc & D/L available. PH. 98274545

**Indian male with 21 years' experience** in Oman seeks job for HR/ Admin. Contact 95425764

**Indian male, 13yrs Oman Experience** in Stores, Purchase, Operation, Admin. D/L.Immediate joining. # 78363835

**Bangladeshi male, B.SC** looking for suitable job. Contact 79978201

**Looking for HR & Admin Manager / Executive or Secretarial postions.** Knows custom clearance and costing also. Over 15 years of experience, please call 91732334

**Office manager / Business coordination / project administration** Indian Graduate Male Experienced in Engineering Consultancy & Construction Contacting Companies looking for a suitable placement. Ready to join immediately with Oman DL & NOC. Contact: 79705674 Email: [pramoda.online@gmail.com](mailto:pramoda.online@gmail.com)

**Indian Male seeking Admin/HR** Job having 23 years of experience in Oman with Valid DL and NOC available - Contact: 99578192

**Indian female** with 10 yrs experience in payroll, executive secretarial,general admin/HR with valid D/L,looking for suitable placement. Contact 96441865. Email [reeteequ1779@gmail.com](mailto:reeteequ1779@gmail.com)

**Omani Male 35 yrs old, looking for a PRO job.** Has experience 14 yrs in the same field. Contact 92049106, 95422144

**Indian Female 10 years' experience in Muscat,** for the post of Sales Coordinator, Secretary or Office cum Commercial Assistant. Contact 94048550, 95431427. E-mail: [bmnar27@yahoo.com](mailto:bmnar27@yahoo.com)

**Indian Male, MBA,BCOM** having 6 years Gulf & 4 years India experience in HR / ADMIN & Purchase looking for suitable placement. Contact 97914340, 92369044. Email: [sampathrajkv@gmail.com](mailto:sampathrajkv@gmail.com)

**Indian female 29. Experience in telemarketing/secretarial/office admin work.** On family visa. Ready to join ASAP. Muscat. 93605361

### HOSPITALITY

**Looking for Bartender job.** Contact 98917401

**\*Classified Advertisement space booking with text, should be done till 12.00 noon for next day's publication.**  
**\* Subject to space availability**

### ARCHITECT

**9 years experienced Female Architect** with Urban planning experience seeking for a job - Contact 96146645.

### DRIVER

**Experienced driver with car,** looking job in office/company for contract. Contact 79250786

**10 yrs experience driver** looking job. Contact 91335595

**Looking for driving job.** Contact 96312087

**Looking for driving job with Car.** 6 yrs experience. Contact 96176918

**Looking for job in driving,** with 5 yrs experience. Contact 96189448

### IT

**Indian Post Graduate** with 21 years experience in Oracle SQL, PL/SQL, Forms, Reports, DBA, IT Manager, Orion ERP, Sage ERP with Accounts Knowledge and NOC. **Contact 95398567 / 78141598 / [anasd2k@gmail.com](mailto:anasd2k@gmail.com)**

**IT sales and support.** 5 years experience with IT network and hardware, BSc. Networking, Oman D/L. **Contact 97060076**

**Web developer,** 22, Indian, BSc (Hons.) IT, UK. 1yr exp in various software projects (including PHP,NodeJS,ReactJS). Seeking a suitable job. Currently in Oman. Contact: 79371798

**Computer service technician** with 2 years exp. also with 2 years exp in sales in oman, looking for suitable job. Indian male 28, currently in oman, NOC available. Contact: 94496905

**IT Administrator,** Indian Male Looking for Job. 12years of Exp.in Oman with D/L. CCNA Certified Work Exp. in POS system, CCTV, IT Network. 95059065 / 95147348 / [jaxonnj@gmail.com](mailto:jaxonnj@gmail.com)

### MEDICAL

**Indian Male 43.y.o** seeking a suitable opportunity in medical centers for Admin/Mktg/Ops.Noc & D/L available. Contact 98274545

**Indian 30yrs, MSW [Medical & psychiatry]** MSC Psychology,6 yrs experience seeks job.Contact 79308281,91 9207258008

### MANAGER

**Indian, Finance Manager 20Yrs** Experience, Tradefinance - MIS - Budget - Planning - Auditing - Finalisation - Banking: 90473368, [devan801@gmail.com](mailto:devan801@gmail.com)

### ENGINEER

**Quantity Surveying,** preparation of documents like BOQ. 23 years in Oman searching a job from contractor or consultant has experience in Civil, MEP, landscaping and interior decorations. Contact 93072517

**Mechanical Engineer (B.E)** with 7+ yrs exp in MEP projects,Oil&Gas piping projects.NOc & Oman DL available. Contact 91293770. email [jebilk212@gmail.com](mailto:jebilk212@gmail.com)

**B.E Mechanical engineer,** having overall of 5 yrs experience in steel fabrication industry seeking a suitable job.Ready to join immediately with local NOC arranged. Contact 968-78052560

**Indian 26,** experience in Telecom Networks (Oman) & master's degree, seeking position as Project/Network Engineer. Contact 92613254. Email [mohdsalih22@gmail.com](mailto:mohdsalih22@gmail.com)

**Mechanical Engineer,** Looking for a job in Quality Control, with DL Contact 79714227. Email [lokeshshirodkar15@gmail.com](mailto:lokeshshirodkar15@gmail.com)

**Senior civil engineer** with over 10 yrs experience on high end projects(RE) Contact 78270396

**Senior Civil Engineer** with 8 years' experience in government and private construction projects with NOC/DL looking for a suitable job , GSM : 93352004

**Electrical Engineer B.Tech,** 15 years exp in Oman seeks job. NOC and Release available. Contact 92254336 Email [ameen1667@gmail.com](mailto:ameen1667@gmail.com)

**B.E Civil engr** with 14 years of Oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact: 72132426

**Project engineer** experienced in aluminium Industry with valid Oman DL,seeks job. Contact 79500069

**Indian 22/Male, B.Tech** (Comp. Science) from SRM University, Chennai, Interned at Uniq Technology, Chennai as an Android App developer is looking for an immediate placement. # 95495877

**HVAC engineer** with 1 year Experience seeks job. Contact 79027224

**Mechanical engineer** of Car diagnostic and maintenance with experience three years. Contact 93521100

**Indian Female Structural Engineer** (B-Tech Civil), 18 Years Gulf Experience is seeking for suitable placement. Having valid visa and driving license. Ready to join Immediately with necessary documents. Contact: 79858363.

**Indian Civil QA.QC Engineer,** Inspector (BE Civil, PDO approved, QMS Auditor, Oman Driving licence, NOC) with 10 years of experience looking for new job. 96359447, +919901059827

**Facility engineer. (BE)** 12 years exper. in electrical or maintengineer field, valid Oman DL. Seeking facility or maint.engineer job. Contact 94493654 or [syamsk2255@gmail.com](mailto:syamsk2255@gmail.com)

**Senior Planner** for Infra projects highway and buildings ( B.Tech.Civil with 17 yrs Exp) Immediate join. local transfer -NOC. Contact : 91170802. Email: [vvrtammu@gmail.com](mailto:vvrtammu@gmail.com)

**Sri Lanka male QS** Having 6 years Experience and looking for a suitable job in Oman and ready to join Immediately contact 79473123

**Electrical engineer,** experience 12 year in Oman. Contact 98148034

**B.Tech Civil Engineer** with 10+ yrs experience valid Oman DL, looking for suitable position. Available for immediate join. Noc available. Contact 79023001

**Project/Civil engineer** with 8 yrs experience in construction projects, gulf experience & DL available. Contact 97906770

**Looking for a job for the post of Electrical Engineer** with BTech and 15 years exp in Oman. NOC and Release available. Contact 92254336. Email [ameen1667@gmail.com](mailto:ameen1667@gmail.com)

**B.E civil engineer** having 12 plus years of Oman experience in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact: 72132426

### SALES / MARKETING

**Experienced and academically qualified retail professional** available in Oman with more than 20 years experience in multinational brands. Looking for a challenging opening in the top management role. **Contact +968 92639013**

**Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing** for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. **Contact 92085257**

**MBA, 7 yrs experience** in Marketing seeks job with Oman DL. **Contact 97200806.**  
Email [haleemkply@gmail.com](mailto:haleemkply@gmail.com)

**Indian Sales/Marketing manager** selling of Constructional,building material products with 14 yrs experience in Oman with DL,looking job. Contact 95952066

**Indian male, bachelor's degree** seeks job in Sales, customer service,administration.12 yrs experience in Oman with Oman DL.Contact 97268429 [dinojthomas@gmail.com](mailto:dinojthomas@gmail.com)

**23 yrs old indian male experience in sales & logistics** seeking for suitable job opportunities. #79964123. Email [raheelrahman123@gmail.com](mailto:raheelrahman123@gmail.com)



### Signage Design Production & Supply

3D Design & Simulations  
Outdoor Illuminated Signage  
Indoor Signages  
Vehicle Signages & Acrylic Work  
Printing & Installation of Posters  
Stickers & Banners  
Fit Out & Carpentry Work

Email: [media@nexusnovel.com](mailto:media@nexusnovel.com)

## DINING

## SOHA

RESTAURANT. VEG.

Specialised for Indian Thali, South Indian food

Well Renovated with family section

Indian Chapati available like Homemade

**Tel.: 24479012, GSM: 99427484 / 99755511**



Delivery of Food parcels On Monthly basis

## RESTAURANT / FOOD DELIVERY?



**PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

EMAIL: [CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM](mailto:CLASSIFIEDS@TIMESOFOMAN.COM)

## JOB WANTED

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Plumbing,painting maintenance works.** Contact 96191837,98937266

**Electririan, plumber & A/C Service, L.Driver (D/L)** Contact 95308363

### MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

**Finance Manager,** 28 years Oman experienced worked with reputed groups, Managing Cashflow, MIS, Budget, Forecast etc. Contact 968-98803439 (Call/Whatsapp)

### PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

**Diploma civil** Indian male 26 yrs 5 yrs oman exp, NOC ready, sales/procurement/stores. E.mail [vijju.asp7777@gmail.com](mailto:vijju.asp7777@gmail.com), GSM/WA 00918712330030

**Senior Procurement Engineer, M.tech-Civil,** Looking for a job, NOC Available, Immediate Joining, Indian Male, 38yrs, have over 16+ years UAE& Oman experience. E. syed-kamaalsaba@yahoo.com, Watsapp +96871144578, GSM +917766019519

**Indian/Male(29)/MBA/**6 years' experience in procurement and sales coordination with valid Oman D/L. Available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194

# SHOP WITH NO LIMITS ON **HAABTA.COM**

- ✓ BUY AND SELL
- ✓ INSTANT PAYMENT
- ✓ GET DELIVERED



DOWNLOAD NOW



Download on the  
**App Store**



ANDROID APP ON  
**Google play**



Follow us on  
**TFMOman**

# ROUND-UP

# Nissan Sunny impresses with its performance

The latest Sunny is an addition to the growing line-up of Nissan's renewed sedan models and features a bold new look, advanced powertrains and technology features



**MUSCAT:** Nissan Sunny, with its modern, expressive design, fresh interiors and confidence-inspiring performance has received the thumbs up from its owners.

The latest Sunny is an addition to the growing line-up of Nissan's renewed sedan models and features a bold new look, advanced powertrains and technology features. The new generation car builds on this solid foundation and reinforces Nissan's presence in the increasingly popular B-Sedan segment that is loaded with technology and safety features not usually found in the segment.

Calling Nissan Sunny a customer-centric product, Abdullah Zedjali from Muscat who recently bought the vehicle says, "Its great design, smart technological up-

grades and best-in-class spacious interiors make it a perfect car for customers looking for a sophisticated driving experience."

The fully upgraded model comes with an expressive exterior featuring Nissan's V-motion grille and combines a spacious interior design with harmonious materials and colours to give a fresh and renewed feel to the car.

Ibrahim Ajmi from Ibri, a long time Nissan Sunny fan, says "It is no surprise that Sunny has been a success in Oman. The car continues to be a popular choice amongst customers in the segment because of its outstanding design, intelligent technology and remarkable performance."

Design is also a key strategic advantage for the Sunny, as Nissan has

reimagined the entry-level sedan with a design that leaves a lasting first impression and that owners can be proud to be seen in. The new design features lower, wider and longer exterior dimensions while retaining Sunny's roomy interior space.

Aziz Al Abri from Salalah likes it for its top design. He says, "I appreciate the car for its premium design and styling. The car is especially appreciated by buyers looking for elegance and sophistication."

Ramesh R from Rustaq says, "Nissan Sunny's performance leaves a lasting first impression that owners can be proud to be seen in. It is about dynamic styling, quality benchmarking and attention to detail. It offers confident driving and no-compromise performance."

A senior official of Nissan

Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles, says, "We are delighted to hear compliments about the Nissan Sunny. With its emotional design, large roominess and advanced Nissan Intelligent Mobility technology, Sunny bring a new level of style, excitement and refinement to entry-level buyers at a highly affordable price."

Standard on all three Sunny grade levels is a next-generation 1.6-litre 4-cylinder engine rated at 118 horsepower and a 149 Nm of torque – increases of 12 per cent and seven per cent respectively.

The new "Gen3" 16-valve DOHC HR16DE engine features a 10.4:1 compression ratio, spray-coated bore cylinder block, high thermal conductivity piston rings and sodium-filled exhaust valves.

## MAISARAH TO CONDUCT GRAND PRIZE DRAW OF PRIZE ACCOUNT SCHEME

**MUSCAT:** Maisarah Islamic Banking Services is all set to conduct its Grand Prize draw of the Prize Account Scheme.

As part of the grand prize draw, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services is offering its customers a chance to win OMR 25,000, OMR 50,000 and OMR 100,000 as prize amount for one winner each.

Nasser Said Al Bahantah, Chief Retail Banking Officer at Maisarah said, "We are delighted to organise the grand prize draw of the Prize Account Scheme, which has garnered positive feedback from our customers. Our scheme has encouraged our customers to continue saving. The Prize Account Scheme, which makes winning easier, has not only been encouraging people to take charge of their finances but also rewarding them substantially for their saving habits. Maisarah will continue to provide our customers with the best products and distinctive experience."



Maisarah Prize Account is based on the Islamic profit sharing concept of Mudarabah. The Prize Account Scheme offers customers a chance to win big prizes, by just maintaining a minimum balance of OMR 100 over a small period.

The 2020 edition of the Prize Account Scheme offered bigger prizes, more winners, and guaranteed prizes for each branch throughout the year. The scheme made winning easier for customers by providing more chances for customers to win a prize pool

of more than OMR 700,000, in the main prizes, special prizes, segment prizes, and grand prizes.

Maisarah Islamic Banking Services, the Islamic window of BankDhofar, is a full-service provider of a broad range of Sharia-compliant financial products and solutions. Maisarah maintains a complete segregation of business activities to provide Sharia-compliant financial services to its valued customers.

As a part of its strategy, the Islamic window has maintained high standards of corporate governance, research and development, corporate social responsibility and customer service that have helped in winning various awards in local and international markets. It offers financial products and solutions in corporate banking, retail banking, investment banking and treasury.

WE SPEED UP YOUR BUSINESS.  
YOU CONTRIBUTE IN SAVING THE TREES.

**ESHHAR**  
YOUR ECO-FRIENDLY  
ADVERTISING SOLUTIONS

DISTRIBUTE YOUR FLYERS,  
MAGAZINES, MENUS,  
NEWSLETTERS  
DIGITALLY WITH US.

CONTACT **7171 6777** TODAY.





ROUND-UP



T FM  
95.4 FM



BIGGER AND BETTER

# Alizz Islamic Bank increases Bushra prizes to OMR2 million

**MUSCAT:** 2020 was an exceptional year that saw many changes in the social and economic fabric of the country. The world as we know has changed in so many ways to accommodate the changes that were forced onto us by the pandemic.

Consumer behaviour was one of the first and most visibly impacted areas, the way we live, the way we shop and even the way we do day to day tasks has changed significantly. At Alizz Islamic Bank we take pride in ensuring that we are always adapting to these changes and enhancing our services and products to match the expectations of our customers.

This year the Bushra Prize Savings Account Programme was designed to match these changes in expectation and consumer be-

haviour. Bushra in 2021 is bigger and better, with an increase in the Bushra prizes from 'OMR 1.85 million' to 'OMR 2 million' & a significant jump in the number of winners to '3,692 winners'.

**Special draws**

The pandemic was a world-changing event and it has highlighted key sectors that play a vital role in the health and safety of our community, keeping this in mind the Bushra 2021 schemes includes special draws for our front line soldiers; Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and the defence force as well as the ROP, just a small token of appreciation for their relentless sacrifices. The special draws for this segment will take place every quarter with a prize of OMR500

each for 3 winners per organisation. We also kept in mind the growing number of retirees that are also adjusting to these changes. Our 2021 Bushra Prize Savings Account includes quarterly prize draws of OMR500 for 3 pensioners.

Technology has played a key role in ensuring continuity of business and life during the pandemic and the lockdowns. Keeping in line with this consumer behavioural shift this year the Bushra Prize Savings account also includes monthly prizes for accounts that are opened digitally via the banks mobile banking application, 17 lucky winners that have opened a Bushra account digitally via the Mobile banking application will be getting a prize of 100 OMR each every month.

At Alizz Islamic Bank we always work to ensure that our products and services are structured to match the expectations and requirements of our customers, in the past few years the bank has received several requests and suggestions from customers on further enhancing the Bushra proposition. One of these requests was to have specific draws for Male customers alongside the Female Draws that the bank has been conducting for the last few years. Bushra 2021 include monthly draws for both Female and Males customers, providing equal opportunity to both genders, with 17 winners every month from each branch for each gender with a prize of 500 OMR per winner. The Bank has also introduced a special

draw for its Tharwa Customers in June and December where 3 lucky winners will get 10,000 OMR each.

**Life-changing event**

This alongside daily draws of 100 OMR for 10 customers, weekly draws of 500 OMR for 10 customers and monthly draws of OMR5,000 for 3 customers alongside 2 quarterly draws of 50,000 OMR for 3 winners ensures that everyone has a chance to win. Winning a large sum of money can be a life-changing event, and this year there will be 2 lucky winners that will experience this life-changing journey with our mega draws that will be conducted in June as part of our half-yearly celebrations where one lucky winner will get a chance to win 100,000

OMR and the bank's grand draw of 150,000 OMR for one winner conducted at the end of the year.

The prize scheme also includes a number of special draws including Omani youth Day with 500 OMR going to 15 customers as well as a special draw celebrating the countries national day where 51 lucky customers will win 500 OMR each.

To be eligible for any of these draws customers need to Open a Bushra Prize Savings account with Alizz Bank and maintain a balance of just 100 OMR in their account. The Bushra Prize Savings account is the first Sharia Complaint Prize Savings account in the Sultanate that is based on the principle of Mudharaba, all the prizes are a Hiba from the shareholders' funds.

# ARA Petroleum signs MoU with ministry

The 'ARA Digital Studio' to be constructed in the Al Buraimi governorate will serve the educational sector by producing digital material related to the subject



wholly owned by ARA Petroleum. The company is committed to implementing CSR strategies that are in line with In-Country Value (ICV). Being in the oil and gas business, the entity drives an earnest endeavour to extend tangible support to society.

The 'ARA Digital Studio' to be constructed in the Al Buraimi governorate will serve the educational sector by producing digital material related to the subject.

The MoU signing ceremony was held under the aegis of Dr Abdullah bin Khamis Ambusaidi, Education undersecretary at the Ministry of Education. Moosa Al-Moosawi, DGM at ARA Petroleum

Oman Block 44 and Dr Fathiya Al-saddi, Director General of the Directorate General of the Ministry of Education in the Buraimi governorate signed the agreement.

A spokesperson for ARA Petroleum said, "Community engagement is one of the key pillars of corporate social responsibility. With the objective of contributing to the community where we are based in, we are taking on social activities such as the digital studio with an emphasis on assisting the community's educational activities. As a trusted and responsible member of the community, we take up distinctive social contribution activities.

"We understand the impact businesses have on the stakeholders, communities, and the environment. Therefore, our commitment to being a responsible company and making a positive contribution to society is instilled in the way we conduct business."

A spokesperson for the Ministry of Education said, "The digital studio will help the education sector in Buraimi enhance the general and digital learning experience. We want to express our sincere gratitude to Ara Petroleum for creating a positive change in society. By contributing to education sector Ara Petroleum has taken a step in the right direction."

# OAB provides new service for tourism facilities through its digital channels

**MUSCAT:** In cooperation with the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, Oman Arab Bank (OAB) launched a new service through its digital channels. The new development will allow entities in the tourism industry to directly pay their fees to the ministry's account, easily and efficiently.

Commenting on the new service, Khalid Khalaf Al Awfi, Assistant General Manager for Financial & Administrative Affairs, at the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, said, "The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism continuously seeks to facilitate and develop procedures for investors within the tourism and hotel establishments by digitising relevant processes, together with private sector institutions. Through our partnership with Oman Arab Bank, we will see the provision of a suitable technical solution that links the payment of tourism fees via the bank's digital platforms, which is also in line with national e-government strategy."

Abdullah Salim Al Hajri, General Director of Financial & Administrative Affairs, said, "We are confident entities in the tourism industry will appreciate this new service, which enables timely fee payments, no delay and promotes ease and convenience. This will reflect positively on the sustainability of their businesses, especially in light of the current circumstances and the tremendous challenges facing the sector. The government, represented by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, is working in cooperation with all concerned parties to overcome these obstacles and enable the advancement of the sector, sustainably."



The new facility will allow owners of tourism-based entities such as hotels, restaurants, etc, to pay their tourism fees through our digital platforms, including the OAB Online App, our online banking services and ATMs

**Sulaiman Al Hinai**  
General Manager, Head of Treasury, Investments & Government Relations Division

fees and fill in the required information. Once completed, users will have to enter the amount of money due, which will then be transferred directly to the ministry's account."

Oman Arab Bank is considered one of the most advanced local banks in terms of digital services. The bank's journey began several years ago, with huge investments in its digital infrastructure which is now capable of providing efficient services to all of the bank's customers.

STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY

# Meethaq launches first-ever Sharia-compliant Corporate Purchase Cards

**MUSCAT:** In line with the bank's vision 'To serve you better, everyday', Meethaq Islamic Banking from Bank Muscat, has launched the first-ever Sharia-compliant Corporate Purchase Cards in Oman.

Now, Meethaq Corporate Clients can enjoy a simple and secure way to make all their business to government payments with these exclusive corporate purchase cards. Meethaq is the leading Islamic financial services provider in Oman, operating on the principles of Transparency, Trust and Partnership, thereby ensuring the comfort of remaining true to one's religious values.

The new card features include a minimum limit of OMR20 at card issuance. A corporate customer can avail up to 5 cards for free and there is no need to pay any annual or Ujrah fee. To enhance corporate security, no cash advance or withdrawal facility is available on these cards, which can be used only for making payment to government entities in Oman. Customers can load funds up to a maximum of



OMR1 million on a card.

Meethaq customers can apply for a card by visiting their nearest branch or by contacting their account-relationship manager. Corporates who apply for the card should provide details including Commercial Registration Number, Oman Chamber of Commerce membership document, the ID cards of the cardholder and authorised personnel along with a

completed application form. Government entities that require the card should provide a letter stating the requirement duly signed by account authorised signatories and copies of ID cards of the cardholder and authorised personnel along with a completed Application Form. The customer should provide written instructions to the branch to debit the account and credit funds on the card.

Featuring state-of-the-art technology, the new Corporate Purchase Card is designed to meet the evolving needs of corporate payments. Meethaq remains committed to partnering with all institutions and corporate clients for success, as the bank processes and technology are designed to drive future corporate transactions and digital banking requirements. The new Corporate Purchase Card will greatly enhance financial flexibility with greater user experience, superior payment controls and easy access to MIS reports. The cards are equipped with self-service features to obtain user-friendly MIS reports to track corporate expenditure data.

Meethaq Islamic banking provides several value-added services and exclusive lifestyle privileges to its customers, complementing a world-class banking experience. As the pioneer of Islamic banking in the Sultanate, Meethaq has adopted best practices in Islamic banking and finance worldwide to provide a robust model that benefits its customers.



**Sifra**  
OMAN'S ONLY  
SODIUM FREE  
DRINKING WATER

**5**  
IN  
GALLON  
BOTTLE

Sodium Free  
Drinking  
Water



*The healthy choice*

It is beneficial to limit sodium intake if you have blood pressure, diabetes, heart or kidney disease.

Call Toll-Free 800 71 222 or GSM 9275 5522  
f OmanOasis @ OmanOasisOfficial www.omanoasis.com  
OASIS WATER COMPANY LLC P.O.Box: 87, PC: 124, Rusayl, Sultanate of Oman.



C.R. No.: 1/9545/2



**CHANGAN**  
Driving Forward With You

# Introducing EADO

THE CHARM IS UNAVOIDABLE



**BLUE CORE**  
Fuel Efficient Engine



1.6L Engine,  
116 hp



6-Speed  
Automatic  
Transmission



Excellent  
Fuel Economy  
15.9km/l\*



150+ years  
of legacy



Over 19 million  
units sold worldwide



Presence in  
65+ countries



World-class  
R&D capability

KNOW MORE

\*AS PER GSO.

For company inquiries, call **96579086**

Bahwan  
International  
Group



Arabian Gulf Automobiles  
and Equipment LLC

Showroom Location: Way No. 533,  
Suhail Bahwan Automobiles Premises, Al Qurum.



[www.changanoman.com](http://www.changanoman.com)



[changanoman](#)

C.R. No. 1232361



**800 50800**



**9464 1010**