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TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2020

16 PAGE ISSUE

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OWYA 2020 WINNERS - SAYYIDA BASMA AL SAID & SAMRIN ROMAIL
GO TO PAGES 09 & 16

YOUTH ARE THE WEALTH OF A NATION, AN INEXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCE AND THE ARMS THAT BUILD IT. THEY ARE ITS PRESENT AND FUTURE. WE WILL ALWAYS LISTEN TO THEM, AND SENSE THEIR NEEDS, INTERESTS AND ASPIRATIONS WHICH WILL DEFINITELY BE ACCORDED THE ATTENTION THAT THEY DESERVE

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq's speech on February 23, 2020

Sayyid Theyazin awards 21 to mark Omani Youth Day

Our Correspondent
Muscat

The sultanate celebrated Omani Youth Day on Monday under the patronage of Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tariq al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth. The occasion also marked the launch of the Youth Proficiency Award which was presented to 21 young Omani men and women, honouring them for outstanding work in their respective fields.

In his speech, Sayyid Theyazin said, "On this day, we are pleased to extend our sincere congratulations to Omani youth, firmly believing in their vital role in continuing the building process of the sultanate's re-

Omani youth participated in drafting the Oman Vision 2040, and the government relies on them for progress, growth and prosperity

SAYYID THEYAZIN
BIN HAITHAM AL SAID

newed renaissance."

He added, "The sultanate has paid great attention to the youth since the beginning of the Blessed Renaissance, and has



(ONA)

harnessed their capabilities which enabled them to fulfil their responsibilities in advancing the process of progress and development and continue the

achievements to reach their goals and aspirations."

He noted that Omani youth have proved their high degree of national responsibility and

commitment to participate in the sultanate's renewed renaissance.

Sayyid Theyazin informed that the Royal Directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq lay emphasis on the youth and continued care for them as they are the nation's wealth.

"This emphasis has culminated in the establishment of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth to be the umbrella organisation that nourishes their ambitions, creativity and aspirations in various fields. Omani youth participated in drafting the Oman Vision 2040, and the government relies on them for progress, growth and prosperity.

Continued on Page 02

22 year old makes smart gloves for outdoor workers

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Electrical engineering student Omar Abdullah Said al Maskari, 22, has designed smart gloves for use by outdoor workers.

Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tariq al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, presented Maskari the Youth Proficiency Award in the field of science on the occasion of Omani Youth Day celebrated on Monday.

Speaking to *Muscat Daily*, Maskari, a student of Ibra College of Technology, said he was proud and honoured to receive the award and that it will motivate him to put more effort into his innovations.

"The idea for my project came from an analysis of the Ministry of Labour's data, which showed that the most common injuries among outdoor workers are on hands and fingers. The smart gloves that I have made is an intelligent piece of protective gear that will help workers," Maskari said.

He informed that the device predicts risks that may prevail at the site of work and alerts about high temperature and presence of poisonous gas.



Omar Abdullah al Maskari

It also allows the employer to determine the location of the worker for quick intervention.

With the gloves, employers can follow employees' heart and health conditions.

"There is an emergency button to report an accident. The data on incidents/risks can be easily analysed by employers and concerned authorities," he said.

Explaining the concept further, Maskari said that the main objective of the device is to establish a link between workers, employers and the authorities.

Continued on Page 03

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Lulu opens latest branch in Markaz al Bahja mall



Our Correspondent
Muscat

Lulu Hypermarket Oman opened its latest branch at Markaz al Bahja on Monday, as part of its ongoing expansion strategy.

The new store was officially inaugurated by H E Dr Nasser Rashid Abdullah al Mawali, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Economy, in the presence of Wali of Seeb, Sheikh Ibrahim bin Yahya al Rawahi, Lulu officials and representatives from other business communities.

The new hypermarket, which is the 25th branch in Oman and the 194th globally, occupies a selling space of 80,000sqft spread over two levels in the mall.

The hypermarket has been designed using modern and in-

ternational standards with a futuristic concept to provide customers a complete shopping experience.

Wider aisles, multiple counters and ample parking facilities are all added features for a smarter and more efficient system of shopping.

The new branch has separate sections for fresh food, fruit, vegetables, dairy products, poultry, meat and fish, as well as a hot food and bakery section. There is also a big area dedicated to a department store, which includes garments, electronics, IT products, stationery and home appliances. There is a wide range of products to choose from a collection of the latest electronics and IT gadgets at affordable prices.

Speaking after the inaugura-

tion, Ananth A V, director of Lulu Hypermarkets Oman & India, said, "Despite the retail industry going through a rough patch due to the current situation, Lulu remains optimistic."

"The opening of the new store demonstrates our resolve and conviction to meet the emerging challenges. We have set clear strategies and procedures about how we should operate, keeping in mind and respecting the health guidelines issued by the government and local authorities. We will do all we can to keep operating and serving our community in the days ahead," he added.

Shabeer K A, regional director of Lulu Oman, remarked, "Lulu is committed to offer the best range of products available to our customers. The new store will give the local community ac-

cess to everyday essentials to cater to diverse needs. Our overall mission is to make shopping a satisfying and happy experience always."

Lulu is working closely with vendors to ensure that all shelves are stocked up at all times.

The group stated that it is also closely monitoring and following guidelines and instructions from all authorities concerned. All the stores have been installed with automatic sanitiser stands for staff and customers.

Markaz al Bahja mall was developed in 2002 to give shoppers in Oman a mall of truly international standards. The mall boasts of global and well-known local brands, which makes for an unforgettable shopping experience for serious as well as fun shoppers.

422 new COVID-19 cases, 16 deaths reported on Monday

Our Correspondent
Muscat

The Ministry of Health (MoH) on Monday confirmed 422 new cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), taking the total to 113,353.

The number of deaths reported during the same time was 16.

The recovery numbers also increased by 390.

"The number of recoveries has increased to 99,668, while the number of deaths has reached 1,190," an MoH statement said.

As of Monday, a total of 439 patients were admitted in health institutions, including 182 in ICUs.

MoH calls upon all to adhere to the isolation procedures by staying in an isolated room with an attached toilet and serving the



isolated person from outside the room as instructed. It said that social distancing also helps curb the spread of the virus.

MoH advises all citizens and residents to continue washing hands with water and soap, avoid touching the face, nose, mouth and eyes, and follow healthy habits when coughing and sneezing.

CASES FROM OCT 20 TO OCT 26	
Oct 20	439
Oct 21	418
Oct 22	353
Oct 23 to 25 (Average - 365)	1,095
Oct 26	422

Sayyid Theyazin awards 21 Omani youth

Continued from Page 01

"The vision focuses on the importance of developing their knowledge, skills and support to push the wheel of progress and keep pace with the developments in the fields of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, science and the emergence of new economic activities," said Sayyid Theyazin.

The minister honoured 21 youth with the Youth Proficiency Award in nine fields and three categories. The nine fields are entrepreneurship, education, media, culture, science, sports, heritage, environment and fieldwork, while the categories are individual, youth initiative and youth institution.

Winners in the Individual category

Abdul al Maamari won for excellence in media, Abdulaziz al Kalbani for environment, Salem al Jadidi for heritage, Mohammed al Esayi for education, Abdulaziz al Rawas for culture, Rashid al Hina for sports, Omar al Maskari for science; and Shatha al Jabriyah for entrepreneurship. The award for fieldwork was withheld.

Winners in the Youth Institution category

Wallah Nestahal Foundation for excellence in the media field, Silicone Foundation for education, Oman Debate Center for Development Foundation for culture, Quick Challenge Foundation for

sports, Dawam Platform for fieldwork, and Injaz Oman Foundation for entrepreneurship. The award has been withheld in the fields of environment, heritage and science.

Winners in the Youth Initiative category

Rooh Alqanoon Network for excellence in the media field, Al Asma Initiative for environment, Memorable Achievements Initiative for heritage, Invest Yourself Online Platform for education, Fifth Week of Qomra Photography for culture, Al Riyadh ba Akhlaqna Ahlaa for sports, and Oman Expo for science. The award was withheld in the fields of fieldwork and entrepreneurship.

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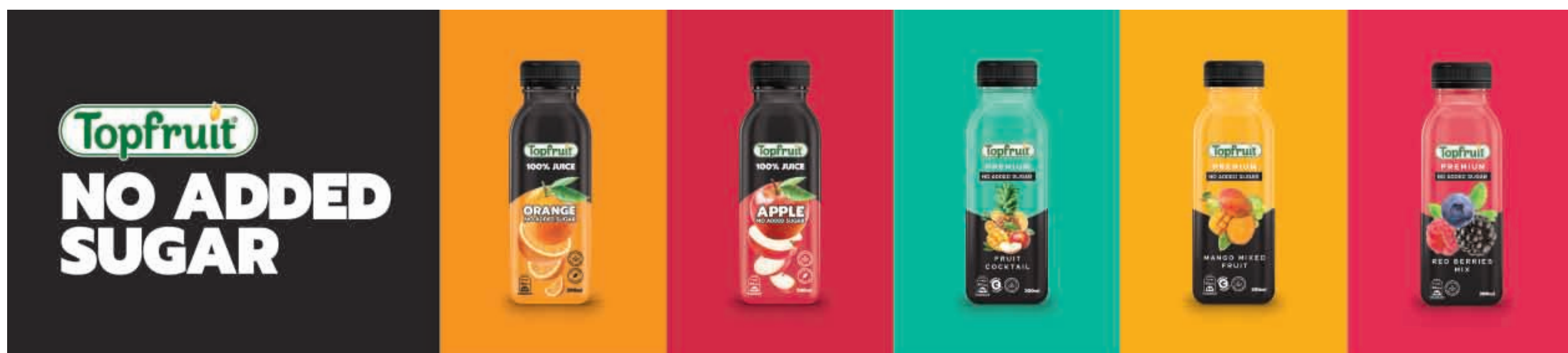
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	Max	Min		
Abu Dhabi	33	21	Fajr	4.54am
Doha	31	22	Sunrise	6.10am
Kuwait City	33	21	Duhr	11.56am
Manama	30	22	Asr	3.11pm
Riyadh	31	15	Maghrib	5.37pm
			Isha	6.48pm

HOTLINES

24-hour pharmacies	Starcare Hospital: 24557200
Scientific Pharmacy: Qurm	Emergency number: 24558333
24566601, Ruwi 24702850	Dr Harub's Clinic:
Muscat Pharmacy: Ruwi	24563217, 99254940
24702542, Salalah 23291635	Emirates Medical Center:
Al Hashar Pharmacy: Ruwi	24604540
24783334	KIMS Oman Hospital:
Hospitals and Clinics	24760105
Al Hayat International	Lama Polyclinic: CBD
Hospital, Al Ghubra-	24799077; Al Khuwair
22004000, 94442000	24478817; Sohar 26751128
Al Raffah Hospital: Muscat -	Muscat Eye Laser Centre:
24618900/1/2/3	24691414
Sohar - 26704639/49/50	Muscat Private Hospital:
Apollo Hospital Muscat,	24583600
Hamriya: 24787766, 24787780	Health4All Medical Centre:
Abeer Hospital, Ruwi, Muscat	24486005, 24483009
24770800, 90999334	Muscat Municipality: 80077222



Sayyid Theyazin opens Outward Bound Oman centre in Al Khoudh

Muscat - In the context of celebrations marking Omani Youth Day, Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tarik al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, opened a training centre of Outward Bound Oman in Al Khoudh on Monday.

The ceremony was attended by Sayyid Faisal bin Turki al Said, Honorary President of Outward Bound Oman, and other dignitaries.

The training centre was set up through the support of the Late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. It was designed by local consultants 23 Degrees North and the building of the centre is unique as it has adopted solar technologies.



The centre comprises an equipment store, administrative offices, two indoor training centres, a lecture hall with a capacity for 60 people, and a 9m

climbing wall.

The centre is the second in a series of three national training centres planned by Outward Bound Oman, with the third cen-

tre coming up in Jebel Akhdar.

The first training centre was opened by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, then Minister of Heritage and Culture, at Rimal

Sharqiyah in March 2018.

So far, Outward Bound Oman has trained some 18,000 youth since its inception in 2009.

Sulaiman Masoud al Harthy, board chairman, Outward Bound Oman, said in his speech that Outward Bound Oman today sets a distinctive landmark in Oman's growth march.

"Developing the talents of national youth and preparing them to join the labour market is a matter of great significance," said Harthy.

He added that the centre will play a leading role in nurturing the skills of the future generation and grooming them to act in line with Oman Vision 2040.

ONA

Ministry warns against use of HM's image without permission

Our Correspondent
Muscat

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, his family members, the Royal emblem or the khanjar and sword logo on locally produced commercial items.

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Red tide likely cause of food poisoning in Dhofar

Our Correspondent
Muscat

The Ministry of Health (MoH) announced that a number of health institutions in the Governorate of Dhofar have registered several cases of food poisoning related to consumption of some types of shellfish locally known as *Al Zuka* and *Al Fadhiq*. The ministry said the fish likely contained toxic sub-

stances as a result of the beaches being affected by the red tide phenomenon.

In such cases, the infected person may suffer various difficulties including numbness, weakened movement, shortness of breath, vomiting and diarrhoea.

MoH has urged fishermen and consumers to take caution and refrain from eating fish from the areas affected by the

red tide.

Red tide is a common name for a phenomenon known as an algal bloom, an event in which estuarine or marine algae accumulate rapidly in the water column, or 'bloom'.

These algae, more correctly termed phytoplankton, are microscopic, single-celled, plant-like organisms that can form dense, visible patches near the water's surface.

22 year old makes smart gloves

Continued from Page 01

"The gloves have sensors that monitor the worker's temperature and incidents including bleeding, which are analysed and sent to the Ministry of Labour to impose penalties related to labour laws, such as working outdoors during high daytime temperatures in summer."

Maskari was handicapped by financial constraints during the development phase of the device. Additionally, he had difficulty registering for IP rights with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion. "I was finally able to register it in 2019."

Maskari was also recently awarded a silver medal at the 12th International Invention Fair of the Middle East (IIFME) held in Kuwait for the smart gloves. The fair brought together inventions from 42 countries including the UK, US, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Thailand, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Algeria, Tunisia and several GCC countries. A total of 130 inventions were showcased at the fair.

"I have also participated in several international science events, such as the London International Youth Science Forum which sees the participation of 500 young men and women from more than 74 countries."

Maskari said, "I am trying to get financial support to commercialise the device. It will save time and protect lives. I thank the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion for supporting inventors and motivating them. I also thank H H Sayyid Theyazin for honouring youth."

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HOSPITALITY CHAMPIONS 2020

Apex Media and the National Hospitality Institute (nhi) are very proud to present the 25 deserving winners of the inaugural ‘Hospitality Champions Awards’.

The awards were presented to each winner at a number of selected properties over the past two weeks, in so doing, replacing the gala awards event that was originally planned for April 21, 2020.

The key objectives of the initiative are:

- 1 To raise the profile of the hospitality sector as a career choice for young Omanis.
- 2 Attract more students to enrol with the nhi and other appropriate training establishments.
- 3 To retain the graduates and ensure that the ongoing training and support is available to develop and progress their careers.

Through the recognition and celebration of people already working in this vibrant sector, it will be clear to potential entrants that an exciting and rewarding future is offered, with the additional likely benefit of international appointments.

We now look forward to ‘Hospitality Champions 2021’ and call upon all hospitality related organisations across the sultanate to identify and nominate their future champions.

Congratulations to all our winners in 2020 and also to those people that were highly commended in their respective categories.

Mark Rix, CEO, Apex Media



The Champions



NASSER ADEEM MANSOOR AL NADHIRI
BARMAN



SUOOD SAID ABDULLAH ALI AL SUBHI
COMMIS CHEF



EMAD MOHAMMED AL HASANI
CONCIERGE



KHULOOD NASSER AMUR AL HAJRI
EVENTS PERSON



ISSAM AL BALUSHI
ENGINEERING



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AHMED AL MALKI
IT PERSON



MOHAMMED AL BUSAIDI
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YASSER MABROOK MUBARAK AL NAABI
LAUNDRY



BADAR TAAIB ALI AL HASANI
PASTRY CHEF



WALEED KHALIFA AL NOUMANI
PEOPLE WITH DETERMINATION



MAHIR AL BALUSHI
SALES PERSON



MOHAMMED AL MALKI
SECURITY



SULTAN SAIF ABDULLAH AL ISMAILI
SOUS CHEF



SULAIMAN AZAN AL ZAKWANY
SPA / FITNESS



NADINE AL BULUSHI
TEAM CHAMPION



SAID AL RASHDI
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT



MOHAMMED HAMED AL SARHANI
UNSUNG HERO



OMAR AL BALUSHI
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KAMAL AL BALUSHI
WAITER JUNIOR



MOHAMMED AL SABBAGH
YOUNG HOTELIER

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

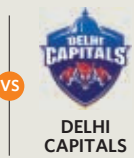
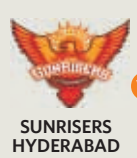
It was sort of bittersweet, to be honest. I am a bit taken aback by why it has taken me so long to get into the tournament for the team

Ben Stokes
Rajasthan allrounder, after his unbeaten 107, against Mumbai Indians, on Sunday



TODAY'S MATCH

DUBAI, 6PM



POINTS TABLE

TEAMS	P	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
MI	11	7	4	0	14	+1.252
DC	11	7	4	0	14	+0.434
RCB	11	7	4	0	14	+0.092
KKXIP	12	6	6	0	12	-0.049
KKR	12	6	6	0	12	-0.479
RR	12	5	7	0	10	-0.505
SRH	11	4	7	0	8	+0.029
CSK	12	4	8	0	8	-0.602

P: Played, W: Won, L: Lost, NR: No Result, PTS: Points, NRR: Net Run-Rate

CSK: Chennai Super Kings
RCB: Royal Challengers Bangalore
DC: Delhi Capitals
KKR: Kolkata Knight Riders
KKXIP: Kings XI Punjab
MI: Mumbai Indians
RR: Rajasthan Royals
SRH: Sunrisers Hyderabad

FIVE IN A ROW FOR PUNJAB

Mandeep's special, Gayle blitz and Shami's burst help their side climb to fourth spot

Sharjah, UAE - The last time Kings XI Punjab took on the Kolkata Knight Riders, a little over two weeks ago, KL Rahul's side seemed to have plumbed the depths in the IPL. They had slumped to a sixth loss in seven games. By the time the return fixture against the Knight Riders came about on Monday, the Kings XI were a team transformed - or at least a team with fortunes transformed.

There was no mucking about with last-over finishes, just a good bowling performance backed up by an efficient chase, and a fifth win on the trot.

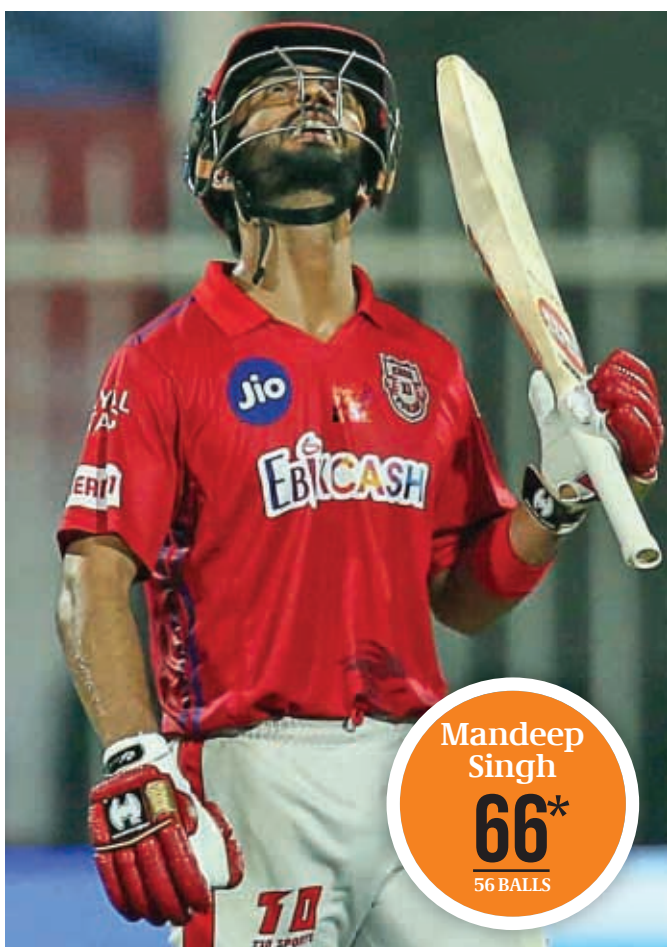
That the victory came against the Knight Riders - their closest competitors for a playoff spot - made this particularly significant. The Kings XI now have 12 points and moved to the top half of the points table.

The bowlers had kept the Knight Riders to 149 for nine, having successfully weathered an 81-run stand between Shubman Gill and Eoin Morgan.

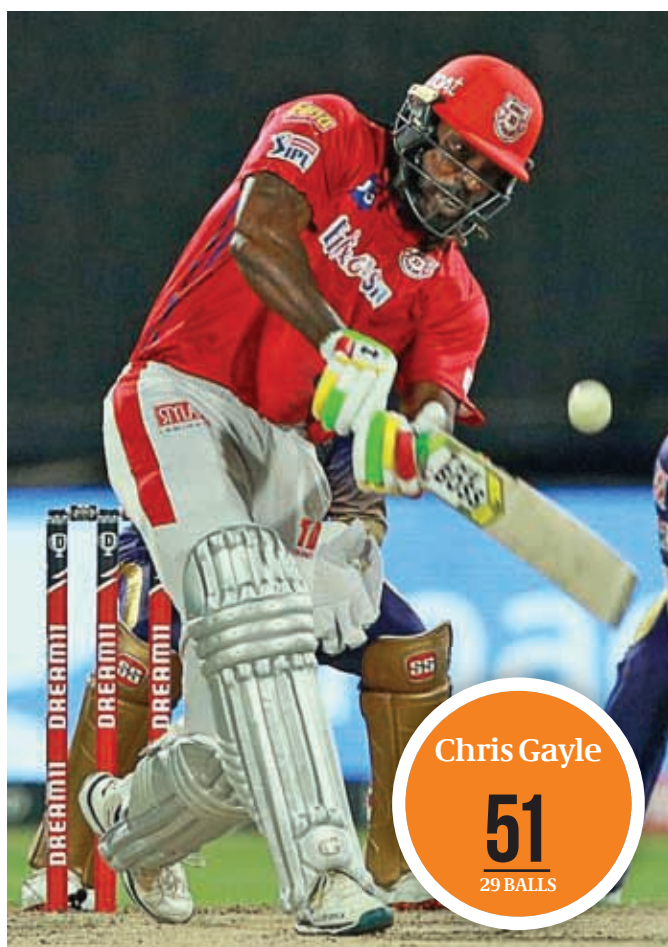
Mohammed Shami struck upfront and the leg-spin pair of Ravi Bishnoi and M Ashwin applied the choke in the second half.

The chase was clinical. Mandeep Singh partnered Rahul again at the top and shrugged off initial struggles to hit an emotionally charged half-century, batting till the end when the winning runs were hit.

Mandeep had lost his father three days ago and looked to the skies and blew a kiss on reaching his half-century. Calling his knock 'special' Mandeep said, "This one for him. My father al-



Mandeep Singh
66*
56 BALLS



Chris Gayle
51
29 BALLS

SCOREBOARD

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS		
S Gill	c Pooran b Shami	57 (45)
N Rana	c Gayle b Maxwell	0 (1)
R Tripathi	c Rahul b Shami	7 (4)
D Karthik	c Rahul b Shami	0 (2)
E Morgan	c Ashwin b Bishnoi	40 (25)
S Narine	b Jordan	6 (4)
K Nagarkoti	b Ashwin	6 (3)
P Cummins	lbw b Bishnoi	1 (8)
L Ferguson	not out	24 (38)
C Varun	b Jordan	2 (4)
MP Krishna	not out	0 (1)
Extras	(lb 3, w 3)	6

TOTAL: 149 for nine

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-10, 3-10, 4-91, 5-101, 6-113, 7-114, 8-136, 9-149

Bowling: G Maxwell 2-0-21-1, M Shami 4-0-35-3, A Singh 2-0-18-0, M Ashwin 4-0-27-1, C Jordan 4-0-25-2, R Bishnoi 4-1-20-2

KINGS XI PUNJAB

KL Rahul	lbw b Varun	28 (25)
Mandeep Singh	not out	66 (56)
C Gayle	c Krishna b Ferguson	51 (29)
N Pooran	not out	2 (3)
Extras	(lb 2, w 1)	3

TOTAL: 150 for two in 18.5 overs

Fall of wickets: 1-47, 2-147

Bowling: P Cummins 4-0-31-0, M P Krishna 3-0-24-0, C Varun 4-0-34-1, S Narine 4-0-27-0, L Ferguson 3.5-0-32-1

Gill was eventually out for a 45-ball 57 in the 19th over, having to farm the strike and manufacture big shots.

Gayle blasts off

Kings XI were missing Mayank Agarwal for a second game, but they stuck to the previous match's opening combination of Rahul and Mandeep. Although Mandeep took his time at the start, being on three off 11 at one point, Rahul was timing the ball with his usual fluency. With not a steep target to chase, the Kings XI could absorb some quiet overs, and once Mandeep had got his eye in, he began scoring more briskly.

The opening partnership ended at 47 in eight overs when Rahul was trapped lbw by Varun

Chakravarthy, but Gayle's arrival turned the tide decisively in the way of the Kings XI.

Gayle smashed Varun for sixes off the fourth and fifth balls he faced. He had been troubled by Narine in the past, but on the day, he took 17 from the 11 balls he faced off Narine, smiting two dismissive sixes straight past him too. With a low total to defend, the Gayle onslaught meant the Knight Riders ran out of options quickly. Even though he fell for 51 off 29 after a stand worth exactly 100, there was to be no great escape for the Knight Riders this time.

Cricinfo

OUSIDE IPL

Du Plessis, Russell, pull out of LPL

Colombo, Sri Lanka - Five foreign players, including Andre Russell, Faf du Plessis and David Miller have withdrawn from the Lanka Premier League (LPL) less than a week after they were drafted into franchise teams.

Miller, du Plessis and Dawid Malan have become unavailable because of the limited-overs series between South Africa and England, set to begin on November 27. Russell, meanwhile, has pulled out due to injury, according to Sri Lanka Cricket. Manvinder Bisla, the fifth player to exit the tournament, is not believed to have provided a reason though. The LPL is scheduled to start on November 21 and run until December 13.

"The franchises that had these players will have to negotiate with other players to take their place," LPL director Ravin Wickramaratne told ESPNcricinfo.

Russell, Miller, du Plessis and Malan had all been selected as marquee players, which means the franchises are not bound by the constraints of the draft payment structure when they seek new players.

Cricinfo

Rahul, Siraj in India Test squad; Rohit ruled out with injury

INDIA FOR AUSTRALIA TOUR

Mumbai, India - Rohit Sharma has been ruled out of the upcoming Australia tour with a hamstring injury he picked up in the ongoing IPL. KL Rahul and Kuldeep Yadav have returned to India's Test squad and uncapped fast bowler Mohammed Siraj has also been called-up for the four-match series in December-January.

Ishant Sharma's injury in the IPL meant he was not in the Test squad either, and the BCCI has said in a statement they will 'continue to monitor the progress of Rohit Sharma and Ishant Sharma'.

While Rohit picked up a hamstring injury last week and he is still in the UAE with the Mumbai Indians squad, Ishant was ruled out of the IPL much earlier with an abdominal muscle tear and he had returned to India. Ishant has been at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru since then.

Boxing Day Test in Melbourne likely to allow fans

Melbourne, Australia - Fans are expected to be allowed into the Melbourne Cricket Ground for the blockbuster Boxing Day Test between Australia and India, officials said on Monday in a major boost for the series.

Australia's second largest city has been under a coronavirus



KL Rahul



Mohammed Siraj

India's openers in Rohit's absence are Mayank Agarwal, Prithvi Shaw and Shubman Gill, just like was the case for the New Zealand Tests earlier this year, with the addition of Rahul now to make it an 18-man squad.

Siraj will be the fifth pace-bowling option along with Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav and Navdeep Saini whereas Kuldeep will be the third among spinners that also include

Ravindra Jadeja and R Ashwin.

Wriddhiman Saha and Rishabh Pant, who is missing from the white-ball squads, are the two wicketkeepers, and Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane (vice-captain) and Hanuma Vihari are the expected batsmen in the squad led by Virat Kohli.

The BCCI release also said four additional bowlers - Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Kartik Tyagi, Ishan Porel and T Natarajan - will

travel with the Indian contingent.

Test squad: Virat Kohli (capt), Mayank Agarwal, Prithvi Shaw, KL Rahul, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane (vice-capt), Hanuma Vihari, Shubman Gill, Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav, Navdeep Saini, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, R Ashwin, Mohammed Siraj.

Cricinfo



Rishabh Pant

Pant omitted from white-ball teams, Varun in T20I squad

INDIA FOR AUSTRALIA TOUR

Mumbai, India - Wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant has been omitted from India's ODI and T20I squads for the upcoming Australia tour. Rohit Sharma, India's white-ball vice-captain, isn't part of both the squads as well.

Tamil Nadu and Kolkata Knight Riders mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy earned his maiden national call-up on the back of his stellar performances in the ongoing IPL.

Varun is the only player with a five-wicket haul so far this season, and in all he is the highest wicket-taker for Kolkata with 12 dismissals.

India's leading allrounder Hardik Pandya is set to play his first limited-overs international since September 2019.

In the absence of Rohit, KL Rahul, has been named Virat Kohli's deputy in both the

white-ball squads. Rahul is the only wicketkeeper in the ODI squad while India have another wicketkeeping option in Sanju Samson for the T20Is.

Varun, who had turned 29 just before IPL 2020 just August, played only 11 T20s before Monday.

T20I squad: Virat Kohli (capt), Shikhar Dhawan, Mayank Agarwal, KL Rahul (vice-captain & wk), Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Hardik Pandya, Sanju Samson (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Navdeep Saini, Deepak Chahar, Varun Chakravarthy

ODI squad: Kohli (capt), Dhawan, Shubman Gill, Rahul (vice-capt), Iyer, Pandey, Hardik Pandya, Agarwal, Jadeja, Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Bumrah, Shami, Saini, Shardul Thakur.

Cricinfo

QUICK RUN

Uncapped Umaga in England squad
England coach Eddie Jones included uncapped fly-half Jacob Umaga in his squad announced Monday for this week's Six Nations finale against Italy and the upcoming Autumn Nations Cup. Umaga is the nephew of former New Zealand captain Tana Umaga. He was only one of two specialist stand-offs selected by Jones, together with England captain Owen Farrell. But there was no place for Exeter captain and fly-half Joe Simmonds.

South Korean great Dong-gook to retire
Veteran South Korean striker Lee Dong-gook, the record goal-scorer in both the K-League and the Asian Champions League, blew the whistle on his 23-year career on Monday, announcing he will retire after the season finale this weekend. Lee - had also enjoyed stints with Werder Bremen in Germany's Bundesliga and Middlesbrough in the English Premier League. He made his professional debut with Pohang Steelers in 1998 and has accumulated a record 228 K-League goals in a career which includes seven domestic championships and one AFC Champions League title. Lee is also the top-scorer in the AFC Champions League with 37 goals in 75 appearances. He was part of the national team for the 1998 and 2010 World Cups.

AFP

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

'World-class' Vardy shines as Leicester rock Arsenal

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

London, UK - Brendan Rodgers saluted 'world-class' Jamie Vardy after he sealed Leicester's late 1-0 win as spluttering Arsenal crashed to a third defeat in their last four English Premier League (EPL) games on Sunday. Vardy was only fit enough for the bench after a calf injury, but Foxes manager Rodgers sent the striker on with 30 minutes left. Vardy responded with his sixth goal of the season. The 33 year old has made a habit of tormenting Arsenal and has now scored 11 goals in 12 EPL games against them. "Our plan was always to bring Jamie Vardy into the game and he can stretch it," said Rodgers. "He makes the big contributions in the big games," he added after Leicester's first win at Arsenal since 1973. That shows you the level he is at and he is a world-class player. I'm lucky to have him." Leicester climbed to fourth after ending a run of two successive league defeats. "We deserved it, we played against a really good side and have players who can run in behind," Rodgers said. "To keep a clean sheet and play with the quality and calmness was good." Arsenal are languishing in tenth after a second consecutive league loss following their 0-1



Leicester City's striker Jamie Vardy celebrates after scoring against Arsenal during the English Premier League game in London on Sunday (AFP)

defeat at Manchester City last weekend. But it might have been a different story when, early in a then goalless game, Arsenal's

Alexandre Lacazette headed in from a corner only for his effort to be disallowed for offside against Granit Xhaka.

Gunners boss Mikel Arteta was also disappointed by his team's lack of cutting edge. "I'm really disappointed, we

had it in our hands in the first half and I don't know how the hell Lacazette's goal was disallowed," Arteta said. "It is difficult to create spaces with ten men behind the ball, but we should have finished the game better." The principle problem is a sudden dip in form for captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang. The Gabon forward is without a goal in his last five league games - his worst drought since 2014, although he did net against Rapid Vienna in the Europa League on Thursday.

ITALIAN LEAGUE
Kulusevski rescues point for Juventus
Milan, Italy - Dejan Kulusevski came off the bench to rescue a point as champions Juventus, playing without Cristiano Ronaldo, were held to a third Serie A stalemate at home against Hellas Verona on Sunday. Portuguese forward Ronaldo remains absent after testing positive for coronavirus with Juventus preparing for next week's Champions League tie against Barcelona in Turin. "We had a too wait-and-see first half, we weren't very aggressive with the midfielders but we had the most dangerous opportunities," said Juventus coach Andrea Pirlo.

Substitute Andrea Favilli put Verona ahead after an hour in Turin but Swedish forward Kulusevski rescued Pirlo with 13 minutes to go. To add to Pirlo's problems before hosting Barcelona, defender Leonardo Bonucci went off with a thigh problem.

OTHER RESULT:
Fiorentina 3 Udinese 2.

SPANISH LEAGUE
Real Sociedad back at top
Madrid, Spain - Real Sociedad overtook Real Madrid on Sunday to reclaim their place at the top of La Liga after thrashing Huesca 4-1. Mikel Oyarzabal scored twice, including one from a penalty, before Portu and Alexander Isak rounded off an impressive victory after Rafa Mir had briefly pulled Huesca level. Imanol Alguacil's La Real go one point above Real Madrid, although having played one game more than the reigning champions, and also become the first team to hold onto top spot for two consecutive rounds this season.

OTHER RESULTS:
Getafe 0 Granada 1
FRENCH LEAGUE
Lyon 4 Monaco 1.
AFP

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HYUNDAI REPORTS LOSSES
Hyundai Motor, South Korea's biggest automaker, recorded an operating loss of US\$278.1mn in the third quarter due to an engine-related provision cost, the company said on Monday

BUSINESS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2020 | MUSCAT DAILY | 09

MARKET WATCH

MSM30	3,563.92
BSE Sensex	40,145.50

FOREX RATES

(RO1 equals)	
Indian Rs	192.48
Pakistani Rs	418.78
Bangladeshi Taka	220.47
Philippine Peso	125.85
Sri Lankan Rs	479.42

*Rates as on October 26
Source: xe.com

BRIEFS

German business confidence dips on virus nerves

German business confidence in October fell for the first time since April, as businesses become increasingly anxious about the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, a survey showed on Monday. The Ifo institute's monthly barometer slid to 92.7 points from a seasonally adjusted 93.2 points in September, marking the first drop after five months of rises. "Sentiment among business leaders has clouded over... Companies are considerably more sceptical regarding developments over the coming months," Ifo president Clemens Fuest said.

However, the reading is broadly in line with the 94.5 level of October 2019, suggesting that German business has a long way to go to revisit the lows recorded during the damaging lockdowns in the spring.

OETC inks RO183mn deals to expand electricity network

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC), a member of Nama Group, on Monday signed a number of agreements worth RO183mn for the implementation of the first phase of Rabt project that aims to connect north and south electricity transmission networks in the sultanate.

The agreements were signed by Eng Masoud bin Salam al Riyami, acting chief executive of OETC, with the representatives of the awarded contractors from a group of engineering companies specialised in building electricity transmission networks. The signing ceremony was also attended by Eng Omar bin Khalfan al Wahaibi, chief executive of Nama Group.

The signing of these agreements aims to connect the national grid in the north with PDO's electricity transmission network and Tanweer network in Al Wusta region in addition to SEZAD electricity network in the Willayat of Duqm, according to a statement issued by Nama Group.

The first phase of the Rabt



project will pave the way for connecting the national grid in the north of Oman with Dhofar electricity transmission network, which will be implemented in the second phase of the project.

The Rabt project is expected to enhance the efficiency and integration of the national electricity transmission networks. The project will also play a key role in securing the electricity network and opening up new horizons for the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar

which are abundant in Al Wusta region. This project will play a key role in achieving the government's ambitions of producing 15 per cent of the total energy from renewable sources by 2025 by connecting the future solar energy stations and wind farms in Al Wusta region.

The Rabt project will also provide secure, stable and reliable electricity to the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD) as it will connect the Duqm electricity network with the 400kV national grid, ensuring that the

factories and large companies in Duqm are provided with their needs of electricity.

The first phase of the Rabt project consists of 660km 400kV overhead lines and five main grid stations in Nuhaida, Barik, Suwaihat, Duqm and Ma-hoot. The total cost of the first phase is RO183mn and divided into five projects.

The first project entails the construction of 400kV grid stations at Barik and Suwaihat and linking them to the PDO network. The total cost of this part

of Rabt project is around RO39mn and will be implemented over a period of 24 months.

The second project entails the construction of 400kV overhead lines with a total length of 129km between Barik and Suwaihat stations and 400kV transmission lines with a total length of 195km between Barik and Nuhaida stations. The cost of this part of Rabt project is RO45mn and will be implemented over a period of 28 months.

Continued on Page10

OIFC, Gulf Investment in merger talks

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Oman Investment and Finance Co (OIFC) and Gulf Investment Services Holding Co on Monday announced that they are considering a potential merger between the two entities.

'We are pleased to announce that OIFC is considering a potential merger with Gulf Investment Services Holding,' OIFC said in a disclosure to the Muscat Securities Market (MSM).

Gulf Investment Services Holding in its disclosure to the MSM also confirmed that it is considering the potential merger with OIFC.

Both OIFC and Gulf Investment Services Holding said that the proposed merger transaction is subject to the outcome of the due diligence, the approvals of both companies' shareholders and obtaining other regulatory approvals.

'We will also keep our shareholders informed of further developments in this regard,' both companies said in their respective disclosures to the MSM on Monday.

Both OIFC and Gulf Investment Services Holding are listed on the Muscat Securities Market.



Category: Social Media Influencer

And the winner is...

*H H Sayyida
Basma al Said*

H H Sayyida Basma al Said is the founder of Whispers of Serenity Clinic, the first private specialised mental health and well-being clinic in Muscat. She is a Mental Health consultant and psychotherapist with over 20 years of experience seeing and treating patients for a wide array of disorders.

A pioneer in mental health awareness in Oman, Sayyida Basma is well-known for dealing head-on with subjects that are taboo in the Middle East, such as abuse and eating disorders. She regularly participates in community and professional events to raise awareness on mental health as well as how to deal with mental health patients.

The 'Not Alone' mental health awareness campaign, an ongoing effort to create societal awareness on the importance of mental wellbeing, is proof of her dedication and ambition towards the betterment of society.

Featured in a host of esteemed publications in the Arab world as well as a key participant in numerous forums and women's summits, nationally and internationally, Sayyida Basma is also a recipient of many awards, including the Golden Recognition Award in Jordan for her efforts in Social Responsibility for the Not Alone initiative to raise awareness on mental health within the Arab region.

HEADLINE PARTNER



ASSOCIATE PARTNER



MSM inches down, volumes surge

Our Correspondent
Muscat

The benchmark index of the Muscat Securities Market (MSM) marginally declined by 0.01 per cent to close at 3,563.92 points on Monday.

Trading activity improved from the previous session as turnover jumped by 136.2 per cent to RO956,499 and volumes surged 355.64 per cent to 14.18mn shares.

While Industrial index fell 0.13 per cent, Financial and Services indices rose 0.05 per cent and 1.14 per cent, respectively. The MSM Shariah Index closed down by 0.11 per cent to close at 517.54 points.

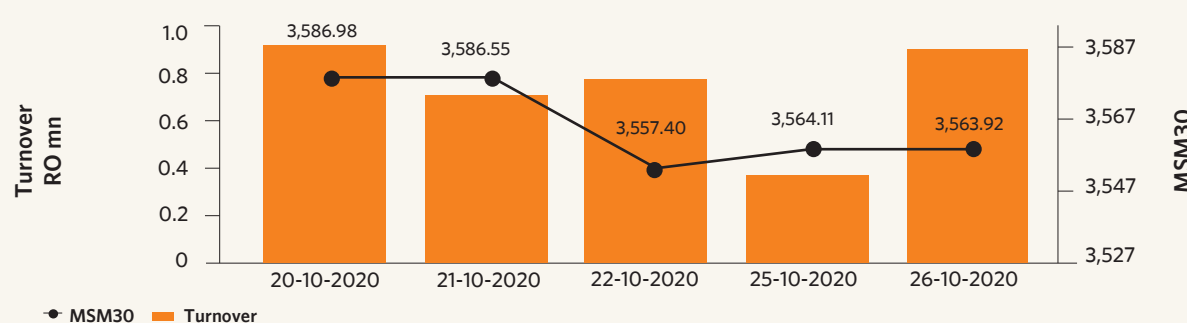
Market breadth remained negative as five companies closed up, while eight companies closed down. The rest 21 traded stocks closed flat for the day.



Top gainers were Shell Oman Marketing (9.65 per cent), Oman Investment and Finance (5.88 per cent), Sohar International Bank (3.33 per cent) and Ominvest (2.48 per cent).

Top losers were Al Hassan Engineering (-30.0 per cent), BankDhofar (-3.74 per cent), Al Batinah Power (-1.85 per cent) and Ahli Bank (-1.52 per cent).

MSM INDEX AND TURNOVER OF FIVE TRADING DAYS



Makhazen to manage electronic system for road freight services

Muscat - Makhazen Logistics Company, which pertains to Shumookh Investment and Services - the investment arm of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), signed an agreement with Nafith Logistics Services to manage and operate an integrated electronic system related to road freight transportation services.

The agreement aims at supporting the Omani carrier through an application that receives transportation requests electronically and subsequently notifies the registered Omani carriers in the application. The agreement was signed by Salah al Zakwani, chairman of Makhazen Logistics Company and Nourah Mehyar, CEO of Nafith.

Through this agreement, the two parties aspire to work on an integrated system in the emerging field of logistics services and road freight transportation services by providing and managing the business of goods trans-



portation within and outside the sultanate.

The system will enable all transporters, owners and operators of trucks to register and offer their services. The system will also distribute the transportation requests in a transparent and fair manner among the carriers, taking into account the classification and quality of the trucks owned by the carriers.

Nafith Logistics Services is experienced in providing leading logistics services related to land transport sector and contributing to supporting and facilitating the

national trade, as well as enhancing the safety and security of the trade through adopting cutting-edge technology.

Madayn established Shumookh Investment and Services in 2010 to develop infrastructure projects and encourage investments in Madayn's industrial cities. The vision of Shumookh is to develop globally competitive industrial infrastructure in the industrial cities of Madayn and create the best environment for the growth of industries in Oman.

ONA

OETC inks deals worth RO183mn

Continued from Page 09

The third project involves the construction of Duqm and Mahoot 400kV stations. These stations will support Tanweer network in meeting the growing demand for electricity in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm. The total cost of this part of Rabt project is RO38mn and will be implemented over a period of 24

months.

The fourth project entails the construction of 400kV overhead lines with a total length of 191km between Suwaihat and Duqm stations and overhead lines with a total length of 152km between Duqm and Mahoot stations. The cost of this part is RO45mn and will be implemented over a period of 28 months. The last project involves the construction of

Nuhaida 132/400kV station.

This project also involves the diversion of 400kV transmission line linking Izki and Ibri stations through Nuhaida station. This station is considered as the main interconnecting point between national grid in north of Oman and PDO electricity network. The total cost of this part is RO17mn and will be implemented over a period of 24 months.

Reliance to push on with retail deal in battle with Amazon



Mumbai, India - Indian conglomerate Reliance has dismissed Amazon's push to delay its acquisition of domestic retail giant Future Group, despite an arbitration panel suspending the deal following objections by the US online titan.

The row is the latest development in a prolonged battle for dominance in India between Reliance, owned by Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani, and Amazon, whose founder Jeff Bezos is the world's wealthiest person.

Amazon, which owned a stake in one of Future Group's firms that reportedly included an option to buy into the flagship company, claims that the US\$3.4bn Reliance deal, an-

nounced in August, amounted to a breach of contract.

After an arbitration panel ordered the deal to be put on hold following Amazon's request, Reliance said late Sunday that it would nevertheless 'enforce its rights and complete the transaction in terms of the scheme and agreement with Future group without any delay'.

Reliance's retail subsidiary RRVL said in a statement that it had followed 'proper legal advice' before agreeing to buy Future Group, adding that the deal was 'fully enforceable under Indian Law'.

The arbitration panel has 90 days to give a final verdict on the Reliance-Future deal.

AFP



Brexit talks no closer to a deal, say insiders

Brussels, Belgium - Britain and the European Union (EU) are still a long way from a post-Brexit trade deal, several European sources told AFP, as both sides prepared to resume talks this week.

"The negotiations are progressing, but we are still a long way off," said one senior European official.

Talks are to continue in London until Wednesday, then in Brussels from Thursday, said another source.

But time is fast running out. France's Europe Minister Clement Beaune said last week that the EU wanted to wrap up the discussions by October 31 to leave enough time for parliamentary ratification across the bloc's 27 member states.

"We'll give it a few days more (into November) to give a chance for the negotiations, but we need to know fairly quickly," he told the BFM Business network on Thursday.

Talks resumed last week after Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson walked back from the

mid-October deadline he tried to impose to get the deal done.

But neither side has budged on the issues that still divide them, such as 'level playing field' provisions to ensure Britain does not try to retreat from the EU's environmental or labour standards, state subsidies and how to arbitrate future differences.

They also need to resolve the question of access to British fishing waters by EU vessels.

Brussels is prepared to offer London a zero-tariffs, zero-quotas deal for access to the EU market, better than the deal offered Canada - but only if Britain is prepared to accept EU standards and regulations.

British minister Brandon Lewis remained upbeat in comments to Sky News on Sunday.

"I hope and I think there are good chances we can get a deal," he said. "But the EU needs to understand it's them to move as well so that we get a deal that works for the UK, a proper FTA that recognises us the UK a sovereign nation."

AFP

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Fury after Qatar 'forcibly examined' women

Doha, Qatar - Female passengers flying from Qatar were subjected to invasive searches after a premature baby was found abandoned in an airport bathroom, in procedures the Australian government on Monday described as 'grossly disturbing' and 'offensive'.

A number of women - including from Australia - were removed from their flight and examined for signs of childbirth after the baby was found in a bathroom at Hamad International in the Qatari capital.

Australia's government on Monday condemned the October 2 incident, which only came to light after Australian passengers spoke out, and said concerns had been lodged with Qatar.

"This is a grossly, grossly disturbing, offensive, concerning set of events. It is not something that

I have ever heard of occurring in my life," Foreign Minister Marise Payne said.

"We have made our concerns very clear to the Qatari authorities at this point," she said, adding that the matter had also been referred to Australian Federal Police.

A source in Doha briefed on the incident said that officials 'were forcing women to undergo invasive body searches - basically forced Pap smears', an internal examination of the cervix.

Passenger Wolfgang Babeck told AFP women returned to his flight from Doha to Sydney in a 'shell-shocked' state, having been told to remove clothing from the lower half of their bodies for an examination by a female doctor.

"All of them were upset, some were angry, one was crying, but



The departures lounge at the Hamad International Airport in Doha (AFP)

basically nobody could believe what happened," the commercial lawyer said, adding he thought the incident could be 'a violation

of international law'.

That flight, Qatar Airways' QR908 to Sydney, was four hours late departing Doha as a

result, according to air traffic website Flightradar24.

It is not clear how many flights were involved.

In an official statement, Doha's Hamad International airport confirmed a broad outline of events, without providing details of the procedures, or the number of women and flights involved.

'Medical professionals expressed concern to officials about the health and welfare of a mother who had just given birth and requested she be located prior to departing,' it said. 'Individuals who had access to the specific area of the airport where the newborn infant was found were asked to assist in the query.'

It is understood that in addition to the Australians, one French woman was also affected, according to one official.

Some of the group received assistance and mental health support while spending the last two weeks in quarantine, under rules put in place by Australian

authorities to contain the spread of coronavirus.

A report from the Qatari authorities about the incident is 'imminent' according to Payne, who admitted Australian officials were made aware of the situation by passengers 'at the time of the flight'.

The incident could damage Qatar's reputation as it prepares to host tens of thousands of foreign visitors for the 2022 soccer world cup. Qatar practices a strict form of Islamic law, with stiff penalties applied to women who fall pregnant or bear children outside marriage.

Doha airport on Sunday launched an appeal for the child's mother to come forward, suggesting that the checks undertaken at the time were inconclusive.

AFP

Russia strikes kill 56 Turkey-backed rebels in Syria

Beirut, Lebanon - Airstrikes by Syrian regime ally Russia killed 56 fighters from a Turkey-backed rebel group in northwest Syria on Monday, a Britain-based war monitor said.

Russian warplanes also wounded 100 people when they targeted a training camp of the Faylaq al-Sham faction in the Jabal Duwayli area in Idlib province, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

In March, a fragile truce brokered between Moscow and Ankara stemmed a deadly months-long Russia-backed regime military offensive on the country's last major rebel stronghold in Idlib that displaced almost a million people from their homes.

The National Liberation Front, an umbrella group of Ankara-backed rebels, told AFP that Russian strikes on Monday had hit one of its positions and caused casualties, but did not give an exact death toll.

NLF spokesman Sayf Raad denounced the 'Russian aircraft and regime forces continuously violating the Turkish-Russian deal in targeting military positions, villages and towns'.

The March truce has largely held with the exception of some bombardment and intermittent airstrikes on the area, including a US drone strike on Thursday that killed 17 extremists, according to the Observatory.

Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, led by Syria's former Al Qaeda affiliate, and allied rebels dominate the region of some three million people, many living in camps after being displaced by the nine-year war.

After a string of military victories backed by Russia, the Syrian government has regained control of around 70 per cent of the country, the Observatory says.

The war has killed more than 380,000 people and displaced millions from their homes.

AFP

Iraqi protesters clash with police in 'revolt'



An Iraqi protester carries a placard reading in Arabic 'Revolt' during a demonstration on the Sinak bridge in the capital Baghdad on Sunday (AFP)

Baghdad, Iraq - Dozens of Iraqi protesters again clashed with security forces in Baghdad Monday, a day after a rally marked the first anniversary of the start of nationwide mass anti-government demonstrations.

Police fired stun grenades and tear gas at protesters who were burning tyres and hurling rocks on the strategic Al-Jumhuriyah bridge across the Tigris River leading to the highly-fortified Green Zone.

The bridge, barricaded by towering concrete walls, separates the Green Zone from Tahrir Square, the epicentre of the old and new demonstrations.

The highly-secure Green Zone, where government offices,

parliament and the US Embassy are located, is off-limits to ordinary Iraqi citizens.

In a repeat of last year's demonstrations, rallies were also held in Shiite Muslim-dominated southern towns and cities.

Overnight in the shrine city of Karbala, which was a hub of demonstrations last year, protesters skirmished with riot police who eventually fired live bullets into the air to disperse them.

In Diwaniyah, young demonstrators set car tyres on fire while in Nasiriyah, also in the south, as night fell on Sunday protesters in the main square sung the national anthem amid celebratory fireworks.

AFP

شركة ظفار لتوليد الكهرباء ش.م.ع
Dhofar Generating Company SAOG

PO Box: 1571, PC: 211, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman.
www.dgcoman.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

We are pleased to present the Board of Directors' Report of Dhofar Generating Company SAOG (the "Company" or "DGC") for the nine months ended 30 September 2020.

Overview

We are pleased to inform you that the procedures implemented at the business have proved to be successful in mitigating any impact due to COVID19. This has enabled the company to maintain its safety record, the foremost value of the company.

Operational performance of the plant continues to meet historical performance and expectations by achievement of almost perfect commercial availability factors. This performance has translated into desired financial results enabling the business to declare a dividend of OMR2 million in August 2020. The contractual revenue is highly seasonal during the calendar year, with higher revenue in the summer period compared to the winter period. Summer months include April, May, June, September and October.

Plant performance during the period

	273MW		445MW	
30 September	2020	2019	2020	2019
Reliability Factor	99.92%	99.94%	99.90%	99.63%
Load Factor	4.57%	5.81%	41.83%	38.06%
Energy Exported (GWh)	82	104	1,220	1,108

Forced outage factor of both plants remained very low with performance similar to the corresponding prior period. Load factor is dependent on the grid demand and based on load despatch centre instructions.

COVID19 Risks faced by the business and mitigation actions

As reported in the previous quarter, the Company has continued to deal with the risks posed by COVID19 in a responsible manner. Only essential staff is allowed in the plant while operations and maintenance teams stay onsite on shift basis to minimize the risk of business disruption. The operator has implemented a formal COVID19 risk management plan which includes assessment of key maintenance requirements and inventory levels for the next six months on a rolling basis, medical consumables and staff testing requirements and stakeholder engagement.

The Company continues to work closely with all stakeholders and is following the guidance issued by regulatory authorities to manage the risks faced by this pandemic virus.

Maintenance activities during the period

As highlighted above, the third quarter of the year includes two winter months and one summer month. Certain planned maintenance activities required OEM or specialized contractor presence in Salalah, however due to COVID 19 travel restrictions, these activities were postponed to the end of the year. All other routine proactive, routine maintenance was performed to ensure equipment healthiness. There was no major maintenance during the quarter.

The DGC team alongwith NOMAC has continued to work with the EPC Contractor to focus on closing the warranty items.

Financial highlights

Income Statement in OMR '000	Nine Months Ended	
	30-Sep-20	30-Sep-19
Total revenues	31,753	30,500
Operating costs	(22,794)	(21,445)
Gross profit	8,959	9,055
Other costs	(7,188)	(7,674)
Net profit after tax	1,771	1,381
Earnings / (loss) per share - Bz/share	8	6

Revenues, Operating Costs and Gross Profit

In comparison to the same period of last year, the revenues for the first nine months of 2020 are higher by OMR1.2m due to higher fuel revenue due to higher load factor. This is set off by a corresponding increase in fuel revenue of OMR1.0m, OMR0.1m higher insurance premium expense and OMR0.2m higher O&M cost related to indexation and incentives on performance.

Other Costs

Other costs have reduced by OMR 0.5m primarily due to lower income tax expense on the CCGT plant compared to the corresponding period in 2019.

Net profit after Tax

Net profit is reflective of the variances noted above.

As highlighted in earlier reports, tax assessments for 2013 and 2014 were completed in 2019. These assessments resulted in additional tax of OMR 383,438 which was fully provided in the 2019 financial statements. The Company had filed an Objection with regards to this assessment. The Tax Authority has informed the Company in September 2020 that the Objection has been filed in the Company's favour while a tax obligation of OMR40,390 remains for 2014.

Balance Sheet OMR '000	Nine Months Ended		Year Ended
	30-Sep-2020	30-Sep-2019	
Total assets	240,180	235,324	
Net shareholder's equity	36,320	43,707	
Paid up capital	22,224	22,224	
Cash	1,927	6,279	
Current ratio	1.01	1.22	
Gearing ratio	4.0	3.5	
Net assets per share - OMR	0.163	0.197	

Cash flow and cash equivalents, at the end of the Period

Cash balances at September 2020 is lower than December 2019 due to debt service on 31 January, 30 April and 31 July 2020 and a cash dividend payout of 9% in both February and August 2020. The total dividend payout during the year was OMR4 million.

The Company has met all required financial covenants prior to dividend distribution.

Medium term outlook

The management will continue to work to close out the warranty process under the EPC Contract. Importantly, DGC alongwith NOMAC will work with all stakeholders to manage the planned maintenance expected to be performed during the winter period in the last quarter of the year.

Acknowledgement

The Board would like to thank the entire team for their diligent efforts resulting in anticipated performance. Finally, the Board of Directors would like to conclude by expressing their immense gratitude for the privilege of the vision, guidance, wisdom and crucial support of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and His Government.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	30-Sep-20 RO	31-Dec-19 RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Plant, equipment and capital work in progress	150,521,183	153,454,538
Finance lease receivable	50,077,488	52,056,576
Right-of-use assets	3,709,909	3,894,724
	<u>204,308,580</u>	<u>209,405,838</u>
Current assets		
Inventories	5,619,355	5,742,701
Finance lease receivable	2,612,388	2,457,689
Trade and other receivables	25,499,903	11,168,792
Advances and prepayments	212,573	269,600
Cash and cash equivalents	1,927,294	6,279,412
	<u>35,871,513</u>	<u>25,918,194</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>240,180,093</u>	<u>235,324,032</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
EQUITY		
Share capital	22,224,000	22,224,000
Legal reserve	267,715	267,715
Retained earnings	24,360,093	26,589,638
Cash flow hedge reserve	(10,531,737)	(5,374,064)
Total equity	<u>36,320,071</u>	<u>43,707,289</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Long term loan	138,578,204	145,446,509
Fair value of the cash flow hedge	10,283,930	5,675,397
Provision for decommissioning costs	4,323,795	4,211,502
Provision for major maintenance	3,548,402	3,713,809
End of service benefits payable	54,721	40,364
Lease liabilities	3,864,107	3,912,485
Deferred tax liability - net	7,865,327	7,447,350
	<u>168,518,486</u>	<u>170,447,416</u>
Current liabilities		
Long term loan	6,912,887	7,257,204
Fair value of the cash flow hedge	2,106,347	647,030
Lease liabilities	360,271	424,674
Trade and other payables	25,921,641	12,456,981
Income tax payable	40,390	383,438
	<u>35,341,536</u>	<u>21,169,327</u>
Total liabilities	<u>203,860,022</u>	<u>191,616,743</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	<u>240,180,093</u>	<u>235,324,032</u>
Net assets per share	<u>0.163</u>	<u>0.197</u>

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the period ended 30 September 2020

	Quarter ended 30-Sep-20 RO	9 Months ended 30-Sep-20 RO	Quarter ended 30-Sep-19 RO	9 Months ended 30-Sep-19 RO
Revenue	10,329,589	31,752,864	9,890,922	30,500,188
Operating costs	(7,782,909)	(22,794,366)	(7,114,588)	(21,445,432)
GROSS PROFIT	<u>2,546,680</u>	<u>8,958,498</u>	<u>2,776,334</u>	<u>9,054,756</u>
General and administrative expenses	(241,589)	(743,562)	(139,531)	(533,073)
Finance costs	(1,865,950)	(5,458,037)	(1,837,172)	(5,495,854)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	<u>439,141</u>	<u>2,756,899</u>	<u>799,631</u>	<u>3,025,829</u>
Income tax expense	(83,250)	(986,124)	(524,544)	(1,644,833)
Net profit for the period	<u>355,891</u>	<u>1,770,775</u>	<u>275,087</u>	<u>1,380,996</u>
Other comprehensive income / (loss) ('OCI')				
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss				
Fair value (loss) / gain arising during the period on cash flow hedge - net of tax	2,730,594	(5,157,673)	(3,619,328)	(5,291,090)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (EXPENSE) / INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	<u>3,086,485</u>	<u>(3,386,898)</u>	<u>(3,344,241)</u>	<u>(3,910,094)</u>
Basic and diluted earnings per share	<u>0.002</u>	<u>0.008</u>	<u>0.001</u>	<u>0.006</u>

The financial statements were approved by a resolution of the Board of Directors on 25 October 2020.

Third attempt at Karabakh ceasefire fails

Stepanakert, Azerbaijan - A third attempt at halting weeks of fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh collapsed quickly on Monday with Armenia and Azerbaijan trading accusations of violating the US-brokered ceasefire within minutes.

As fighting over the disputed region enters its second month, international mediators are scrambling to bring a stop to frontline clashes and shelling of civilian areas that have left hundreds dead. The latest 'humanitarian ceasefire' was announced by Washington on Sunday, after truces brokered by Russia and France fell apart.

It took less than an hour after the ceasefire was due to begin at 8.00am for the first accusations to be made.

Azerbaijan's Foreign Ministry said Armenian forces had shelled the town of Terter and nearby villages in 'gross violation' of the truce. Armenia's Defence Ministry said Azerbaijani forces had 'grossly violated' the ceasefire with artillery fire on combat positions in various parts of the frontline.

Azerbaijan and Armenia have been locked in a bitter conflict over Karabakh since Armenian separatists backed by Yerevan seized control of the mountainous province in a 1990s war that left 30,000 people dead.

Karabakh's independence has not been recognised internationally, even by Armenia, and it remains a part of Azerbaijan under international law.



Members of Syria's Armenian minority gather at Al-Azizia Square in the northern city of Aleppo to protest against the fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces, on Sunday (AFP)

Ten minutes before the ceasefire took effect an explosion was heard and a plume of smoke seen on a nearby hill.

There were fewer sounds of fighting coming from the frontline on Monday morning than in previous days, though rounds of shelling could be heard in the distance. Over 1,000 people have been reported dead in the fighting, mainly Armenian fighters but also dozens of civilians.

Azerbaijan has not released any figures on its military casualties and the death toll is believed to be substantially higher, with Russian President Vladimir Putin saying last week that close to 5,000 people had been killed.

Russia, France and the United States are leaders of the 'Minsk Group' which has failed since the 1990s to bring about a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

This year's fighting is the heaviest since a 1994 ceasefire, raising fears that Azerbaijan's ally Turkey and Russia, which has a military alliance with Armenia, could be further drawn into the conflict.

The latest ceasefire push came after US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun met in Washington Saturday with Armenian Foreign Minister Zohrab Mnatsakanyan and Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov and the co-chairs of the Minsk Group.

AFP

Unaudited financial statements of the Company for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2020

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Muscat City Desalination Company SAOG ("MCDC" or the "Company"), I am pleased to present the Directors' Report together with the unaudited financial statements of the Company for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2020.

Health, Safety and Environment (HSE)

The HSE performance of the Company year to date has been commendable with no Lost Time Incidents ("LTI") recorded. The Operator, Muscat City Desalination Operations and Maintenance Company LLC ("MCDOMC") has completed 1676 days without any LTI since the start of the Plant's commercial operations on 19 February 2016. Similarly, there have been no environmental incidents for the same period.

Operations

During the first nine months of 2020, the Company achieved a higher availability of water. It was 95.2%, compared with 92.8% during the same period in 2019. The water dispatch for the period was 48,625,762 cubic metres, an increase of 0.55% compared with 48,357,892 cubic metres for the same period in 2019.

The total forced outage rate for the nine-month period is 1.02%, which is an improvement of 0.18% compared with 1.20% for the same period in 2019.

Meanwhile, the Covid-19 lockdown had not materially impacted the Plant's performance for the reporting period. The Company and its Operator have implemented all measures recommended by the authorities to prevent Covid-19 infections within the Plant and have re-organized the day-to-day activities at the Plant to comply with the measures recommended by the Supreme Committee for Covid-19.

Financial Results

The Company's revenue for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2020 is RO 12.815 million whilst the direct operating cost is RO 8.189 million. Accordingly, the gross profit for the period is RO 4.626 million, which is 0.7% higher compared with the same period last year. General and administrative expenses for the period is RO 0.558 million, which is 8.5% lower compared with

the same period last year. Finance costs for the period declined to RO 2.239 million, which is 5.1% lower compared with finance costs incurred for same period last year. The Company recorded a profit before tax (PBT) of RO 1.829 million which is 10.7% higher than the PBT for the same period last year. Overall, the Company achieved profit after tax of RO 1.419 million for the period compared with profit after tax of RO 1.149 million for the same period last year.

As at 30 September 2020, the share price of MCDC was 105 Baizas. (30 September 2019: 113 Baizas).

Corporate Governance

The Company continues to seek suitable candidates for the position of an internal auditor and until then Grant Thornton shall be the Company's internal auditor.

With respect to the Board's proposal to distribute dividends and pay Board remuneration for the financial year ending on 31 December 2019, the Company continues to be in discussions with the CMA and its external auditors, and will provide an update to the investor community as soon as there is an outcome on the matter. The Board is committed to provide maximum shareholder value to the extent possible.

Future Outlook

All reasonable and prudent measures will continue to be taken by the Management of the Company to ensure high standards of health, safety and environmental compliance, and that the reliability and availability of the plant are maintained in 2020, especially during this challenging period of Covid-19 pandemic.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik bin Taimur Al Said and his Government for their continued support and encouragement to the private sector by creating an environment that allows us to participate effectively in the growth of the Sultanate's economy and in the building of a strong nation.

Tamer Cankardes
Chairman of the Board

MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION COMPANY SAOG

Unaudited interim condensed statement of financial position as at 30 September 2020

	Unaudited 30 September 2020 RO'000s	Audited 31 December 2019 RO'000s
Assets		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	87,441	89,168
Lease asset (right of use assets)	177	185
Deferred tax	1,460	716
Total non-current assets	89,078	90,069
Current assets		
Trade and other receivables	1,620	1,482
Cash and cash equivalents	3,854	1,973
Total current assets	5,474	3,455
Total assets	94,552	93,524
Equity and Liabilities		
Equity		
Share capital	15,555	15,555
Legal reserve	1,919	1,777
Retained earnings	1,613	336
Shareholders' Funds	19,087	17,668
Hedging Reserve	(6,860)	(3,223)
	12,227	14,445
Non-current liabilities		
Non-current portion of term loans	54,050	56,450
Non-current portion of fair value of derivative financial instruments	7,616	3,592
Provision for decommissioning obligation	378	366
Deferred tax	4,298	3,785
Lease liability - non-current portion	178	183
Shareholders' bridge loans	8,982	8,854
Shareholders' stand-by equity loans	754	754
End-of-service benefits	36	26
Total non-current liabilities	76,292	74,010
Current liabilities		
Current portion of term loans	3,278	3,188
Current portion of fair value of derivative financial instruments	454	200
Lease liability - current portion	7	7
Trade and other payables	2,294	1,674
Total current liabilities	6,033	5,069
Total liabilities	82,325	79,079
Total equity and liabilities	94,552	93,524
Net assets per share (RO)	0.079	0.093

Unaudited condensed statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2020

	Unaudited 2020 RO'000s	Unaudited 2019 RO'000s
Operating revenue	12,815	12,760
Operating cost	(8,189)	(8,167)
Gross profit	4,626	4,593
Other income	-	28
Administrative and general expenses	(558)	(610)
Finance costs (net)	(2,239)	(2,359)
Profit for the period before tax	1,829	1,652
Income tax	(410)	(503)
Profit for the period	1,419	1,149
Other comprehensive (loss) / income for the period - Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments	(4,279)	(4,215)
Deferred tax on changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments	642	632
Other comprehensive (loss) / income for the period net of income tax	(3,637)	(3,583)
Total comprehensive (loss) / income for the period	(2,218)	(2,434)
Earnings per share - basic and diluted	0.009	0.007

Note: The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder who requests them either in Arabic or English to the company's address at PO Box: 1935, PC: 114, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman or go to our website www.mcdcoman.com

Pompeo in India for talks on 'threats' posed by China

New Delhi, India - US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived in New Delhi on Monday, kicking off a four-country Asia tour that he has said will focus on the 'threats' posed by China.

Joined by Defence Secretary Mark Esper for the two-day visit, Pompeo will hold top-level talks following a spike in tensions between India and China since a deadly border clash in June.

India has sought US cold weather equipment as the show-down goes into the freezing Himalayan winter and officials said this could be raised when Pompeo and Esper meet India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

The world's two biggest democracies are expected to sign an agreement on sharing geo-spatial intelligence, paving the way for the United States to ship sophisticated missile technology, officials said.



Esper will also be discussing ways to increase cooperation between the two countries' military forces.

This could include intelligence sharing, stepping up joint exercises, and arms sales - including possibly US F-18 fighter jets.

Pompeo will go on from India to Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia, all of which have a key

role in Indian Ocean maritime traffic where China has cast a greater shadow.

The secretary of state said ahead of the trip that his meetings would 'include discussions on how free nations can work together to thwart threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party'.

AFP

'Illegal protests' must be curbed, Thai PM says in parliament

Bangkok, Thailand - Prime Minister Prayut Chan-O-cha said Thailand needs to bring 'illegal protests' under control on Monday as he opened a special parliamentary session to address months of pro-democracy rallies.

Prayut, the former military chief who staged the 2014 coup, has faced increasing pressure in recent weeks from protesters demanding his resignation.

The student-led rallies are also calling for a rewrite of the military-scripted constitution and an end to alleged government harassment of political opponents, as well as reform of the once-unassailable monarchy.

"Though the people have the freedom to protest based on the constitution, authorities need to control the illegal protests," said



Prayut, who recalled parliament from recess last week.

"We do not want to see clashes or riots in the country," he said, accusing some protesters of 'inappropriate actions'.

While Prayut acknowledged the protesters' demands in his opening speech, the two-day parliamentary session has not listed them on its agenda.

AFP

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Spain declares emergency; anger in Italy

Rome, Italy - Anger was growing in Italy on Monday over harsh new coronavirus restrictions brought in to 'save Christmas', while other hard-hit countries enforced curfews in a bid to avoid fresh national lockdowns.

Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte's decision to close restaurants and bars from 6.00pm and shut all theatres, cinemas and gyms for a month was widely criticised, even as scientists questioned whether it would be enough to stop the virus.

"These restrictions will be the end of us," said Giuseppe Tonon (70), the owner of a restaurant in Oderzo, a small village in northeastern Italy.

"We're not in a city centre,

we're in the provinces. Our customers come in the evening or during the weekend," he told AFP after a photograph of him, slumped in despair at the news, went viral on social media.

Countries across Europe are seeing dramatic spikes in cases, and governments are taking drastic action.

Spain imposed a new national state of emergency and overnight curfews, while France set a daily record of more than 50,000 cases and extended an overnight curfew to cover areas home to around 46mn people.

Spain declared a national state of emergency on Sunday to tackle a second coronavirus wave as the World Health Organization (WHO) reported a



Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez holds a press conference at La Moncloa palace after declaring emergency, in Madrid on Sunday (AFP)

third straight day of record new infections around the world.

Chinese officials began mass testing to cover 4.75mn residents in the far northwest after 137 new infections were discovered there.

COVID-19 has now claimed the lives of 1.1mn people and infected more than 43mn globally.

The WHO has warned that some countries are on a 'dangerous track', with too many witnessing an exponential increase in cases, and called on authorities to take decisive action to curb the spread of the disease.

The UN agency's figures showed that 465,319 cases were declared on Saturday

alone, half of them in Europe, which it said was at an especially critical juncture with winter looming.

'The end of us'

The Italian Prime Minister said he hoped the unpopular new restrictions, which deal a severe blow to sectors already on their knees after a national lockdown this spring, 'will allow us to be more relaxed by Christmas', though he warned 'hugging and partying' would still be out of the question.

"Stop! We've brought in a decree to save you!" a cartoon Conte told a suicidal Father Christmas on the *Corriere della Sera's* front-page.

Restaurant and bar owners

were not laughing. The early closing times mean Italy's bustling aperitivo hour is gone, as are dinners out.

Famed Italian conductor Riccardo Muti appealed publicly to the Prime Minister, saying closing down the arts would also 'harm health'.

"Defining... theatre and music as 'superfluous', as some elements of the government have, is ignorant, uncultured and insensitive," he said.

Italy, the first European country to be hit hard by the pandemic, on Sunday registered 21,273 new cases.

Regional heads had warned a new decree with strict measures would fuel social tensions. AFP



Protesters hold up placards during an anti-lockdown rally in Australia's second-biggest city Melbourne on Friday (AFP)

Lockdown lifted in Melbourne

Melbourne, Australia - Australia's second-biggest city will this week exit its coronavirus lockdown following nearly four months under onerous restrictions, authorities announced on Monday, after no new daily cases or deaths were recorded.

Stay-at-home orders for Melbourne's five million residents will be lifted from midnight on Tuesday into Wednesday while restaurants, beauty salons and retail stores will be permitted to throw open their doors.

Melbourne and the surrounding Victoria state recorded the first 24-hour period without any new COVID-19 cases since June 8 - before security bungalows at quarantine

hotels housing returned international travellers sparked a major outbreak in July.

Announcing the much-anticipated relaxing of restrictions, Victoria state Premier Daniel Andrews' voice cracked as he declared it an 'emotional day'.

"This has been a very difficult year. And Victorians have given a lot and I'm proud of every single one of them," he told reporters in Melbourne.

Asked if ale-loving Victorians could now 'get on the beers', Andrews said he 'might go a little higher up the shelf'.

Jubilant social media users declared the return to zero cases and deaths.

AFP

Biden accuses Trump of giving up in COVID fight



US President Donald Trump (left) and his opponent Joe Biden (AFP)

Washington, US - US presidential challenger Joe Biden on Sunday accused Donald Trump of giving up in the fight against COVID-19 as the president faced a new outbreak in his team, surging infections nationwide.

Nine days before the vote - and with reported US coronavirus deaths having surpassed the grim total of 225,000 - Trump's chief of staff Mark Meadows conceded on Sunday that 'we are not going to control the pandemic', which he said could only be done through 'vaccines, therapeutics and other

mitigation areas'.

Control was not practical, he said, because 'it is a contagious virus just like the flu'.

Biden immediately seized on Meadows' comment as he again hammered the administration over the virus, which has set records for new cases in recent days, with nearly 90,000 on Saturday and more than 63,000 Sunday.

"It was a candid acknowledgement of what President Trump's strategy has clearly been from the beginning of this crisis: To wave the white flag of defeat," he said. AFP

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For nine-month period ended September 30, 2020 (9M2020), the Company has recorded a profit after tax (PAT) of RO 14.4 million. The profit after tax increased to RO 14.4 million in 9M2020 as compared to RO 11.5 million earned in the corresponding period in 2019 (9M2019). The increase in profit is mainly because of Cyclone Mekunu insurance claim settlement, lower operating expenses and lower finance cost.

Financial performance

Key financial performance indicators are shown below:

	9M2020 RO million	9M2019 RO million
Revenue	54.23	55.83
EBITDA	34.64	32.18
PBIT	26.31	23.95
Profit after tax	14.40	11.53

A brief analysis and characteristics of the major components of the profit or loss statement is presented below:

Revenue

Power contributed 52% (excluding fuel charge), water 23% and fuel charge 25% to the total revenue. Fuel charge revenue is a pass through and is calculated based on consumption of natural gas as computed by the plant's contractual Fuel Demand Model. Fuel charge and variable energy charge revenue decreased by 12% and 17% respectively compared to the corresponding period last year mainly because of lower power plant load factor. Reduction in fuel charge and variable energy charge revenue does not affect the profitability significantly because cost of revenue also reduces in tandem with the reduction of these revenue. 9M2020 Capacity charge revenue increased by 1% mainly due to leap year impact.

Cost of sales

Cost of sales mainly comprises depreciation of property, plant and equipment, fuel cost and operations & maintenance (O&M) cost. Cost of sales decreased by 8% compared to the same period in 2019 as a result of lower fuel cost, lower Long-Term Service Agreement (LTSA) cost and lower O&M cost. Reduction in fuel cost and lower LTSA costs is due to lower plant load factor which is in line with the reduction in revenue (as mentioned above). Lower operation and maintenance cost is mainly due to lower consumables and maintenance cost.

Other Income

Other income in 9M2020 is mainly from settlement of Insurance claim in compensation of business interruption and property damage loss arising from Cyclone Mekunu in 2018.

Net finance cost

Net finance cost decreased in 9M2020 compared to 9M2019 due to the scheduled repayment of part of the term loan in line with the financing documents.

Income tax expense

Income tax expenses increased mainly due to increase in profit for 9M2020 as compared to the corresponding period last year.

COVID-19 Pandemic

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) spreads beyond China and becomes a global pandemic, this outbreak will inevitably impact economies and businesses.

In the nine months of 2020, the Company has not experienced any significant pandemic-related impact on its operating and financial performance. The Company's maintenance plan for major equipment remains unchanged.

The Company is closely monitoring the developing situation of the pandemic at country, regional and global level and will continue to evaluate and assess the effects of pandemic and has taken all possible measures to mitigate the risks arising from the COVID-19 situation. In the event the Company foresees any impact, the Company will be able to seek contractual relief as mentioned in Power and Water Purchase Agreement.

Business outlook

2020 is expected to be challenging year due to evolving COVID-19 pandemic situation, continued pressures arising from local regulatory and economic environment; greater requirement for plant maintenance and increased repayment profile. The Company will continue to focus on better cost management, financial and cash management; improving productivity and efficiency in order to maximise Shareholders' return.

Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income
For the nine month period ended 30 September 2020

	Unaudited Three months period ended 30 September 2020 RO	Unaudited Nine months period ended 30 September 2020 RO	Unaudited Three months period ended 30 September 2019 RO	Unaudited Nine months period ended 30 September 2019 RO
Revenue from contracts with Customers	17,886,629	54,229,856	18,662,113	55,833,555
Cost of sales	(10,055,003)	(29,083,560)	(10,986,298)	(31,467,909)
Gross profit	7,831,626	25,146,296	7,675,815	24,365,646
Administrative and general expenses	(155,356)	(548,346)	(146,693)	(466,965)
Other expenses	-	-	-	(157,369)
Other income	25,089	1,710,691	12,449	212,782
Profit before interest and tax	7,701,359	26,308,641	7,541,571	23,954,094
Finance income	37,937	235,599	147,793	381,619
Finance costs	(3,141,282)	(9,611,280)	(3,613,522)	(10,762,861)
Profit before income tax	4,598,014	16,932,960	4,075,842	13,572,852
Income tax expense	(691,588)	(2,534,251)	(616,895)	(2,044,009)
Profit after tax for the period	3,906,426	14,398,709	3,458,947	11,528,843
Other comprehensive income				
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss				
Fair value of cash flow hedge adjustments - gross	52,866	(6,194,995)	(1,216,221)	(5,988,521)
Reclassification to profit or loss - gross	1,066,261	2,894,624	599,208	1,829,613
Deferred tax asset on change in fair value of cash flow hedge	(167,870)	495,055	92,552	623,837
Total comprehensive income for the period	4,857,683	11,593,393	2,934,486	7,993,772
Earnings per share:				
Basic earnings per share	0.0041	0.0151	0.0036	0.0121

Statement of financial position as at 30 September 2020

	30 September 2020 RO	31 December 2019 RO	30 September 2019 RO
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	272,716,456	280,336,106	282,584,006
Right of use assets	708,297	728,496	735,297
Intangible assets	32,802	3,535	1,363
Total non-current assets	273,457,555	281,068,137	283,320,666
Current assets			
Inventory	5,847,514	5,369,059	5,226,011
Trade and other receivables	34,212,692	20,781,057	16,534,809
Bank deposits	12,010,536	18,925,080	2,625,000
Cash and bank balances	12,491,961	4,420,424	19,276,349
Total current assets	64,562,703	49,495,620	43,662,169
Total assets	338,020,258	330,563,757	326,982,835
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	95,457,195	95,457,195	95,457,195
Legal reserve	10,638,084	9,198,213	8,846,216
Retained earnings	17,152,653	6,771,159	10,380,646
Shareholders' funds	123,247,932	111,426,567	114,684,057
Hedging reserve	(12,811,173)	(10,005,857)	(11,546,754)
Net equity	110,436,759	101,420,710	103,137,303
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Long term loans	126,554,845	151,161,095	150,970,018
Long term lease liability	484,116	461,616	454,572
Asset retirement obligation	677,620	646,228	635,803
Deferred tax liability	21,386,969	20,363,759	19,579,084
Derivative financial instruments	10,377,695	9,360,421	10,350,134
Total non-current liabilities	159,481,245	181,993,119	181,989,611
Current liabilities			
Current portion of long term loans	27,424,341	24,759,473	24,759,473
Short term borrowings	3,500,000	-	-
Current portion of derivative financial instruments	4,694,272	2,411,175	3,234,284
Trade and other payables	31,467,655	19,979,280	13,862,164
Current tax payable	1,015,986	-	-
Total current liabilities	68,102,254	47,149,928	41,855,921
Total liabilities	227,583,499	229,143,047	223,845,532
Total equity and liabilities	338,020,258	330,563,757	326,982,835
Net assets per share	0.129	0.117	0.120

MESSY BUN

- Mist the lengths of the hair with a texturising spray, and then backbrush lightly from the mid-lengths to the roots, to give hair volume, smoothing out over the top layer with a comb.
- Scoop the hair into a ponytail and fasten with a snag-free band.
- Tease out some strands all over to give texture, but especially around the front sections if you want to emulate Meghan and her signature look.
- Backbrush the ponytail and then twist it in the direction that your hair naturally wants to run. Twirl it into a bun shape and secure with kirby grips.
- Mist with hairspray and ruffle lightly with the fingertips for an undone look with regal credentials.



FESTIVE TRESSES

HALO BRAID

- Create a deep side parting, then brush the hair through thoroughly to get rid of any knots.
- Start your halo braid with a section of hair from the front of your head, on the heaviest side of the parting, and begin to braid, adding in strands from the rest of your hair as you go.
- Continue this technique the whole way around the head, ensuring the braid stays quite tight all the way round.
- When you reach the end, braid the hair into a three-strand braid and fasten with a snag-free band, before tucking under the main braid and securing in place.
- Finish with a light mist of hairspray and tease out some loose strands around the front for a beautifully relaxed finished look.



GLOSSY BLOWOUT

- Wash and condition the hair with shine-boosting products, and then prep the towel-dried hair with a hydrating blow-dry cream.
- Spend some time blow-drying the hair, taking small sections at a time and using a roller brush to lift the hair, create volume and ensure a smooth finish. Twist the brush wherever you feel that the hair needs a little movement, and roll under at the ends to create a natural bounce.
- Using a wide-barrel curling tong, wrap the mid-lengths around the tong and hold for ten seconds at a time. Leave the hair to cool, and then brush through the cooled curls to separate and soften them into looser waves.
- Smooth some nourishing oil into the ends for added shine, and finish the look with a high-shine spray for a super-glossy finish.



Daily hairdo is something that never bothers most females, but when it comes to special occasions, there is always anxiety and confusion.

Most women want to try something new, something that works best, but never feel satisfied with what the catalogues offer. Hair colour, texture and length dictate most of the styles and hairdressers never offer free advice, unless you settle down in their seats.

An article in UK's Hood magazine says, 'If you struggle with stepping out of the box and creating hairstyles worthy of the A-list, have no fear. We've got the experts on hand, sharing their top tips for getting your hair under control and looking red carpet-ready, even for just a low-key day with the family.'

Here are four favourite styles for the festive season presented by Scottish hairstylist Jack Baxter, who looks after the likes of Jamie Genevieve and hairdresser Jason Collier, whose clients include the likes of Victoria Beckham. These can at least give an idea about what's trendy and if any of these works for you.

SLEEK PONYTAIL

- Brush through hair thoroughly to ensure it is smooth and free of tangles.
- Using a bristle brush, pull the hair into a high and tight ponytail at the crown of the head – smooth out any loose sections or bumps with a fine-tooth comb to ensure a completely flat, sleek finish. Fasten the ponytail with a snag-free band.
- Pull one small section of hair to the side, and wrap this around the base of the ponytail to create a seamless look. Pin this piece in place.
- Using a wide-barrel curling iron, tong the ponytail in small sections to create lots of waves, curls and movement. Leave the hair to cool before loosening the curls slightly with your fingers.
- Mist the hair with a high-shine, strong-hold hairspray to fix it in place.
- Finish with a glitzy hair accessory, fastened onto the base of the ponytail, for a glamorous final look.



CUTE CUTS

for li'l boys

While women and girls love to do the rounds of the beauty parlour and hair dressers to get their favourite hair treatment and hairstyles, especially for an occasion, they could also extend the same enthusiasm towards their little sons or brothers. There is so much you can do with little boys hair to make them look cuter than they are.

There is a huge variety of hair-styles for little boys but only some people go for it. There could be many reasons, from non cooperation from the little star to non-acceptance in school. However, if they are on an extended holiday, especially during this time of the pandemic when schools are closed and children are home, how about going for a nice, stylish haircut for your little one?

2020 has a range of cool haircuts for little boys (also suitable for teenagers), and with barber shops and salons now open, add a little style to your bundle of joy to make him truly adorable.



COOL COMBOVER
The comb over is a classic look, but by adding a fade, you can make it look more trendy for little boys. This style oversees a hard feature line accentuating where your hair parts. It can be done for short hair as well as for longer hair wherein you can create a little puff in the centre.



CURLY FADE
Short curly hairstyles are very popular because they are easy to work with. The best short haircuts for boys with curly hair often start with a fade or undercut on the sides and short curls on top. A crew cut can be good for short curly hair.



AFRO TRIM
For boys with thick growth of hair, an Afro trim is the best solution. Adding a fade or keeping it extremely short above the neck is an excellent option to make it look smart. A mini Afro with short sides is also perfect.



ASPECT HALF COIFFURE
A half haircut is suitable for most boys that can be oiled or left dry. It is an old traditional style, very easy to cut and always popular. Hollywood actors like Henry Cavill, Liam Hemsworth always wore this style.



SHORT MOHAWK
The mohawk is traditionally an intense punk style with shaved sides and pointy spikes in the centre. For kids, mohawks more closely resemble a faux hawk. This style is timeless and trendy and it can be done in many ways.



TEXTURED SPIKE
Spiky hair which became popular in the 90s is now back. A textured spike is one of the cutest ways to style a spiky haircut. You don't need to gel this spiky style, the messy textured version has its own natural charm.



SKIN FADE
The skin fade is particularly unique because it stands out. The contrast of shaved sides and a fuller head of hair instantly grabs attention. A skin fade is achieved by cutting the hair shorter and shorter as it moves toward the neck.



Category: Personal Assistant



And the winner is...

Samrin Romail

Samrin Romail, administration coordinator and executive secretary to the Country Manager Oman, Qatar Airways, is an accomplished and self-motivated professional with 17 plus years of experience in the aviation industry.

Known as a passionate person willing to take on new challenges, Samrin has an uncanny ability for resolving problems as well as providing innovative solutions while working within tight deadlines and constraints. With sheer dedication, she has built up a great team and created an environment of professional trust among all members. She is also known for her ability to multi-task and collaborate effectively with multiple teams.

An excellent event planner and coordinator, Samrin has successfully planned many events and conferences including the Qatar Airways Grand Gala Dinner at Kempinski Hotel Muscat and the inauguration ceremony of the Qatar Airways owned building, a new landmark in Muscat, which were attended by top dignitaries and high officials, ministers and VVIPs, ambassadors and the executive management team from Qatar.

She has also efficiently managed a string of important tasks, from the GCEO's frequently-changing travel arrangements, to being solely responsible for management of logistics for staff coming to Muscat for training sessions since Oman has become the second hub of Qatar Airways internal trainings for the Middle East, Pakistan and African region. She also played an important role in coordinating repatriation flights during the pandemic and Beirut's recent calamity, handling every task with professional ease as well as unflinching confidence.

HEADLINE PARTNER

PERFUMES & COSMETICS
Beauty • Scentsation • You

ASSOCIATE PARTNER

MAZDA
YOU HAVE THE DRIVE