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MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Duke Henri of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on his country's National Day. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments along with his best wishes of good health and happiness to Duke Henri. His Majesty also wished the friendly people of Luxembourg further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**



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TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Arabian leopard found in new location

1 Arabian leopards are repopulating areas where they were absent for many years. **>A2**

WORLD India administers 8.6 million jabs in a day

2 India administered 8,616,373 COVID-19 vaccine doses, the highest for one day so far globally. **>A6**

MARKET Treasury bills worth OMR150mn issued

3 Oman's central bank raised OMR150 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday. **>B1**



OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Royal Decree appoints non-resident envoys to Tajikistan, Sudan

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik on Tuesday issued a Royal Decree, No. 46/2021, on appointing non-resident ambassadors, reading as follows:

Article (1) appoints Ibrahim Ahmed Mohammed Al Mu'aini, Oman's Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, as the Sultanate's extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of

Tajikistan.

Article (2) appoints Ali Sulaiman Said Al Darmaki, Oman's Ambassador to the Republic of Sudan, as the Sultanate's extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan.

Article (3) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from its date of issue. **-ONA**

DECISION ISSUED



His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth

Oman to launch marathon spanning all governorates

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, on Tuesday issued a decision forming the main committee of a first-of-kind "Governorates Marathon" (district marathon) covering all parts of the Sultanate.

The issuance of this decision comes within the context of HH Sayyid Theyazin's attention and keenness to encourage society to practice various types of sports and espouse them as a healthy lifestyle. A statement issued by the Ministry yesterday observes that "Collective sports cement

social ties, with professional performers engaging with members of society in a national epic of communication."

The Ministry will organise the marathon in cooperation with Oman Athletic Association. The marathon will capture the concept of social partnership: It seeks to build awareness about types of sports and races, open up opportunities for owners of related projects and businesses, and enable sportsmen and sportswomen to expand their scopes of practice as they master this sport and contest races in general. **-ONA**



Price rise to continue as vaccination drive speeds up and sentiments turn positive

Times News Service

MUSCAT: For the first time since April 2019, crude oil prices rose to a new high and traded above \$75 a barrel on Tuesday.

While the US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures rose by 0.03 per cent to \$73.68, the Brent crude futures also rose 0.35 percent to \$75.16 a barrel.

Most of the crude oil benchmarks have seen a steady rally in prices in the past few weeks and experts expect the prices to continue to rise as global COVID-19 vaccination drives speed up and economic sentiments turn positive.

Meanwhile, the Oman oil price (August delivery 2021) on Tuesday reached \$72.86 (OMR28), an increase by 95 cents (400 baisas)

from the price on Monday, which was at \$71.91 (OMR27.7).

"The average price of Oman oil (June Delivery 2021) has stabilised at \$63.10, thus it's \$1.33 per barrel lower than May Delivery 2021," Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME) said.

BofA Global Research raised its Brent crude price forecasts for this year and next, saying that tighter oil supply and recovering demand could push oil briefly to \$100 per barrel in 2022.

"Last year, many economies had scaled back operations because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which meant industries were closed, people were required to stay home, and many economic

activities were suspended," said Ramanuj Venkatesh, a financial analyst in the country.

"The increase in oil price is because of the increased economic activity and demand for goods, compared to last year.

"Furthermore, although many countries are turning to green fuels, building economies on renewables such as solar energy and wind will take some time," he added.

"Oil is here to stay for the foreseeable future. Our cars need fuel to drive, industries require oil to run, and power plants generate electricity from oil and gas. Many of our day-to-day needs are still met by fossil fuels." **>A2**

PANDEMIC

COVID-19 casualties reach a new high

Times News Service

MUSCAT: With 41 deaths, the casualties due to the COVID-19 reached a new high during the last 24 hours in Oman.

As many as 2,037 new cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) were registered in the Sultanate on Tuesday, in addition to 41 new COVID-19-related deaths.

This brings the total number of positive COVID-19 cases to 252,609 in the Sultanate. The total number of COVID-19-related death cases reached 2,782, the Ministry of Health said. On Monday, 31 deaths were reported from various parts of the country. The Ministry added that 1,079 new cases have recovered, bringing the total number to 221,250 recoveries.

The Ministry also pointed out that 209 people were hospitalised over the past 24 hours, as the total number of current hospitalised CCOVID-19-infected patients stands at 1,517; of them, 443 are in intensive care units.



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Efforts to conserve Arabian leopards bear good results



NEW SIGHTINGS: The leopards seen in the Najd come just a few days after teams from the OCE spotted footage of another of the rare animals in the Harweb area, north of Jabal Qamar.

Field surveys recently carried out by the Office for the Conservation of the Environment (OCE) under the Diwan of Royal Court showed an increased presence of the big cat in a Najd region north of Salalah

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Arabian leopards are repopulating areas where they were absent for many years, pointing to proof that efforts to conserve them are indeed bearing fruit.

Field surveys recently carried out by the Office for the Conservation of the Environment (OCE) under the Diwan of Royal Court showed an increased presence of the big cat in a Najd region north of Salalah, the capital of the southern Dhofar Governorate.

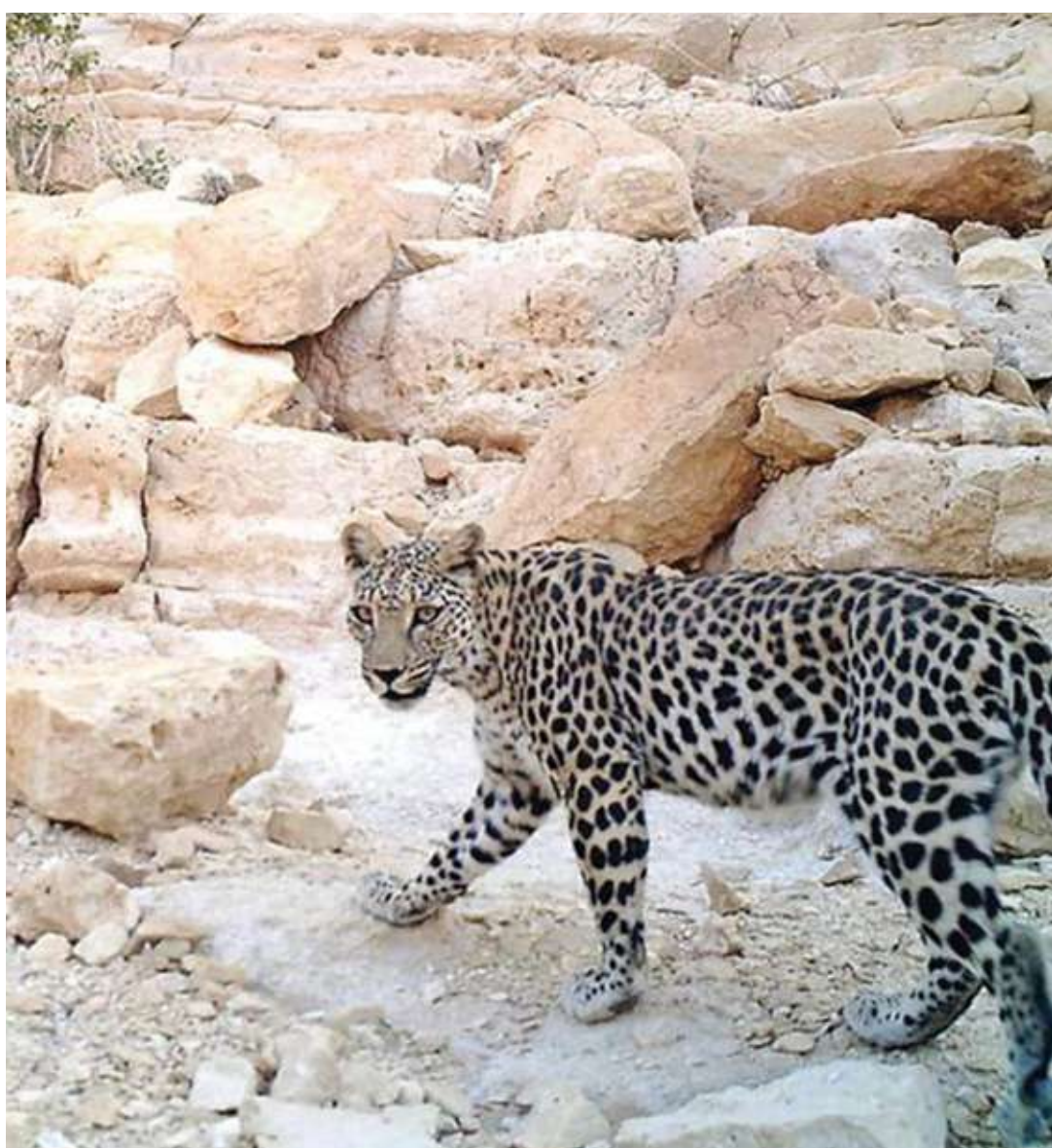
The Najd region, which spans between Wadi Jazlut and Wadi Ashok, is considered to be the home of the Arabian leopard, which has been able to expand its territory owing to ongoing conservation efforts. Listed as critically endangered on the IUCN

Red List, the Arabian leopard holds immense ecological and cultural value for Oman and the rest of the Arab region.

Another area where the leopard is more often found is Al Mughsayl. These locations are close to their habitats in the mountains of Jabal Al Qara and Jabal Al Qamar.

The leopards seen in the Najd come just a few days after teams from the OCE spotted footage of another of the rare animals on a camera trap in the Harweb area, north of Jabal Qamar, the first time it had been seen there in more than 50 years.

"This very important recording represents an increase in the geographical spread of the Arabian leopard in the mountains of the Sultanate," said the OCE in a statement. "We celebrate the results



achieved by the team of the Arabian Leopard Conservation Project alongside the Office for the Conservation of the Environment."

The results of these studies, which were carried out in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs in Sala-

lah, will help conservation teams to enhance methods to protect the areas inhabited by the Arabian leopard.

A number of other exotic species of wildlife are found in the mountains north of Salalah, such as the Nubian ibex,

the Arabian gazelle, the striped hyena, the desert lynx, and the Arabian wolf.

A few wild plants that are important to Oman's economy and culture are also found there. The most important and well-known among them are frankincense trees.

GLOBAL OIL MARKET

< FROM **A1** Increase in oil price would help balance Oman's budget deficits

Sarweshwar Biyani, the Vice President (Finance and Accounts) at SV Pittie Schar Textiles said the rise in oil price would help balance Oman's budget deficits. "The higher oil price and its upward trend will certainly give an extra edge to economic performance," he said. "Government revenue

will increase, and budget deficits will be lower than expected. This will reduce the requirement of debt which will further help save on interest." "Overall, this will strengthen the financial position of Oman, which will help achieve better credit ratings from international agencies," he said.



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Oman cricket ground in global venue list

Located in Amerat, the stadium has been cleared to hold Twenty20 World Cup matches

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's cricket stadium in Amerat has received approval to hold the preliminary rounds of the Twenty20 World Cup, should the country be chosen as a venue for the upcoming tournament. Set to be held this October and November, after it was postponed last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a decision on whether Oman, and its neighbour the United Arab Emirates, will hold the tournament is to be taken in the coming days. "Through our high-level facilities and international stadiums, we have become the focus of the world's attention," said Pankaj Khimji, chairman, Oman Cricket Association. "We seek to make crick-

et a sport enjoyed by all Omani youth, which will help us achieve the goals for which the Oman Cricket Academy was set up. "This most notably includes providing opportunities for cricket players to develop their skills and refine their talents, in addition to instilling the spirit of the game in every budding cricketer," he added. "We currently focus on group training, where we develop cricketers by working on different technical aspects of their game and testing their new skills against other cricketers." Groups are composed of cricketers of approximately the same age and ability level, with approximately 10 young athletes in each group. The academy has prepared a school training programme to attract students from Wilayat Amerat to the game, as they will benefit most from professional and specialised training. "We will strive to improve the level of school cricket, as well as provide cricketers with a positive learning experience, unlock and develop potential talents in schools, help cricketers with their game plans, and make sure they practice the basics, while establishing a good relationship with other trainers at the school to ensure continuous improvement." The Oman Cricket Academy also implements a special training programme as an important and crucial step in the development of all cricketers that involves tailoring each training session to meet the needs of individual players, since it is the best way to correct specific technical flaws and learn new skills during training sessions.

FIGHTING COVID-19

Single dose of vaccine enough for recovered patients

Times News Service

MUSCAT: People who have been infected with COVID-19 and haven't completed six months since the infection are allowed to take only one dose of the vaccine, the Ministry of Health (MOH), said. "If a person is infected with COVID-19 and 6 months or more have passed since the infection, two doses of the vaccine should be taken, and if less than six months since the infection, only one dose should be taken," MOH said in a statement. MOH added that when a person wishes to travel before six months have passed since the infection, two doses of the vaccine can be taken, provided that proof of the travel destination's request is presented."



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P.O. Box 566, P.C. 112, Ilbroo, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

REF: OFM/TD-21/-028
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Tender Ref no.	OFM/TD-21/-028
Tender subject	PSQ Clearing Agent
Tender fee	RO 25/- (non-refundable)
Start date for tender collection	22.06.2021
Last date for tender collection	27.06.2021
Last date for receiving the technical queries	28.06.2021
Closing date of the tender	30.06.2021
Mode of payment of tender fee	By cash
Email address for communication	tender3@omanflourmills.com
Mode of submission	All bidders are required to submit their proposals addressed to the Chairman of Tender Committee and deposited in the tender box located at the reception of our Atyab Investment building on the 28 June 2021.

- Vendor selection will be based on "best and final offer". OFM is not bound to select the lowest bidder.
- Each bidder must leave a business card with contact details for required communication.
- All tender communication must be addressed to: **tender3@omanflourmills.com**.
- Notwithstanding the specific terms in the Tender Documents, Tender fee is not refundable
- Bids submittal shall consist of 2 separate sealed envelopes (Technical) & (Commercial), with bidder name on each and tender reference number (OFM/TD-21/-028).



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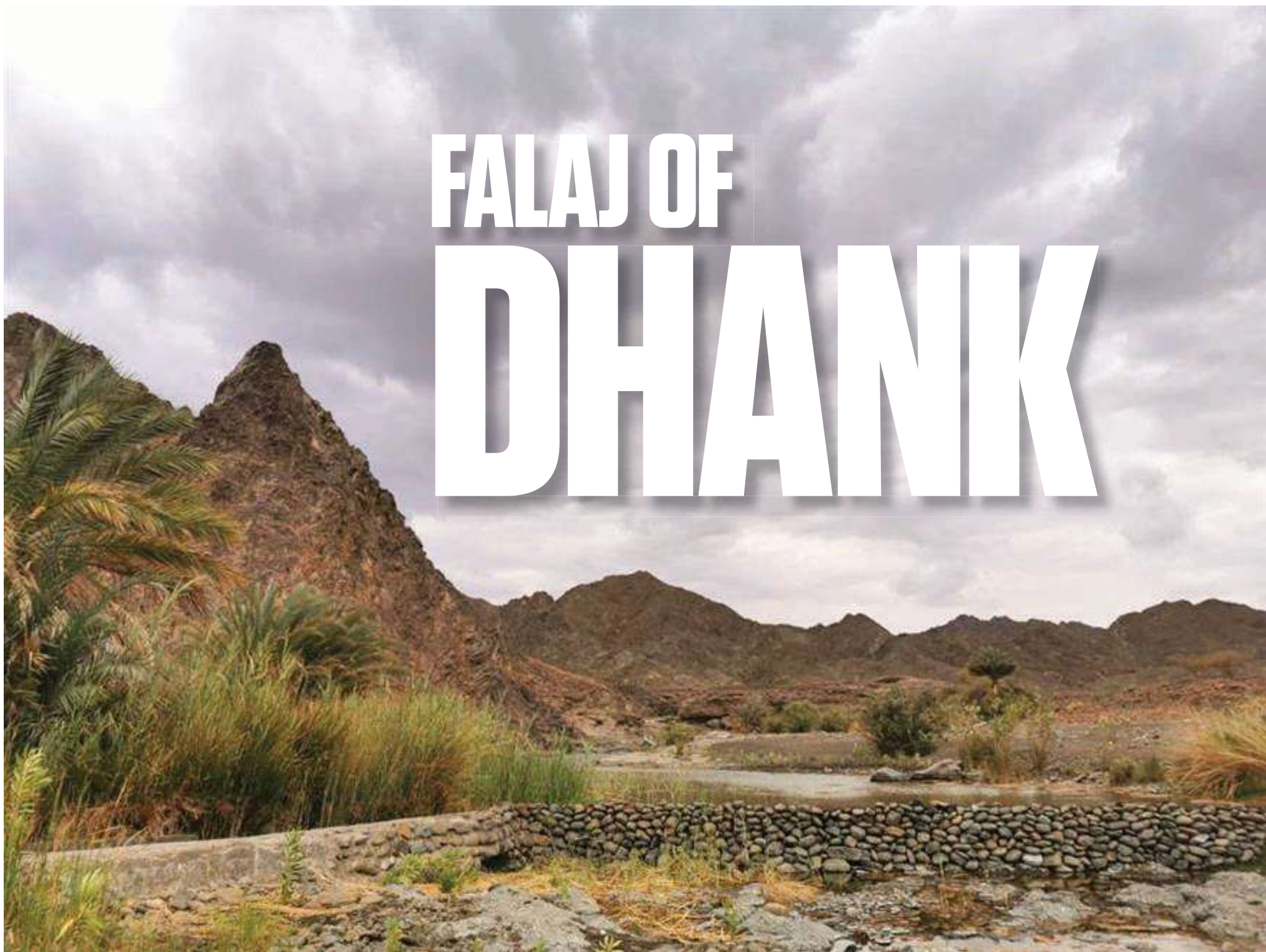
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FALAJ OF DHANK



The falaj in the village of Belt is located in the far north of the Wilayat of Dhank and it is the main falaj. The length of the falaj from its source (Al Qabil) to its end (Al Jalal) is about 800 metres. It depends on the running surface water and is completely dependent on rain.

The falaj provides water to the palm trees, lemons, figs, pomegranates, mango and other crops grown here. The falaj ends in (Al Jalal), which is a large basin. Water is collected in it to irrigate the rest of the agricultural crops. Apart from weeds, alfalfa and corn, seasonal crops such as barley, wheat, onions, garlic, cowpeas and galangal, are grown here. The water of the falaj is divided for five days among the people, so that each

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day has one person responsible for distributing the water.

The state of Dhank is one of the states of Al Dhahirah Governorate in the Sultanate of Oman. It is famous for its valley, and it is called Dhank because the mountains surround it from all sides. The Wilayat of Dhank is located in the middle of the Dhahirah region. Adjacent to it from the western side is the Wilayat of Buraimi and Ibri and to the south is the Wilayat of Ibri.



UNLIMITED BRUNCH

A gastronomical trip to an exclusive brunch

WITH MORE THAN 25 dishes lined up, the Unlimited Brunch at the Golden Oryx Restaurant offers the best of the Chinese cuisine in Muscat. Golden Oryx Restaurant calls for no introduction ... it's a household name for connoisseurs of Chinese food in town and the only difference this time is that the gastronomical journey gets even more delectable and elaborate with their unlimited brunch every Saturday.

Variety has always been the mainstay of the menu at Golden Oryx, that combines myriad flavours with a cosy ambience. "We have an array of dishes to choose from, be it appetisers, soups, mains or the desserts. Diners would be spoilt for choice," said Joseph Rodricks, restaurant manager.

The soup selection includes Tom Yum Kai which is served in three choices... chicken, shrimp or vegetable, the regular sweet corn chicken/vegetable soup, and the vegetable clear soup for those who are calorie conscious. Appetisers are known to set the mood for the dining experience and in Golden Oryx with so many choices, the experience goes a notch up. Some of the not to miss dishes are Peppery Fried Tofu, Singapore Shrimps, Mongolian Chicken and Crispy Fried Chicken in Schezwan Sauce. Drums of Heaven, Fried Calamari in Schezwan Sauce, Honey Glazed Mushrooms or Chicken are a few other delights.



Satiated with the appetiser, it's time to shift one's focus to the mains that include Vegetable Manchurian, Hong Kong Vegetable with Tofu, Crispy Fried Vegetables in Schezwan, Chicken Hong Kong, Fish Chilli Garlic, Fish Black Pepper, Lamb Onion Chilli, Crispy Fried Lamb in Schezwan, Thai Curry and more. These are served with a choice of rice or noodles and



individually plated.

That's not all. There are three salads and dim sums are a must. Subtly spiced and flavourful, the dim sums served at Golden Oryx is undoubtedly the star of the brunch. Having the taste buds already sizzled by the hearty meal one would be left with little room for the desserts. But as it has been universally accepted



no meal reaches the grand finale without desserts and no matter what cuisine we savour they provide the wholeness to the meal. So for all the sweet-toothed people, an assortment of desserts including fried ice cream, lychees with ice cream, ice cream sandwich are waiting for you for that sweet finish.

Beating the heat, the gastro-

nomical trip to this exclusive brunch is worth a visit not once but umpteen times, every Saturday. The Unlimited Brunch at Golden Oryx beckons with its elaborate menu. If you are health conscious, a vegetarian or just a regular gourmand, head off to Golden Oryx ... the restaurant that certainly adds value to Muscat's culinary map.

Artificial underwater reef in Musandam nears completion

The project is funded by the Agricultural and Fisheries Development Fund of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources

Times News Service

DIBBA: An artificial reef off the coast of Dibba in Oman's northern region of Musandam is nearing completion. Once finished, the project intends to attract marine life with the aim of conserving them and helping them thrive.

The project is funded by the Agricultural and Fisheries Development Fund (AFDF) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources.

"We are completing the final stage of project to establish artificial reefs in the Governorate of Musandam, which was done through the landing of four units of artificial reef moulds in the sea off the Wilayat of Dibba, at locations that were previously identified in coordination with all relevant



MARINE LIFE: Musandam's landscape and rich waters offer many land and marine species the opportunity to thrive, according to the ESO. - Pictures courtesy Agriculture and Fisheries Development Fund (AFDF)

authorities," said the AFDF in a statement.

Musandam's landscape and rich waters offer many land and marine species the opportunity to thrive, according to the Environment Society of Oman (ESO), a non-government organisation that runs conservation and awareness programmes in the country.

Ragged coastline
The rugged coastline of the Musandam region, according to the ESO, includes spectacular cliffs that plunge into the sea along

fjord-like inlets and promontories that characterise the region's coast. The shelter afforded by the many khayran, harbour some of the most well-developed coral reefs in the country, whilst the cliffs themselves provide a roosting place for seabirds.

Offshore, the seabed slopes gently southwards into the Gulf of Oman.

The AFDF is one of the main organisations supporting research and development of the agriculture, livestock, and fisheries sectors, through optimal

use of resources and localising technologies.

"The fund has sought to finance quality projects with returns that contribute to the financial support of the fund, and the adoption of new concepts and standards in financing and implementing projects and ensuring sustainability," said Hanan bint Saeed Al Sulaimiya, the fund's Executive Director, speaking to Oman News Agency.

Four new projects in the agriculture and fisheries sectors received funding to the tune of OMR680,000 last year. Since the



fund was first set up in 2004, it has funded and implemented 246 projects, at a total cost of OMR42.18 million.

The development of marine facilities in Musandam, to help grow the fisheries sector there, as

well as promote the conservation of aquatic species, also includes the construction of a fishing port in the town of Lima. The development comes after a vehicle and cargo shipping service was installed at the port.

Trending

ON SOCIAL MEDIA

📖 MOST READ ON FACEBOOK

21,515 REACH

People who have been infected with COVID-19 and haven't completed 14 months since the infection are allowed to take only one dose.



Only one dose of Covid-19 vaccine for those who have recovered

📺 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

6,300 VIEWS



Fighting COVID: Black fungus in Oman

Fighting COVID video on black fungus had 6,300 views and reached 19,000 people on Facebook.

📷 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

2,356 VIEWS



OQ Gas Network to take over gas operations

The Morning Minute video on OQ Gas Network had 2,356 views and 71 likes on Instagram.

VARIOUS GOVERNORATES

Scouts, girl guides to assist at vaccination centres

MUSCAT: In partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Directorate General of Scouts and Girl Guides will participate with 450 of leaders of scouts, girl guides and rovers in COVID 19 vaccination centres in the various governorates of the Sultanate.

Yaqoob bin Khalfan Al Nadabi, Director General of the Directorate General of Scouts and Girl Guides (DGSGG) said, "The DGSGG is supportive of the efforts accorded by the Directorate General of Health Services at the Ministry of Health in the various governorates of the Sultanate, mainly in the vaccination campaigns."

Volunteers

He also praised the efforts of volunteers of the scouts and girl guides and the role they play along with other volunteers and medical cadres.

Existing cooperation with the Ministry of Health would continue through dissemination of awareness among the members of the society on the significance of vaccination, he added.

— ONA

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POSSIBLE TALKS

Kim Jong Un's sister says US misinterpreting signals over talks

PYONGYANG: The sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Tuesday dismissed any ambitions the United States has for talks with her country, suggesting those hopes would only lead to "greater disappointment."

Kim Yo Jong's comments come after United States National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan on Sunday said he saw encouraging signs from North Korea over possible di-

plomacy between the two nations.

Misinterpreting signals

Sullivan said he viewed Kim Jong Un's comment that both confrontation and dialogue with the US were possible as an "interesting signal."

But Kim Yo Jong gave the notion of diplomacy between Pyongyang and Washington short shrift, as she said: "It seems that

the US may interpret the situation in such a way as to seek a comfort for itself.

The expectation, which they chose to harbor the wrong way, would plunge them into a greater disappointment," she said in a statement carried by state media.

US envoy in Seoul

Her statement reported by KCNA came as the top US envoy on North

Korean affairs, Sung Kim, is scheduled to meet with South Korean President Moon Jae-in and Unification Minister Lee In-young, who handles relations with the North, on Tuesday.

And on Monday Sung Kim said he was willing to meet with the North "anywhere, anytime without preconditions" and that he was looking forward to a "positive response soon." **bw**



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India administers over 8.5 million COVID vaccine doses in single day

In a landmark achievement, 8,616,373 have been administered on the first day of the new phase of COVID-19 vaccination

NEW DELHI: India administered 8,616,373 COVID-19 vaccine doses on Monday, the highest-ever single day vaccination in the world so far, the Union Health Ministry informed today.

Thus India has vaccinated more than the population of New Zealand in a single day. As the new phase of universalisation of COVID-19 vaccination commenced from Monday, in a landmark achievement, 8,616,373 have been administered on the first day of the new phase of COVID-19 Vaccination. This is the highest single-day number of jabs in the world.



NEW PHASE OF VACCINATION: The highest-ever single day vaccination in the world so far, said the Union Health Ministry.

Madhya Pradesh on Monday administered 1,673,858 COVID-19 vaccine doses, the highest ever among states in the country in a single day so far.

On the historic feat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated those who got vaccinated and lauded all frontline warriors.

"Today's record-breaking vaccination numbers are gladdening. The vaccine remains our strongest weapon to fight COVID-19. Congratulations to those who got vaccinated and kudos to all the front-line warriors working hard to ensure so many citizens got the vaccine. Well done India!" PM Modi had tweeted.

So far, 28.87 crore vaccine doses have been administered in India under the nationwide vaccination drive which began on January 16 this year. Under the centralised vaccination policy, the Centre will procure 75 per cent of vaccines from the open market and give them to states for free distribution to inoculate all citizens above the age of 18. It will also handle the 25 per cent vaccination that was with states till now under the liberalised plan announced earlier.

Private hospitals will continue to buy the remaining 25 per cent

and inoculate those willing to pay for their jabs. They can't, however, charge more than Rs 150 as a service charge per dose over the fixed price of the vaccine.

The maximum price that can be charged per dose by private vaccine centres for the three vaccines currently available in the country - Rs 780 for Covishield, Rs 1,410 for Covaxin and Rs 1,145 for Sputnik V. Meanwhile, India reported 42,640 new cases in the last 24 hours, remaining less than 50,000 in 91 days, according to the Union Health Ministry on Tuesday. The present active caseload has also declined to 662,521, less than 7 lakh after 79 days.

As per the ministry, the cumulative recoveries in India reached 2,89,26,038, including 81,839 patients who recovered during the last 24 hours. With this, the daily recoveries continue to outnumber the daily new cases for the 40th consecutive day, taking the nation's recovery rate to 96.49 per cent.

The daily positivity rate of India has remained below 5 per cent for the 15th consecutive day. It was recorded to be 2.56 per cent during the last 24 hours, while the weekly positivity rate is currently at 3.21 per cent. **ANI**

CLIMATE CHANGE

Australia opposes Great Barrier Reef 'in danger' listing



DOWNGRADE STATUS: The UN cultural body wants to lower the World Heritage status of the natural site after warming waters led to the loss of half of its corals since 1995.

SYDNEY: The Australian government said on Tuesday that it would oppose a plan by UNESCO to downgrade the status of the Great Barrier Reef following years of damage caused by climate change.

The UN cultural body wants to lower the World Heritage status of the natural site after warming waters led to the loss of half of its corals since 1995.

Australian Environmental Minister Sussan Ley protested the move stressing that the country had spent billions of dollars on trying to protect the reef.

"I agree that global climate change is the single biggest threat to the world's reefs but it is wrong, in our view, to single out the best-managed reef in the world for an 'in danger' listing," she said in a statement.

UNESCO decision draws opposing reactions

Australian authorities plan to

challenge UNESCO's decision before the World Heritage Committee meets in China next month, Ley said. She added that it was a "back-flip on previous assurances from UN officials."

Environmental campaigners said that the new status for the reef brought "shame" on Australia's government which they accuse of failing to take action to reach zero emissions.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has pledged to reduce emissions "as soon as possible" without giving any concrete date. The Australian economy is heavily dependent on fossil fuel-powered infrastructure.

"The recommendation from UNESCO is clear and unequivocal that the Australian government is not doing enough to protect our greatest natural asset, especially on climate change," said WWF head of oceans Richard Leck.

Ley argued that the decision

sent "a poor signal" to countries that are doing even less than Australia to protect their natural environments.

Natural and economic value

The 2,300 kilometre-long (1,400 mile-long) coral reef is a unique living ecosystem that also draws large numbers of tourists every year.

The value of the natural wonder for the tourism industry is estimated to be \$4.8 billion (€4.03 billion) a year in normal times. Thousands of jobs are reliant on the reef.

The Australian government itself downgraded the prospects of the reef's long-term survival to "very poor" after extreme rising temperatures caused the corals to lose the algae that give them their colorful hues in both 2016 and 2017. These so-called bleaching events have continued in subsequent years. **bw**



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Four dead in Mandalay clashes between troops and civilian militia

The militia, claiming to be Mandalay's new People's Defence Force, said its members responded after the army raided one of its bases



RAIDS: Security forces raided a house in the city's Chan Mya Tharsi township, following a tip-off, and they were met with small arms fire and grenades.

NAYPYITAW: Clashes broke out between Myanmar soldiers and an anti-junta civilian militia in the country's second biggest city of Mandalay on Tuesday. According to the military government, four "terrorists" were killed and several personnel from the security forces injured, authorities said.

Security forces raided a house in the city's Chan Mya Tharsi township, following a tip-off, and they were met with small arms fire and grenades, a statement from the junta's information teams said.

"Some security members were seriously injured" in the ensuing

battle, it said.

Eight members of the militia, who were in possession of home-made mines, hand grenades and small arms, were also said to be arrested.

The militia, claiming to be Mandalay's new People's Defence Force, said its members responded after the army raided one of its bases.

"We retaliated as one of our guerrilla base camps was invaded," said a post on the group's Facebook page from a person identifying as Major Zeekwat.

Fighting has spread across Myanmar since the February coup, with people forming "defense forces" to combat a brutal military clampdown on dissent. So far, much of the fighting had been confined to small towns and rural areas.

In the last few months, militia groups have launched attacks on soldiers in other places in the country and the army has retaliated with artillery and air strikes, leading to casualties on both sides.

Tens of thousands of people have also been forced to flee

from their homes.

The United Nations General Assembly on Friday called for a stop to the flow of arms to Myanmar.

The country's foreign ministry on Saturday released a statement rejecting the UN resolution, saying it was "based on one-sided sweeping allegations and false assumptions."

At least 873 protesters have been killed by security forces since the coup, according to figures from the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners activist group. The junta disputes the tally. **DW**

Hong Kong's Lam hits back at criticism over Apple Daily raid

HONG KONG: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said on Tuesday that media outlets must not "subvert" the government as she rejected United States' criticism of the recent action against the city's largest pro-democracy newspaper Apple Daily under a controversial new security law.

Chief Executive Lam responded to the criticism saying that these were attempts to "beautify" acts that endangered national security.

"Don't try to underplay the significance of breaching the national security law," Lam said. "Don't try to beautify these acts of endangering national security."

Last week, hundreds of officers raided Apple Daily in a national security investigation in which senior executives of the newspaper were arrested over allegations of "collusion with a foreign country."

Authorities also froze Apple Daily's assets worth HK\$18 million (roughly \$2.3 billion, or €1.9 billion) using the national security law imposed on the Chinese-ruled city via Beijing in 2020. The legislature Lam leads did not approve it, despite her support for it.

The newspaper said on Monday that it was considering closure, and would make a decision later in the week.



A freer press in Hong Kong, at least to date

Lam made the statements at her weekly news conference. She singled out criticism from the US, telling journalists the accusations were wrong and applied double standards.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said that the US was deeply concerned by "selective" and "politically motivated" use of the security law.

Several rights groups have also condemned the action against Apple Daily and expressed concerns over free press in Hong Kong.

"And don't try to accuse the Hong Kong authorities for using the national security law as a tool to suppress the media or to stifle the freedom of expression," Lam said.

While the press is largely state-owned and heavily censored in mainland China, free speech protections are included in semi-autonomous Hong Kong's mini-constitution. **DW**

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

Japan proposes four-day working week to improve work-life balance

TOKYO: Japan's famously hard-working salarymen — and, increasingly, salarywomen — are to be encouraged to reduce the amount of time they spend in the office environment as part of the government's initiative to improve the nation's work-life balance.

The recently unveiled annual economic policy guidelines include new recommendations that companies permit their staff to opt to work four days a week instead of the typical five.

The coronavirus pandemic has already wrought huge changes to the way that Japanese corporations — many of which are still highly rigid and traditional — go about their business. Political leaders now hope to convince management that flexible working hours, remote working, growing interconnectedness and a host of other developments can be beneficial if they remain in place even after the end of the health crisis.



Employment pluses

The government said in the outline of its campaign that with a four-day working week, it believes companies will be able to retain capable and experienced staff who might otherwise have to leave if they are trying to raise a family or take care of elderly relatives.

It will also encourage more people to gain additional educational qualifications or even take on side jobs in addition to their regular employment, it added.

Most importantly, authorities hope that an extra day off every week will encourage people to go out and spend, thereby

boosting the economy.

It is also anticipated that young people will have more time to meet, marry and have children, going some way to solving the worsening problem of a falling birth rate, an increasingly older national demographic and a contracting population.

"The government is really very keen for this change in attitude to take root at Japanese companies," said Martin Schulz, chief policy economist for Fujitsu Ltd.'s Global Market Intelligence Unit.

Recent Japanese administrations have sought a number of ways to overcome a sluggish national economy, but fiscal policy has run its course and the central bank is limited in the tools that it still has at its disposal.

That makes reforms to the lifestyles and working styles of millions of Japanese as its next approach, he said.

"During the pandemic, companies have shifted to new ways of operating and they are seeing a gradual increase in productivity," he told DW. "Companies are having their employees work from home or remotely, at satellite offices or at their customers' locations, which can be far more convenient and productive for many."

Cut down to size

Fujitsu has seized the opportunity, Schulz pointed out, with the company cutting the office space at its Tokyo headquarters by fully 50% as it shifts further to remote working. "In the future, there will be some people in my department in the office but it will be rare for all of us to be there together and that space is mostly now for face-to-face meetings that cannot be done remotely," he said.

There are drawbacks to the government's plans, however, with Japan already experiencing a labor shortage brought on by fewer young people joining the workforce. Equally, there is concern that management will be reluctant to do away with some of the attitudes towards business that have served Japan Inc so well for generations — even if there is clear evidence that traditional approaches are less effective than they were in the past. **DW**

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Belgium thrash Finland, Denmark move past Russia to advance in Euro 2020

Belgium dominated possession and kept Finland on the backfoot but for all that the “Red Devil” were only able to test goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky twice

COPENHAGEN: Belgium broke down resilient Finns 2-0 to progress into the last 16 with three wins in as many games while Denmark swept through after securing a 4-1 win over Russia in Euro 2020 group stage on Monday.

Belgium dominated possession and kept Finland on the back foot but for all that the “Red Devils” were only able to test goalkeeper



BELGIUM VS FINLAND: Finland posed no threat to Belgium's defence and had to swallow the second goal seven minutes later as Lukaku got his name on the scoreboards.

Lukas Hradecky twice, through Romelu Lukaku and Jeremy Doku, in the first half.

After the break Belgium remained in control of the proceedings, they had to wait until the 74th minute before Hradecky deflected a header, that dropped off the post, into his own goal to break the deadlock.

Finland posed no threat to Belgium's defence and had to swallow the second goal seven minutes later as Lukaku got his name on the scoreboards after utilizing Kevin de Bruyne's build-up work to kill the game.

At the second game in Group B, Denmark stunned Russia 4-1 to ensure a berth in the round of last 16. Russia played with a rock-soil defense before Mikkel Damsgaard's hammer marked the opener late in the first half.

Denmark increased the pressure and made it two through Yussuf Poulsen, who took advantage on a moment of madness from defender Roman Zobnin at the hour mark.

Russia scored their consolation goal in the 70th minute after Artyom Dzyuba converted a foul

play penalty.

Denmark responded well and broke Russia's resistance with the goals from Andreas Christensen and Joakim Maehle in the closing stages.

With the results, Denmark snatched the 2nd spot with 3 points on goal difference, behind Group B winners Belgium (9 points) and followed by Finland (3 points) and Russia (3 points).

Elsewhere, the Netherlands showed no mercy with winless North Macedonia and recorded a 3-0 victory by courtesy on Memphis Depay's goal and Georginio Wijnaldum's second-half brace.

In the other game in Group C, Austria progressed for the first time into the Euro round of the last 16 after edging Ukraine on the sole goal from Christoph Baumgartner. Ukraine will have to wait if they will be one of the best third-placed teams to progress into the next round.

With the results, the Netherlands (9 points) have been confirmed as the winners of Group C followed by Austria (6 points), Ukraine (3 points) and North Macedonia (0 points). **ANI**

EURO CUP

Impressive Austria into last 16 of Euro 2020 after 1-0 win against Ukraine

BUCHAREST: Austria qualified for the last 16 of the European Championships on Monday with a 1-0 win against Ukraine thanks to Christof Baumgartner's 20th minute goal.

Austria gave a solid performance from start to finish and coach Franco Foda's only complaint will be that not scoring a second goal left Ukraine with options until the final whistle.

Ukraine meanwhile disappointed and rarely looked like scoring, despite coach Andriy Shevchenko making several attacking changes as they chased an equalizer. The game kicked off with Ukraine knowing a draw would see them into the last 16, while Austria needed a win in order to assure their progress to the knockout stages and they looked to take the game to their rivals from the start.

With Marko Arnautovich back after suspension, Austria camped in their rivals' half and got their reward when Baumgartner prodded home from a corner in the 20th minute. It wasn't until almost the half hour that Ukraine finally put together a move in attack with Mykola Shaparenko drawing a save from Daniel Bachmann with



Andriy Yamolenko just failing to get on the end of the rebound.

By then the Austrians had managed seven shots and forced six corners and although they suffered a setback when Baumgartner had to go off after a clash of heads, they continued to press.

Marcel Sabitzer drew a sharp save from Gregoriy Bushchan, Arnautovich sidefooted wide with just the keeper to beat and Stefan Lainer sliced well wide when he

should have hit the target to keep the score 1-0 by the break.

Bachmann was at full stretch to punch Yamolenko's free kick in the 61st minute, but although Ukraine were pushing hard, all too often the final pass was letting them down.

Ukraine coach Andriy Shevchenko could sense the game was running away from his side and brought Brazilian born winger, Marlos on for midfielder

Mykola Shaparenko, but Ukraine were still looking too sluggish to threaten the Austrian defense.

Roman Yarenchuk produced a chance out of nothing when he turned his defender inside the area, but his shot flashed across the face of goal, but overall, the well-worked Austrian midfield and defense kept their rivals at bay until the final whistle with hardly any nervous moments for their fans. **ANI**

COPA AMERICA

Gomez's strike helps Argentina defeat Paraguay



BRASILIA : Alejandro Dario Gomez's lone strike helped Argentina defeat Paraguay 1-0 in the ongoing Copa America here at Estadio Nacional Mane Garrincha Stadium on Tuesday.

Argentina is now at the top of Group A standings with seven points from five games while Paraguay is at the third spot with three points from two games. Gomez registered the goal in the 10th minute of the match, and this proved the only time, a ball was netted into the goalpost.

No more goals were scored in the match, and as a result, Argentina walked away with a 1-0 victory.

On Monday (local time), Uruguay and Chile played out a 1-1 draw. With this result, Uruguay moved to the fourth spot in the standings with 1 point from two games while Chile is at the second spot with five points from three games.

In the game between Chile and Uruguay, the former struck first as Eduardo Vargas scored the goal in the 26th minute.

Chile's Arturo Vidal then ended up registering an own goal, and as a result, Uruguay got the equaliser in the 66th minute. No more goals were scored in the match, and the match ended as a draw. **ANI**

COMMENTARY

ICC has not learnt from the 2019 World Cup washout games

THE WORLD TEST Championship finals was supposed to be the father of all finals and everyone around the world including the two teams and fans were looking forward to a high profile contest between the two teams.

This World Test Championship had started in 2019 but could not be finished in 2020 due to the pandemic and hence it was stretched to 2021 and the venue of the finals which would be England was decided in March 2021. At that time, Geoff Allardice, ICC General Manager, cricket said: "The ICC World Test Championship final is the pinnacle event in the Test calendar and is intended to be a week-long celebration of the oldest form of the game. We are confident that in selecting the Hampshire Bowl, we have given ourselves the best possible chance to successfully deliver the final whilst keeping everyone involved safe and healthy and giving fans the opportunity to watch the two best Test teams in the world go head-to-head for the right to call themselves the ICC World Test Champions."

Everyone knows how fickle the weather is in England in summers which are from June to September and in spite of 4



Anis Sajjan, Vice Chairman, Danube Group

full games being wiped out in the 2019 World Cup, the ICC still decided to make England as the venue for the finals.

I know rain is in no one's control for sure and can happen anywhere but the subtle nature of England Weather in the past and that too what happened in the 2019 World Cup, the ICC could have learnt a lesson and instead chosen another country as this was known to be the ultimate test finals. As this would set the platform for the future Test Championship and given youngsters and other associate countries, the idea how big is the World Test Championship.

Today we are in the fourth day which has been washed out completely like the first day and only 142 overs have been bowled in four days' time. It's a shame that in spite of adding an extra day which was kept in mind considering the England weather. The test might end in a draw and we would not know who will be the winner as with only two days left, it looks very unlikely that we might have a result in this game unless something drastic happens in the next two days.

Not only the fans are disappointed but also it is a big loss for all the broadcasters around the world, who are showcasing this high profile test match.

There is a common saying "once bitten twice shy" but it's a pity ICC has not learnt after the trolls they faced after the 2019 World Cup's 4 washed out games and ICC still kept the World Test Championship finals in England where in spite of having six days, we might not have even one innings completed. It has been a complete waste of the two years put in by the two fitting finalist and one will have to share the trophy because of a stalemate due to the inclement weather in England.

CRICKET

Maharaj takes hat-trick as South Africa register series sweep



SOUTH AFRICA VS WEST INDIES: The Windies will be kicking themselves regarding the manner in which their wickets fell, particularly those of their top scorers, Kieran Powell and Kyle Mayers.

GROS ISLET : A second-ever, Test hat-trick by a South African taken by Keshav Maharaj, helped the Proteas seal a 2-0 series sweep when they beat the West Indies by 158 runs with a day and session to spare at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground on Monday.

On a magical day for the left-arm spinner, he closed with his seventh Test five-wicket haul as the visitors claimed their first Test series win away from home since 2017 against New Zealand.

The home side was bowled out for 165 in their chase of 324 to win. In a more stable start, they slipped from 90/2 before lunch to 107/6 after the first session thanks to Kagiso Rabada, who returned figures of 3/44 in his dismantling of the top order.

Maharaj's magic beat off the middle order and tail, with Lungi Ngidi (1/29) chipping in with a scalp of his own - Jermaine Blackwood for 25.

The Windies will be kicking themselves regarding the manner

in which their wickets fell, particularly those of their top scorers, Kieran Powell (51) and Kyle Mayers (34).

Roston Chase did not bat due to a quadriceps injury.

For West Indies, Kieran Powell top-scored as he played a knock of 51 runs from 116 balls while Kyle Mayers also played an innings of 34 runs.

Brief Scores: South Africa 298 and 174; West Indies 149 and 165 (Kieran Powell 51, Kyle Mayers 34, Keshav Maharaj 5-36). **ANI**

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

Oman oil price (August Delivery 2021) on Tuesday reached \$72.86, comprising an increase by 95 cents from the price of Monday, which was at \$71.91. The average price of Oman oil (June Delivery 2021) has stabilised at \$63.10, thus \$1.33 per barrel lower than May Delivery 2021. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,035.49 points, up 0.31 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 1.56 per cent at 583.76 points. Oman Education Training, up 10.00 per cent, was the top gainer while Sharqiyah Desalination, down 8.00 per cent, was the top loser.

Treasury bills worth OMR150mn issued

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 91 days, from June 23, 2021, until September 22, 2021

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR150 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday.

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 91 days, from June 23, 2021, until September 22, 2021.

The average accepted price reached 99.806 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.805 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 0.77679 per cent and 0.77830 per cent, respectively.

The interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the



REPO OPERATIONS: The interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 0.75 per cent. - **File picture**

Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 0.75 per cent.

Treasury bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportunity

to invest their surplus funds. The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) acts as the Issue Manager and provides the added advantage of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo).

Furthermore, treasury bills pro-

mote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures.

MEMORANDUM OF STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Oman Oil signs agreement with Asyad for bunker fuel supply

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Marking a major milestone in its marine business, Oman Oil Marketing Company (OOMCO) has signed a Memorandum of Strategic Collaboration (MSC) with Asyad Group through its ship management for the provision of bunker fuels.

The agreement, under which OOMCO will supply the OSMC with different grades of marine fuels in all ports of Oman, marks a long-term strategic business collaboration that seeks to cement the Sultanate's position as a global logistic hub. As a key player in Oman's fuel supply chain, OOMCO continues to expand its commercial services, while building a reputation for high quality, secure and reliable solutions.

Hussain Jamaa Bait Ishaq, Oman Oil Marketing Company's



Acting CEO, said, "OOMCO is already active in bunker supply in all major ports of Oman and this collaboration, with the major player of the country's marine transportation sector, marks another critical milestone in our journey towards creating a long-term relationship

and develop a sustainable maritime business in Oman. Through it, we will be able to provide high-quality fuel to vessels calling at all Oman ports, while contributing to the strategic growth of the bunker business in Oman and in particular in Duqm Port."

Dr Ibrahim Bakht Al Nadhairi, CEO of Asyad Shipping & Drydock, added, "It is our aim to place Oman as an effective player in the global maritime industry, contribute to the logistics sector by strengthening the connectivity between Omani ports and global ports. Through this important collaboration, we are creating a strategic platform which will encourage ship owners to call Omani ports, as well as maximizing the returns of the shipping sector in the national economy."

OOMCO provides a complete range of bunker fuel supply and services in all major ports of Oman, including in the Port of Duqm. OOMCO is currently constructing a Greenfield bunker terminal at the Port of Duqm to support in providing competitive bunker fuel for all customers calling Duqm Port.

FINANCING ENTREPRENEURS



Loan portfolio management pact to boost SME sector in Sultanate

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development and the Oman Development Bank signed a loan portfolio management agreement to finance entrepreneurs and owners of small and medium enterprises.

A statement issued online by Oman News Agency (ONA) said: "Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development and the Oman Development Bank sign a loan portfolio management agreement to finance entrepreneurs, owners of small and medi-

um enterprises and craftsmen to establish and expand their small and medium enterprises and to enhance their role in advancing the national economy."

Under the agreement, the Authority for SME Development will prepare and implement a programme for financing, which aims to assess capabilities and develop skills in the field of entrepreneurship. While the Oman Development Bank will receive funding requests directly and studies them and follows up on the financed projects through periodic visits, which will be announced during the coming period.

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MSX index ends higher

Oman Education Training, up 10.00%, was the top gainer while Sharqiyah Desalination, down 8.00%, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,035.49 points, up 0.31 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 1.56 per cent at 583.76 points. Oman Education Training, up 10.00 per cent, was the top gainer while Sharqiyah Desalination, down 8.00 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of United Finance were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 628 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR3 million, with more than 16.6 million shares changing hands. Out of 51 traded stocks, 19 advanced, 9 declined and 23 remained unchanged. At the session close, Domestic investors were net buyers for OMR512,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR256,000 followed by foreign investors for

OMR256,000 worth of shares.
Financial Index closed at 6,397.57 points, up 0.32 per cent.
Oman & Qatar Insurance, Al Omaniya Financial Services, Sohar International Bank, United Finance and Muscat Finance were up 3.70 per cent, 2.48 per cent, 2.08 per cent, 1.72 per cent and 1.69 per cent respectively.
Muscat Insurance and Vision Insurance were down 6.93 per cent and 1.27 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,928.26 points, up 2.19 per cent. Salalah Mills, Oman Flour Mills, Oman Cables Industry, Voltamp Energy and Galfar Engineering were up 9.71 per cent, 6.95 per cent, 4.31 per cent, 2.86 per cent and 2.44 per cent respectively. Oman Cement and Raysut Cement were down 0.80 per cent and 0.69 per cent respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.09 per cent before closing at 1,700.86 points. — **United Securities**

MAN STOCKS

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INDICES

Index.....	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value.....	Diff.....	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX.....	4,038.80	4,022.87	4,035.49	4,022.87	12.62	0.31
FINANCIAL INDEX.....	6,401.06	6,378.45	6,397.58	6,377.19	20.39	0.32
Industry Index.....	5,934.24	5,804.74	5,928.26	5,801.39	126.88	2.19
Services Index.....	1,705.87	1,699.36	1,700.86	1,699.36	1.51	0.09
MSX Shariah Index.....	585.63	575.40	583.76	574.81	8.96	1.56
MSX TR INDEX.....	4,849.74	4,830.61	4,845.76	4,830.61	15.15	0.31

Trading Summary							
Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....	Sec. Traded
16,664,505	3,316,718	628	21,459,924,249	19	9	23	51

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 22

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OFF PRICE	BID	LOW	CLOSE PR	POKE CODE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	POB VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000000400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	23,000	17,573	4	0.796	0.800	0.788	0.800	0.748	-0.052	-6.52	0.788	-0.700	0.788	-0.100	126,000.000
OM0000000407	OMAN PETROLEUM INDSTRY	18,250	19,857	10	0.114	0.116	0.109	0.109	0.104	-0.012	-10.45	0.110	0.0973	0.106	-0.012	1,987,000.000
OM0000001200	AL OMANIYA FINS	122,445	18,976	8	0.125	0.126	0.123	0.124	0.121	-0.003	-2.49	0.123	-0.122	0.126	-0.003	36,199.961
OM0000002168	AL ANWAK CERAMIC	143,000	19,975	7	0.472	0.472	0.464	0.472	0.462	-0.010	-2.165	0.472	-0.470	0.470	-0.002	10,384.000
OM0000003056	SOHAR INT BANK	50,000	4,900	8	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.096	-0.002	-2.086	0.098	0.096	0.104	-0.002	258,581.660
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	1,414,626	87,476	88	0.060	0.061	0.059	0.060	0.059	-0.001	-1.695	0.060	0.060	0.061	0.001	18,428.780
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	39,151	30,851	11	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.780	-0.008	-1.026	0.788	-0.784	0.788	-0.004	591,000.000
OM0000000296	BANK MUSCAT	1,708,123	707,374	81	0.114	0.114	0.112	0.114	0.114	0.000	0.000	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.000	1,679.000
OM0000000226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	395,000	170,150	6	0.440	0.440	0.430	0.430	0.426	-0.004	-0.939	0.430	0.430	0.440	0.010	-26,317.837
OM0000000172	ALANWAK INVESTMENT	1,697,648	185,915	33	0.110	0.111	0.109	0.110	0.109	-0.001	-0.917	0.109	-0.109	0.110	-0.001	22,000.000
OM0000000205	OMINVEST	80,000	9,450	11	0.382	0.382	0.382	0.382	0.382	0.000	0.000	0.382	0.382	0.382	0.000	1,357.000
OM00000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD	214,269	82,160	13	0.380	0.386	0.380	0.384	0.382	-0.002	-0.534	0.384	0.384	0.386	0.002	47,860.817
OM00000001687	OMAN UNITED INSUR	2,500	945	1	0.578	0.578	0.578	0.580	0.580	0.000	0.000	0.578	-0.578	0.000	-38,000.000	
OM0000001662	NATIONAL BANK	1,400	209	1	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.000	13,655.140
OM00000001525	OMAN INVST & FIN	22,446	24,473	19	0.109	0.110	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.110	-0.100	0.110	-0.010	25,833.000
OM00000002040	AL SHARQIA INV	55,000	5,515	4	-0.101	-0.101	-0.100	-0.100	-0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	-0.100	0.100	-0.000	-9,000.000
OM00000002065	ALMANA CERAMICS	78,100	26,787	8	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.000	0.000	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.000	1,357.000
OM00000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	17,540	5,078	6	0.288	0.292	0.288	0.288	0.291	-0.002	-0.687	0.291	0.290	0.291	0.001	57,600.000
OM00000001749	OMAN CEMENT	30,000	7,440	40	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.250	-0.002	-0.800	0.248	0.248	0.255	0.007	82,056.432
OM00000003960	QOREBANK	7,379	1,961	24	0.402	0.402	0.402	0.402	0.402	0.000	0.000	0.402	0.402	0.402	0.000	2,430.078
OM00000006920	VISION INSURANCE	262,865	20,553	14	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.079	-0.001	-1.266	0.079	0.079	0.078	-0.001	7,900.000
OM00000002020	AHLI BANK	417,000	46,081	29	0.112	0.112	0.110	0.111	0.114	-0.003	-2.632	0.110	0.110	0.111	-0.001	216,411.979
Total		226,717	1,668,835	291												
Parallel Market																
OM00000002580	OMAN EDU TRAINING	10,000	2,200	1	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.200	0.020	10.000	0.220	0.201	0.000	-154,000.000	
OM00000001889	SALAHIA MILLS	20,000	15,360	1	0.768	0.768	0.768	0.768	0.700	0.068	9.741	0.768	0.632	0.768	-0.136	38,371.633
OM00000006979	OMAN QATAR INSUR	1,212,050	189,268	35	0.140	0.140	0.138	0.140	0.133	0.006	4.373	0.140	0.133	0.141	0.007	14,000.000
OM00000003661	VOLTAPE ENERGY	64,331	9,263	6	0.144	0.144	0.143	0.144	0.140	0.004	2.857	0.144	0.144	0.150	0.006	1,172,196.000
OM00000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	504,368	45,199	35	0.083	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.082	0.002	2.439	0.083	0.083	0.084	0.001	170,561.861
OM00000002374	UNITED FINANCE	2,808,440	172,780	99	0.089	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.085	0.004	4.583	0.089	0.088	0.090	0.001	20,854.000
OM00000004768	MADINA TAKATUL	1,800,383	180,000	44	0.100	0.101	0.100	0.100	0.099	0.001	1.000	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.000	17,500.000
OM00000001132	OMAN NAT GEN	29,829	2,705	3	0.090	0.091	0.090	0.091	0.091	0.000	0.000	0.091	0.089	0.091	0.002	118,830.000
OM00000001178	MUSCAT NAT GEN	10,000	1,750	5	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.000	0.000	0.175	0.166	0.185	-0.010	5,250.000
OM00000001033	ALUMINUM TRADING	98,473	12,977	13	0.135	0.135	0.134	0.135	0.134	0.001	0.741	0.135	0.134	0.135	0.001	1,488.700
OM00000001517	HSCB BANK GROUP	10,760	1,119	2	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.103	0.108	-0.001	208,032.000
OM00000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	4,000	600	1	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.147	0.147	0.003	2.000	0.150	0.140	0.150	-0.010	13,330.000
OM00000002062	AL MANA FINANCE	296,250	7,405	25	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.000	0.000	0.025	0.024	0.025	0.001	1,488.700
OM00000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	55,000	45,540	4	0.828	0.828	0.828	0.828	0.828	0.000	0.000	0.828	0.000	0.828	0.000	50,735.700
OM00000003083	AL KAMEL POWER	5,000	1,200	1	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.249	0.249	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.000	0.240	-0.239	236,966.250
OM00000003081	TAJARIH TRADING	318,682	25,270	22	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.079	0.001	1.250	0.080	0.079	0.080	0.001	20,033.000
OM00000003711	SOHAR POWER	1,850	81	1	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.045	0.045	0.000	0.000	0.044	0.043	0.045	-0.001	9,945.450
OM00000004420	BANK NIZWA	488,311	46,868	17	0.098	0.098	0.095	0.098	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.094	0.100	-0.004	144,000.000
OM00000004735	SEMEERQAT SALAH	54,100	4,544	2	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.081	0.084	-0.003	80,184.044
OM00000004603	AL KAMEL POWER	161,840	19,043	13	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.000	79,800.000
OM00000004333	AL SUWADI POWER	99,001	5,346	6	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	38,577.642
OM00000005983	PHOENIX POWER	129,044	6,320	10	0.050	0.050	0.048	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.049	0.048	0.049	-0.001	71,667.472
OM00000004047	MCT DESALINATION	1,258	0.078	1	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	1,000.000
OM00000004844	OMAN RETT FUND	54,530	4,937	5	0.092	0.092	0.090	0.091	0.091	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.095	0.005	55,583.064
OM00000001066	MUSCAT FINANCE	2,485	1,069	2	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.432	0.429	-0.002	-0.436	0.430	0.000	0.430	-0.000	4,740.770
OM00000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALIN	100,000	11,560	9	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.125	-0.010	-8.600	0.115	0.115	0.129	0.014	11,247.248
Total		8,464,565	781,566	332												

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Finance & Accounts person, looking for Manager/Asst. Manager position. 18 Years' experience in accounts, last 12 years in Oman. Knowledge of MIS Reporting, finance & accounts up to finalization. Experience in trading, logistics & construction industries. # 98042943 / cb3415@gmail.com

Indian Female PGDM (Finance & Marketing, worked as Associate with KPMG India, currently in Oman looking for a suitable opening. Contact 79629993

ADMIN/HR

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Oman seeks job for Admin / Hr / - Contact 95425764

BM, with 26 yrs exp of large FMCG distribution looking for better prospect. Contact 90925520

Indian Female, Msc. (Mathematics) looking suitable job position. No experience, currently in Oman. Contact 91169195
Email: cb3415@gmail.com

Indian Male, BBA, With 8 Yrs Experience in Property Maintenance & Management with DL. Contact 95865329

Indian female, 8 years experience coordination, ex-secretary, admin asst. Contact 92243552

Omani male 15 yrs experience in the field of Public relation & good communication skill looking for a suitable placement. Contact 97407500.
Email khalidoman017@gmail.com

DRIVER

Looking for a **L/D job** 3 years experience in building materials outdoor salesman. Can speak English, Arabic & Hindi, NOC available. # 91550548

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Interior Designer, Autocad, 3ds max - V-Ray, Photoshop, Illustrator, Microsoft word & PowerPoint seeks job. Contact 93229775

ENGINEER

MEP Engineer 15 Yrs, EXP. Maintenance Manager Arabic/English D/L. Contact 95752101

An Egyptian construction engineer with 11 years experience in government projects and another with great experience in reviewing the designs of all types of constructions and following up and completing the project to the fullest. Contact 96965100

MEP Engineer, 16yrs experience in Building construction in MEP works seeks new opportunity. Contact 94556412.
Email ID: prabhatm82@gmail.com

18+ Civil Engineer ability to provide solutions for MEP & Q.S. structure + Architecture. Worked in various govt. Commercial projects, Road, Culvert, Dispute Solver. D/L Contact: 96163786

Civil Engineer, Having 12 years of experience. Seeking a suitable job, Having Oman D/L. Contact +968 9266 7903
Email: firozbakhtiar2@gmail.com

Project Engineer 14 years GCC experience in Building Construction. Contact 95249206

Project Manager/Engineer (Electrical) with 10 Years Experience in Oman at (Primary & Distribution Substations and OHL) Tendering, Estimation and Execution, Oman D/L & NOC Available. Contact 9909 2164.
Email Awiloo0018@gmail.com

MEP Mechanical Engineer with 2 years Experience. Contact 79027224.
Email mhmddsalah6a@hotmail.com

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Software Engineer
Male, Master's degree, worked as Software Engineer seeking IT job. Visa status - Employment, NOC available.
Contact 79830312

GROUP FINANCE MANAGER
with 20 yrs+ experience seeks suitable placement
Contact 93288251
Email: suhasdkini@gmail.com

HSE Manager/Sr. HSE Eng
Having Nebosh Diploma with Diploma in Civil Engineering, 21 years experience in various field, looking for Job. NOC available.
Contact 94549278

FINANCE
Female, MBA Finance, 3 years experience (1.5 years in a Big Four as Tax Consultant), immediately available for Finance/Accounts job.
Contact +968-93213813

Project Director/ Contracts Administrator
Indian National, 18 Yrs. of work experience, Graduate Civil Engineer, Master's in Construction Project Management; Construction Law & Dispute Resolution from UK. Having expertise in Project, Contract & Claims Management. Experienced in Handling High End Hospitality, Residential & Commercial Projects from initiation till completion. Seeks Placement as Clients or Consultants representative in Oman.
Please contact - 78022980

Accounts & Finance
Indian Male with more than 25 years experience in Accounts and Finance field, holding Omani driving license, NOC available, seeking challenging opportunity.
Contact on Tel : 95803522

Sr Accountant/Financial Controller
(M.COM) Indian Male 32 Year. 11 Years Exp in Finance/Accounts/ VAT/Budget/Payroll Software SAP, Excellent in SAP/MS Office/ MIS. Looking suitable placement having Oman driving licence & NOC.
Contact 94684007
Email: vveer555@gmail.com

Senior BSc Civil Engineer
(Having valid Engineering Visa with Oman D/L) with more than 24 years experience including more than 10 years in Oman (Buildings and Roads) worked for the consultants and contractors available with release for immediate recruitment.
Contact: 96753667
Email ID: mohamedishahan@gmail.com

HR / Admin
Female with 13yrs of experience in HR/Admin field is looking for job opportunities. Available to start immediately.
Contact 79285929

PROJECT ADMIN/CEO OFFICE MNGMT/HR/OPS CORPORATE & MKTG. COMMUNICATIONS/ADMIN
Smart Indian, Masters, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman exp in Airport Projects, Hospital. Media in Project Coordination, Corporate & Mktg. Communication, CEO & Chairman Office Mngmt, Operations, Marketing. NOC, Immediate.
CONTACT 99283938

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

Omani Mechanical Engineer
Bachelors degree in Mechanical Eng. from the United States of America & Nebosh Holder. 3 yrs of experience (Machinaries, Hydraulic, MEP, Tending & Documentation) - 2 yrs in Oil & Gas.
Contact: 95070748
Email: siyabi1430@gmail.com

Finance Manager
BSc, MBA, ACCA, 20 years' experience in Financial Statements, Management Accounts, Risk management, SAP and VAT compliance. NOC available. Can start immediately.
Phone 90213906

Indian Chartered Accountant
Indian Female CA with 8 years' experience in Audit, Accounts, Finance, Investment, Consultancy looking for suitable assignments.
Contact: +968 9914 7922

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL
INDIAN MALE, M.Com, PGDSCM, WITH +20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN PURCHASE, SALES & DISTRIBUTION, INVENTORY & CREDIT CONTROL SEEKS PLACEMENT.
CONTACT 94619442
vineeth33@yahoo.com

Diploma Engineer Civil
Experience 10 years Oman, 6 Pakistan. Multi stories Buildings, Ministry of education & Sports. ROP Fahud Road and Building work. TELECOM, ROP Green & roof top sites. PDO applicant licence & driving licence.
Contact 98921022
akhtarmahmood3137@gmail.com

Business Administrator
Having a strong interpersonal, communication skills (verbal, written), can speak both Arabic & English languages, having basic knowledge of Microsoft Office application, ability to work on team, a very fast learner.
Contact 94887879
Email: amani.alhaj94@gmail.com

MANAGER
20Yrs experienced Indian commerce graduate, 4 Years of Fleet management in FMCG sector, 7 years of Contracts, Transportation at Oil & Gas sector in Oman, and 10years of Administration in India. D/L & NOC available.
Call/Whatsapp 94777651

Accounts/Finance/Audit Professional
ACCA, CIA, CRMA and Masters Degree with 9 years of diversified experience and valid Oman driving licence; looking for suitable opportunity in Finance/Accounting/Audit.
Contact No: +96891735780
Email: cia.acca1989@gmail.com

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)
CA, CPA, BSc. (Accountancy & Business Finance) Special with 12 years of experience (6th year in Oman) is looking for an opening. DL, NOC are available.
GSM: 78259755

Software Professional
Indian female, 27 years, Software professional (MCA), having 4 years experience in MNC seeks a suitable job in Muscat. Currently on visit visa.
Contact 78037607

HR & Administration Professional
With Executive Assistant Exposure, Well Experienced With Oman Labour Law, Well Versed In Office Management, New Office Induction & Administration, Indian Male, With Valid Oman Driving License, NOC Available, Seeks Suitable Placements.
GSM: 94 94 86 76

ACCOUNTANT
Indian female having MBA with 15yrs exp as Accountant and Accounts Officer looking for suitable placement. Having Valid Visa, NOC.
Contact: 98783111
Email: anjubinus@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer
Indian B.E., (Mechanical) with 19 years Oman Experience in MEP system Design, Supervision, Execution & Maintenance of Comm./Res. Buildings, hotels/Hospitals, HyperMarkets, PDO & Govt. Palace and RGO is looking for suitable Opening, Valid D/L, NOC available.
Contact: 92672761
email: tnrajan76@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

IT
Indian Female, Master Degree in Computer Science. Seeking for suitable jobs. Currently available in Oman (Sohar). Contact 79566592..

LOGISTIC
Young Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) and Digital Marketing Valid Oman Driving License. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com

PURCHASE
Inventory, Purchase & Accounts: Indian male 31, having 8 years experience in Retail, F&B, Operations and various other skills. NOC available. Contact 96219904 Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

MECHANIC/TECHNIC
HSE Officer with Valid Oman D/L License. 7 years experienced in Oman. Contact 94743007 (Oman), +917902565053 (India), Email: ajeesh4god@yahoo.com

SALES / MARKETING
Experienced female sales person from Philippines looking for a job in the retail sector. Contact 90997928
Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with D/L, looking for suitable placement. Contact 71790238
Indian Sales executive, B.Com with D/L looking for job. Has Visa. Contact 78040248
26, Indian male born in Oman, with 3years of experience, having valid D/L, looking for suitable placement in Engineering Sales/Marketing Field Holder of Bachelors in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering. Contact 98914229

Indian male (30) MBA with Oman experience (FMCG and Retail) in Sales and Marketing valid Omani D/L on visit. Contact +968 7975 5795
Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) and Digital Marketing Valid Oman Driving License. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com
Building materials young & active person with 10 yrs of experience in Oman (5 years in door & 3 years in outdoor sales experience) with valid Oman D/L looking for urgent placement (now in visa). # 93507031



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ITALY

SHOCKS

FOOTBALL

WORLD AT

EURO 2020



Italy shocked the world of soccer after entering the knockout stage of the ongoing UEFA Euro 2020 as the Group A winner on Sunday. In addition to their three wins in a row, the Azzurri surprised the soccer world by departing from traditional tactics of counterattack.

Mancini: a determined reformer

Roberto Mancini won two Italian Serie A trophies in his player career, representing Sampdoria and Lazio. However, he had no chance of shining at any major events as an Italian international. When he was appointed as the head coach of the Azzurri after the team failed to enter the 2018 FIFA World Cup, the man who had few national team genes had the desire and will to reform. Mancini abandoned traditional counterattacking tactics before sharing his experiences and positive tactics in Inter Milan and Manchester city to his players. When he started his coaching career in the national team in 2018, he was trying to rebuild the confidence of his team through clashes against the weaker teams. Compared to his predecessors, Mancini has called up



more footballers from the mid-table or even lower teams in Italian league, including Rome and Torino FC. Rising young stars Many veterans quit as new faces joined the Italy squad. During the past three years, the 56-year-old had selected over 60 players into Italy national team, building a team almost without weaknesses. Nicolo Barella, the 2020-21 season Italian Serie A winner, succeed Andrea Pirlo's style as a midfielder. Leonardo Spinazzola took over Paolo Maldini's position as one of the greatest left backs. Mancini put almost all the bench players on the court in

the 1-0 win over Wales in the closing game of the group stage at the Euro 2020. With some experienced veterans and rising stars, the Azzurri was one of the hottest title contenders. Mancini's side haven't lost a single game in their last 30 matches. What's more, they haven't conceded goals in this Euro 2020 campaign. They have the chance to break Vittorio Pozzo's record of 30 unbeaten games when they play the last 16 round. Should they succeed doing so, Mancini's team will probably face Belgium in the quarterfinals. It should be a tough game, and also a challenge for the Azzurri's defenders.

ROUND-UP

BankDhofar ranks among Forbes ‘Top 50 Banks in the Middle East’

To construct the list, Forbes gathered data from listed stock exchanges across the Arab world and ranked companies based on sales, profits, assets and market value

MUSCAT: In recognition of its prominent role in the growth and development of the Omani banking sector and national economy, BankDhofar, the second largest bank in Oman by assets and market share, ranked among Forbes ‘Top 50 Banks in the Middle East’ list featuring the Middle East & North Africa (Mena) banking giants that

drive the region’s economy. To construct the list, Forbes gathered data from listed stock exchanges across the Arab world and ranked companies based on sales, profits, assets and market value. “Time and again BankDhofar stands out and proves to be one of the best banks in the region - not only in customer experience but also in operations and business growth,” said Abdul Hakeem Al Ojaili, Chief Executive Officer of BankDhofar. “We have been working constantly to reinforce BankDhofar’s role as a key player in the Omani private sector and as a major contributor in driving the

development and growth of the national economy.” **Syndicated term facility** BankDhofar recently announced the successful raise of a \$250 million syndicated term facility to be utilised for general corporate purposes. The syndication was over-subscribed multiple times on the back of very strong participation from regional and international banks from the GCC, Europe and Asia, showing the confidence in BankDhofar and sovereign by international and regional banks. Since the launch of its operations in 1990, BankDhofar has

maintained a pioneering position in the Omani banking industry with a strong presence in Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Treasury and Project Finance. The combination of the thorough vision of BankDhofar’s executive management, the comprehensive operational strategy that revolves around following best international banking practices and providing the best customer experience, as well as its commitment to community development and contribution to the growth of the national economy, placed BankDhofar at the forefront of best banks in the region.



VACCINATION DRIVE

Lulu launches vaccination drive for staff



MUSCAT: As part of its commitment towards the safety and well-being of the customers and staff, Lulu Hypermarket has rolled out the Covid-19 vaccination drive to cover all its employees across all hypermarkets in Oman. As the Sultanate of Oman takes significant steps to contain the virus, Lulu has also stepped forward to do its part by launching the vaccination drive. The mass vaccination drive will administer Pfizer vaccines to all its employees. Commenting on the vaccination drive, Nasr Mubarak Salim Al Maawali, General Manager - HR stated “Vaccination for everyone is the best way to win this war against Covid-19, and our first and foremost priority is to get all our staff vaccinated at the earliest. Lulu attaches utmost attention to the health and safety of not only its employees but also the society at large. We have organised this

vaccination drive to ensure 100% employee vaccination.” “The safety and health of our customers, staff and the community at large is our prime concern. We understand the importance of creating an environment where everyone can feel safe and protected. We express our gratitude to the Ministry of Health and everyone in the first line of defence, including doctors and nursing staff, for their strenuous efforts to combat

the pandemic,” he added. **Socially responsible** Lulu has always been at the forefront of its core values and socially responsible initiatives. Since the beginning of the pandemic, Lulu has been actively implementing stringent safety and precautionary measures and following established safety protocols and important Covid-19 recommendations in all areas of its activity.

SUMMER PROMOTION



Grand Millennium Muscat unveils Weekday, Weekend Summer Escape

MUSCAT: Grand Millennium Muscat has launched Weekday and Weekend Summer Escape starting from OMR 32 net inclusive of taxes. The offer is on a room-only basis and includes a 20 per cent discount on all spa treatments and food & beverage outlets. The hotel has a breathtaking view of the city and the Arabian Sea from its Roof-top Infinity swimming pool that you can take advantage of when you book this promotion. The offer is valid until June 30 and is subject to availability. Grand Millennium Muscat hotel

also offers a Dine & Stay package for OMR 50 net per night for two adults. Stay in one of their well-appointed classic rooms with breakfast and the option to choose between lunch or dinner at their all-day dining Taybat restaurant. The offer is valid until June 30 and is subject to availability. And to elevate more of your Weekend Grand Experience, the hotel has recently launched 52 hours of relaxation and tranquillity for OMR 52,500 inclusive of applicable taxes. This offer is available on weekends from

Thursday to Saturday, on room only basis with a minimum of two nights’ stay to get you to experience your most awaited City staycation. Valid until July 3, and terms & conditions apply. “Our main focus is to provide an excellent guest experience and ensuring our guests are happy; and as such, these kinds of amazing offers allow us to keep bringing special moments to our guests at Millennium,” said Luca Medda, Cluster General Manager, Grand Millennium Muscat and Millennium Executive Apartments Muscat.

NEW DESTINATIONS IN AFRICA



Qatar Airways to launch new route to Lusaka and Harare from August

DOHA: Zambia and Zimbabwe are being added to Qatar Airways expanding list of destinations in Africa from early August, bringing its award-winning service to two important southern African destinations. The new service to Lusaka and onwards to Harare is scheduled to be operated with a Boeing 787 Dreamliner. It will connect passengers in Zambia and Zimbabwe with Qatar Airways’ global network of more than 140 destinations. With the addition of these two new routes, the carrier will operate over 100 weekly flights to 27 destinations in Africa. Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, Akbar Al Baker said: “Africa continues to be an area of strong growth for Qatar Airways and launching this service will support the development of the economy and tourism sector in

both countries. “Not only do we continue to rebuild our network after the pandemic, but we are actively expanding it with the addition of these two key destinations. These are the fifth and sixth new destinations in Africa added to our network since the start of the pandemic, taking our total new destinations added across the globe to 10.” The launch of Lusaka and Harare also supports increased demand for trade between Zambia and Zimbabwe and destinations on the Qatar Airways network such as London, Frankfurt and New York and from multiple points in China. With a total of 30 tonnes of cargo capacity on the aircraft per flight, Qatar Airways Cargo will play a key role in facilitating key exports from Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

Enjoy impressive experiences in luxury Lincoln Aviator

MUSCAT: The luxurious Lincoln Aviator gives you the lead in every way with its stylish design, cutting-edge technology, impressive luxury and exciting driving dynamics. Aviator offers the kind of capability premium clients requires in a three-row SUV, with available all-wheel drive. The standard twin-turbocharged 3.0-litre V6 engine, paired with a 10-speed SelectShift automatic transmission, delivers an impressive 400 horsepower and 562 Nm of torque for effortless acceleration. Lincoln Drive Modes’ five signature settings – Normal, Conserve, Excite, Slippery and Deep Conditions – allow owners to further customise their driving experience, while a 10.1-inch standard configurable LCD instrument cluster confirms their choices with beautiful, easy-to-read dynamic graphics and prompts. Aviator delivers a wealth of intuitive technologies designed to assist the driver while enhancing the overall experience of the journey. Right from the start, the Air Glide Suspension with Dynamic Lower Entry automatically lowers the vehicle to “greet” the driver, adding a new level of sophistication to Lincoln’s signature welcome lighting embrace. The convenience of this



feature makes loading cargo easier as well. The Aviator is also equipped with a technology that enables Aviator to “see” most potholes or uneven pavement and immediately make suspension adjustments to keep the ride as smooth as possible. Adaptive Suspension with Road Preview uses an advanced forward camera to constantly scan the road, seamlessly adjusting the suspension as needed. All Lincoln vehicles come standard with a suite of driver-assist features known as Lincoln Co-Pilot360. Traffic Jam Assist helps guide the vehicle using adaptive cruise control with stop-and-go, lane centring and traffic sign recognition, adjusting speed based on the information obtained. Evasive Steer Assist offers assistance to

the driver to help avoid a collision with a slower or stopped vehicle; it provides additional steering support when a collision cannot be avoided by braking alone. Reverse Brake Assist can help stop the vehicle while backing up if Aviator’s integrated rear sensors and camera detect an obstacle at the rear. Active Park Assist Plus removes the stress from parking by taking over steering, shifting, braking and acceleration functions with the touch of a button to navigate parallel and perpendicular parking spaces with ease. The boundless allure of flight has long inspired automotive design, and the all-new Lincoln Aviator takes that inspiration to the next level. In Oman, Lincoln vehicles are brought to you by Arabian Car Marketing Co.

ROUND-UP

Renault Megane: The compact car that offers comfort and refinement

Admired for its driving performance, owners are praising Renault Megane for its driving comfort, technology and safety features

MUSCAT: Blending striking good looks and stunning performance, Renault Megane, the vibrant and chic saloon, has been making a statement in Oman. Admired for its driving performance, owners are praising Renault Megane for its driving comfort, technology and safety features. Tariq Al Khalil who has been driving Renault Megane for the last three years says, “The char-



ismatic Renault Megane is a real head-turner. With its sedan body, dynamic lines and generous proportions, it has a style of its own, both lively and elegant.” Khalid Al Salmi appreciates Renault Megane for its daring expressive design and assertive style. He says, “With its sleek silhouette, hi-tech cockpit and sophisticated

styling, Renault Megane combines elegance and versatility.” Sulaiman Al Amri likes the car for its driving comfort and safety features. He explains, “Attractive and dynamic, Renault Megane makes a bold statement, unveiling its performance excellence and hi-tech interior.” Mansoor Sami compliments

Renault Megane for its evolutionary look. He says, “With this vehicle, you will enjoy the benefits of a host of advanced technologies.” A spokesperson for Renault Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles (SBA), said, “Its energetic lines and substantial proportions add to its increasing popularity with car aficiona-

dos in Oman. Megane presents a high-class driving experience, thanks to its technologies, design, and roominess. Renault Megane, which is available in 2.0 litres engine configuration along with 1.6 litres variant, is a popular car and much-loved car in the Sultanate.”

Acclaimed expertise
Renault’s designers have drawn upon their acclaimed expertise to seamlessly incorporate 503dm3 VDA of boot storage capacity without compromising the vehicle’s aesthetic appeal. Its generous dimensions (4.63m long and 1.81m wide, with a record wheelbase in its class of 2.71m) underscore its status-enhancing credentials and provide additional room for occupants. Its sleek profile is the result of painstaking work on the proportion of glass to metal (one-third/two-thirds), as well as its low height (1.44m) and ground clearance (13cm). Fitted as standard either across the range or in the higher-end versions, chrome detailing (grille, side mouldings, door window strips,

door handles and exhaust tailpipes) point to the model’s quality and reinforce its status-enhancing appeal. Its 1.57m front and rear track – the widest in its class – and its range of wheel sizes up to 18 inches imbue it with a striking stance. Its broad, sculpted shoulders express its sportier style. Megane is available in a choice of eight exterior colours. Its seven metallic options include Pearl White, Mercury, Mink Brown, Cosmos Blue, Comet Grey, Flame Red, Dune Beige. It is one non-metallic finish: Glacier White. The Megane shares many styling features with its larger sibling Renault Talisman, including its lighting signature which is visible night and day: The front C-shaped lighting signature features LED 3D-effect light guides. Available as an option on the top version of the Megane is full LED (LED Pure Vision technology) headlights. The rear LED lights form a unique horizontal 3D-effect signature featuring Edge Light technology. The slender brush stroke-like lines emit a deep red light.

'BEST IN CLASS' BENEFITS

Customers get unique benefits by transferring their salaries to Bank Muscat accounts

MUSCAT: In line with its vision “To serve you better, everyday” and commitment to offering innovative banking services and products, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate has invited its personal banking customers and the general public to transfer salaries to their accounts at Bank Muscat. Customers can enjoy many unique and ‘best in class’ benefits and features including free entry into Al Mazyona draws, the widest range of financing and investment options in the country and access to the largest branch and ATM/CDM network in Oman. Salary transfer draws are an important category within the Al Mazyona 2021 scheme and all customers who transfer their salaries to the bank are automatically entered into the various salary transfer draws, which are held regularly with as many as 20 prizes being given away every month. Al Mazyona rewards 10 winners every month from among customers having salaries ranging between OMR500 and OMR999. These winners are paid a monthly salary prize of OMR500 each for a whole



year as a reward. Similarly, 10 winners with salaries of OMR1,000 or more are chosen from amongst the bank’s Al Jawhar Privilege banking customers. These winners will also receive OMR500 every month for a whole year. It must be noted that in 2021, as many as 240 Salary Transfer winners will receive a total of over OMR1.4 million through Al Mazyona’s monthly salary transfer draws. Expressing his happiness at the strong customer confidence with the bank, Abdullah Tamman Al Maashani, Deputy General Manager - Institutional Sales & Prod-

uct Development, Bank Muscat, said: “All customers who transfer their salaries to the bank will be able to make use of a comprehensive set of banking products and facilities to meet their varied banking needs. The 20 cash prizes of OMR500 each, which are given to lucky winners for a whole year in the monthly draws, are another star attraction for customers, amongst the different innovative services and facilities offered by the bank.” Other benefits include access to a wide range of financing options at highly competitive rates including personal financing, Sayyarati auto financing and education financing. For example, Omani customers looking for the best home finance deals in the Sultanate will find Baituna with its maximum tenor of 25 years a particularly attractive option. Similarly, Sayyarati auto financing and personal financing options are available to customers at very competitive rates. It must be specially noted in this regard that the bank’s financing products have highly flexible payment options, quick turnaround times while re-

quiring only simple documentation. The bank also offers a number of excellent savings and investment options to its personal banking customers including the Themaar Savings Plan, Term Deposits and Bank Muscat Mutual Funds. The Themaar Savings Plan allows customers to put aside a fixed amount every month for a fixed period while Term Deposits allow them to save a lump sum for a specified period. Customers can choose the amount that they plan to save and the period according to their future financial goals. The Themaar Savings Plan and Term Deposit allow for safe investments with a guaranteed rate of return. The bank also offers mutual fund investments for investors with a higher risk tolerance to have a chance of earning good returns from equity markets through lump sum investments or systematic investment plans (SIPs). In particular, SIPs offer the convenience of investing a small sum at regular intervals over a long period to take advantage of rising markets, but at a lower risk than investing directly in equity markets.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

Mazoon Electricity launches vaccination drive

MUSCAT: In line with its endeavour to ensure the health and well-being of its employees, Mazoon Electricity launched a COVID-19 vaccination campaign for all its employees. The drive aims to reinforce the objectives of the Oman government’s national vaccination campaign launched to contain the spread of the virus. The company is running a COVID-19 vaccination campaign for its employees in direct coordination with Nama Group and cooperation with the Ministry of Health. The initiative is in line with Mazoon Electricity’s ongoing efforts to get all the employees of the company vaccinated and ensure their safety from the pandemic. Eng. Saleem Nasser Saleem Al Mahroogi, Senior Manager QHSE of Mazoon Electricity said, “We are conducting the vaccination



drive in accordance with the government’s guidance so that the chain of virus transmission can

be broken. The health and safety of our employees is our topmost priority at Mazoon Electricity.

The key to curbing the infection is to get as many people vaccinated as early as possible. We strongly encourage all to receive the vaccination to minimise the risk of infectious disease in the workplace. By choosing to be vaccinated, they protect not only themselves and their family but the community as well.” He added, “We keep on monitoring the latest updates about the COVID-19 pandemic and take necessary actions to safeguard the health of our employees, customers and the larger community.” Mazoon Electricity continues to adhere to all COVID-19 safety and health protocols as set out by the Supreme Committee for dealing with COVID-19 and the Ministry of Health. It stringently follows all the standard operating procedures at the workplace and in the public.

OMANI BRAND



Discover great taste with A'Safwah's fresh juices in new 1.5-litre bottles

MUSCAT: A'Safwah, the oldest dairy and beverage company in the Sultanate, continues to offer its versatile range of products in newer packaging and sizes, based on its extensive research and a deep understanding of consumer needs. The company has announced the launch of new 1.5-litre bottle packs of its natural juices range, to cater to the everyday refreshment needs of a family, to beat the summer heat with a daily dose of fruit goodness. With the beginning of summer vacation for school students, A'Safwah invites mothers and kids to try their favourite fruit flavours, packaged with great taste, in a family-sized 1.5-litres bottle. The company offers a wide choice of juices with a single fruit flavour, 100% no-added-sugar juices, fruity blended juices, and other fruit-mixed juices with a variety of distinctive flavours. A company spokesperson said, “We always strive to create products of different sizes and flavours, reflecting our interest to achieve our customers’ requirements through all seasons during the year. Our continuous communication with them seeks to take first-hand feedback, so we are able to implement their suggestions for their best interest and convenience of usage. This helps to enhance the level of service satisfaction by offering them products and healthy choices that add value to their diet and

make their snacking occasions tastier with natural ingredients and an unmatched taste.” A'Safwah offers juices for all tastes, which includes unique blends of lemon juice with kiwi and orange juice with carrots, as well as delicious fruit cocktail juice and mixed berry juice. Its 100%, no-added-sugar juices include the apple and orange flavours, which urge consumers to make ‘healthy’ a choice. A'Safwah also offers a range of juices to fans of concentrated fruit taste, inviting them to enjoy moments full of adventure and joy with mango juice, guava, lemon and pineapple; for the first time the company now offers tamarind juice with a unique, tangy taste. Earlier this year, the A'Safwah range of juices were introduced in new-shaped on-the-go 200ml bottles, which meet the body’s need for beneficial liquids and reduce fatigue and the feeling that a hot summer day brings with it. The spokesman added, “Since its establishment in 1983, A'Safwah has been able to consolidate its presence in local markets and enhance its contribution to self-sufficiency within Oman. The company has expanded its production line for dairy products, healthy and fresh beverages, which has contributed to increasing its loyal customer base. It continues to seek to add more products to meet consumers’ requirements and exceed their expectations.”



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50 ONLY

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20 ONLY

22 CARAT 8 GMS GOLD COIN

20 ONLY

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Offer valid from 1st May 2021 to 31st July 2021. Total of 3 raffle draws will be held at Oasis Water Company, Azaila. Draw Dates: 1st June 2021, 1st July 2021 and 2nd August 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.

Register your raffle coupon number at www.omanoasis.com/eid2021 to win.

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*@Easy monthly installments are calculated based on 20% down payment for 6 year loan tenure for the respective CHANGAN basic model inclusive of 5% VAT. Subject to credit approvals from Banks. Images shown are for illustrative purpose only and actual may vary as per the model variant. To know more, please visit the Changan Showroom.



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