

Times

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF OMAN



50

YEARS OF LEGACY

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AT SAID BIN SULTAN NAVAL BASE

Sayyid Theyazin patronises RNO’s Annual Day function



MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, on Tuesday patronised the celebration of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) on its Annual Day, which falls on 3 November every year. The ceremony, held at the Military Parade Ground at Said bin Sultan Naval Base, included the graduation of batches of university officers and executive officers (holders of the General Diploma) and a batch of new recruits, in addition to presenting various military displays. **Full Story >A4**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN
Online food delivery slowdown cripples restaurants

1 A large number of restaurants, cafés, and cloud kitchens across Muscat have reported significant losses as several online food delivery platforms continue to face widespread disruption. **>A3**

OMAN
MOU inked by museums

2 Oman Across Ages Museum, Qatar Museums signed a MoU. **>A2**

SPORTS
Podium bid by Al Harthy

3 Ahmad Al Harthy aims to wrap-up the season finale campaign on a high. **>B6**



HM AND SPAIN KING DISCUSS INVESTMENT, GLOBAL ISSUES



The two leaders held a private meeting at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid

MADRID: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain and Queen Letizia, held a private meeting at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid on Tuesday evening. The meeting served to deliberate upon several political and economic matters of mutual interest to both nations, during which perspectives were exchanged regarding developments in current regional and international affairs.

The discussions further emphasised the paramount importance of broadening the scope of partnership and investment to fortify the economies of both countries. The meeting was attended from the Omani side by His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al

Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs and Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister. Representing the Spanish side were Jose Manuel Albares, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Francisco Javier, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the Sultanate of Oman. **-ONA** **See also >A6,A7**



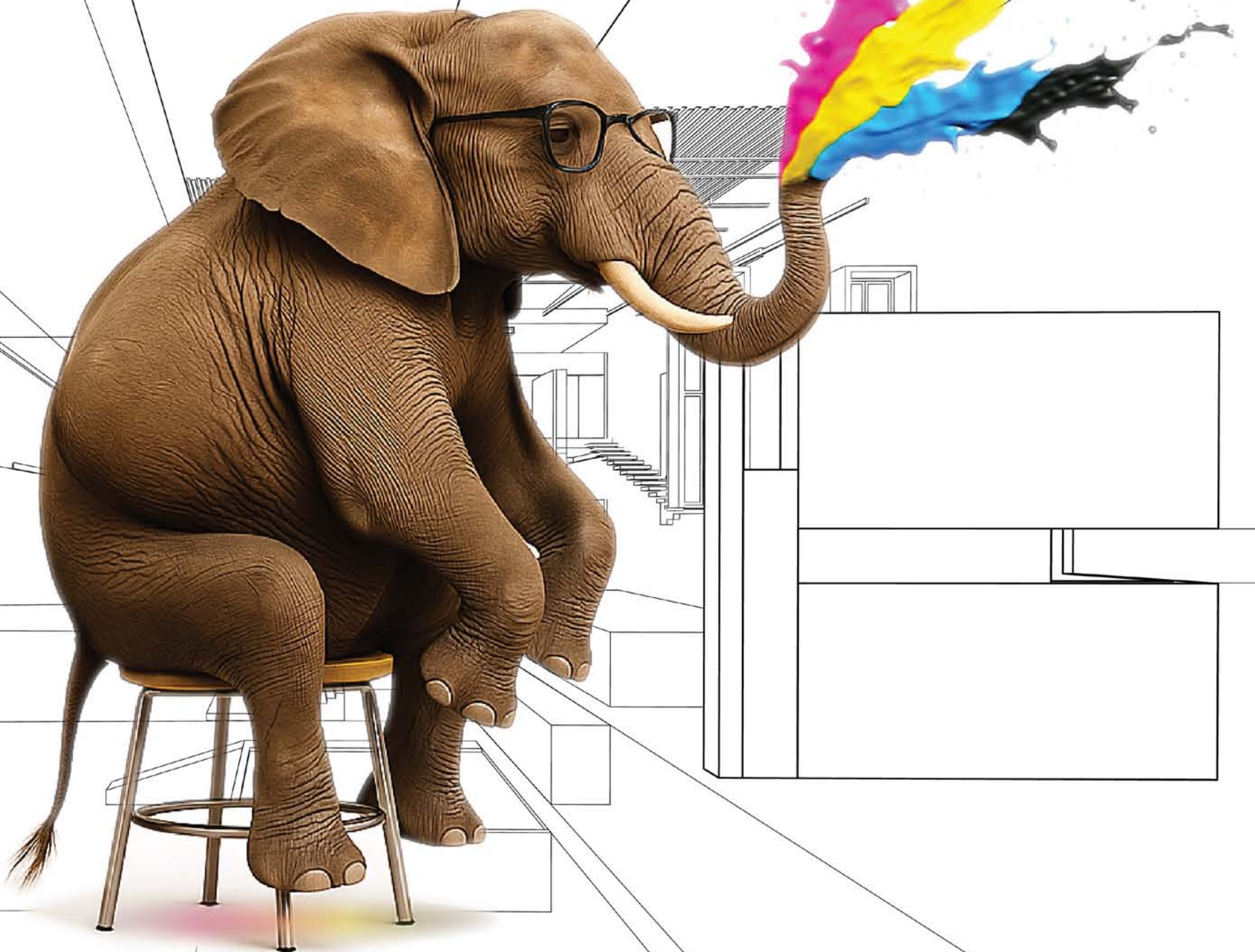
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Dhuhr.....11:55pm
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Maghrib.....5:31pm
Isha.....6:43pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....4:58am

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Oman Across Ages Museum, Qatar Museums sign MoU

DOHA: “Oman Across Ages Museum” on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with “Qatar Museums” with the aim of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the field of museums and the conservation of national historical heritage in Oman and Qatar.

The MoU provides for exchanging practical expertise in applying the highest standards of excellence, as well as ideas and initiatives related to cultural projects and events.

The MoU includes articles about organizing joint training courses on holding events and marketing, exhibitions, visitor services, reception protocols, volunteering activities, education, research and translation.

It deals with hosting joint events, exhibitions, conferences and symposiums, in addition to exchanging information about approved policies and solutions.

The MoU also covers the exchange of visits for specialists and experts, research and studies in the field of using modern technologies and developing multi-media.

The MoU was signed by Eng. Al Yaqdhan Abdullah Al Harthi, Director General of Oman Across Ages Museum, and Mohammed Saad Al Rumaihi, Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Museums.

Speaking at the event, Al Harthi underlined the importance of cultural cooperation between institutions in charge of museums.

He affirmed the two sides’ commitment to preserve, conserve and promote national heritage in a manner that realises tangible progress in the field of exchanging experiences and developing national competencies.

The MoU reflects a common desire to enhance bilateral relations and develop cooperation in the field of museums and the conservation of historical heritage. It also underscores shared understanding about the importance of exchanging knowledge and unifying efforts to introduce cultural heritage to future generations in advanced ways. -ONA



200 ARTISTS TO TAKE PART

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUES

Art exhibition to begin today

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth will host the Muscat Art Exhibition 2025 on Wednesday under the slogan “Elements That Build the Narrative,” in partnership with Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre.

As many as 200 artists from more than 15 Arab and foreign countries will take part in the event.

The opening ceremony will be held under the patronage of Sayyid Saud Hilal Al Busaidi, Governor of Muscat, in the presence of Sayyid Said Sultan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth for Culture.

This year's exhibition will include numerous discussion sessions and interactive programmes. -ONA



Social development minister highlights efforts to eradicate poverty in Oman

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Social Development, is participating in the Second World Summit for Social Development, held in the Qatari capital, Doha.

The Sultanate of Oman's delegation in the 3-day event is headed by Dr. Laila Ahmed Al-Najjar, Minister of Social Development.

Oman's participation in the summit embodies its commitment to supporting issues of social justice and human empowerment, enhancing its standing in international dialogues, and affirming its approach to making social justice and human empowerment the foundation of sustainable development.

In her speech, the Minister of Social Development emphasised Oman's efforts in the field of social development and its profound interest in this sector as the cornerstone for building the Omani individual.

She highlighted the efforts made to eradicate poverty, which is the first goal of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan, through the launch of the social protection system. This system, she affirmed, represents a qualitative shift towards integration and justice in the distribution of social benefits, in addition to services providing direct financial support, developing economic empowerment programs, and housing, health, and free education support programmes.

She also touched upon Oman's efforts to provide decent work by adopting the National Employment Strategy, which aims to balance education and training with labour market requirements, including the encouragement of entrepreneurship and innovation as other promising pathways to providing decent job opportunities.

On the sidelines of the summit, Khalid Salim Al Ghamari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour for Labour Affairs, reviewed Oman's efforts in promoting social welfare and protection and building a society based on justice and equality during his participation in a “Roundtable” session.

Oman also participated in the international workshop titled “Digitalization Towards Formalizing the Social and Solidarity Economy,” which highlighted the role of digital transformation in developing the social economy system and enhancing opportunities for innovation and empowerment.

On the sidelines of the summit, Oman participated in the first meeting of the Alliance of Leaders Against Hunger and Poverty, aiming to unify international efforts in combating hunger and poverty, enhance cooperation between countries and organizations in the fields of social development, and support policies and initiatives that achieve food security and social justice. -ONA



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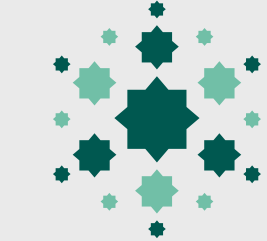
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SERVICE DISRUPTION

Online food delivery slowdown cripples restaurants and cafés

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A large number of restaurants, cafés, and cloud kitchens across Muscat have reported significant losses as several online food delivery platforms — including Talabat, Khedmah, and other operators — continue to face widespread service disruption.

What many initially assumed was a technical glitch has now been linked to tighter compliance checks on delivery riders, including visa and licensing requirements, according to several owners of cloud kitchens and restaurants.

Over the past several days, customers across Muscat have been unable to place or receive orders, with most eateries appearing as “closed” on major delivery apps.

The issue has exposed the growing dependence of Oman’s small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on digital food delivery platforms. Many operators say they are now struggling to maintain operations amid a sudden drop in orders.

“We’ve had barely 20 percent of our usual orders since Friday,” said a cloud-kitchen owner in Ruwi, who requested anonymity.

“All the platforms — not just Talabat — have gone quiet. We



have staff to pay, rent due, and customers who think we’re closed.”

A café owner in Al Khuwair added: “We are not on the main streets; delivery apps are our storefront. Every hour offline means unsold food and wasted inventory.”

An owner of multiple restaurants told Times of Oman on condition of anonymity: “This whole fiasco is a result of a lack of clear-cut policy from the government on online delivery platform drivers. Many riders are not licensed to deliver, and enforcement agencies are imposing fines of OMR 500 for violations.

“The government insists riders should be Omanis, but I feel the local workforce is not yet ready when it comes to food delivery. I know Omanis are delivering for other online platforms like Temu; however, food delivery is a different ball game.”

He added: “Since COVID-19, there has been a ten-fold increase in online deliveries and the setting up of cloud kitchens in Oman. With this latest chaos, SMEs are suffering big time, and the government needs to intervene to safeguard the interests of young Omani entrepreneurs and other business owners.”

Industry observers say the enforcement drive has had consequences across all sectors. A large number of customers have also been left frustrated since the disruption began nearly a week ago.

Online platforms were flooded with complaints as users shared different reasons for the outage. Times of Oman has reached out to the delivery companies and is awaiting official responses.

Users attempting to access the mobile apps or websites said most restaurants appear as “closed” or “unavailable,” effectively rendering the platforms unusable.

This widespread interruption has caused significant inconvenience for residents who rely on the services for their daily meals. For many in Oman, Talabat and similar platforms have become an essential part of daily life, connecting consumers with more than 5,000 vendors — many of them local SMEs.



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HH Sayyid Theyazin patronises RNO's Annual Day celebration



The ceremony, held at the Military Parade Ground at Said bin Sultan Naval Base, included the graduation of batches of university officers and executive officers (holders of the General Diploma) and a batch of new recruits, in addition to presenting various military displays



MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, on Tuesday patronised the celebration of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) on its Annual Day. The RNO Annual Day falls on 3 November every year.

The ceremony, held at the Military Parade Ground at Said bin Sultan Naval Base, included the graduation of batches of university officers and executive officers (holders of the General Diploma) and a batch of new recruits, in addition to presenting various military displays.

These displays reflected the skill and efficiency of the RNO personnel and the supreme attention the RNO receives from His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander, as it takes confident strides toward further modernisation, development, and armament in equipment, materiel, and human competencies, thereby strengthening its military capabilities to carry out its immense national responsibilities.

The celebrations commenced with the playing of the Royal An-



them. HH Sayyid Theyazin, the patron of the occasion, then reviewed the graduates' parade. Following this, the parade performed a display of regular and slow military march, passing the main dais and rendering the military salute to the chief guest. The RNO Music Band then presented a diverse musical display and musical artistic formations.

Subsequently, the participants in the parade formed a symbolic sailing ship representing the shape of the RNO vessel Shabab Oman II. This was followed by a demonstration of pole-climbing skills accompanied by enthusiastic naval chants. After that, HH Sayyid

Theyazin, presented the Sword of Honor to Officer Cadet Said bin Hamed Al Anboori, who achieved first place in the Executive Officers Course. He also honored Officer Cadet Al Munthir bin Said Al Maamari, who achieved first place overall in the University Cadet Officers Course.

The participants chanted the RNO anthem (Bahriyat Al Majd - Navy of Glory), then took the oath of allegiance and chanted the call of support, and cheered three times for the life of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander. The parade then advanced in review formation, followed by the playing of the

Royal Anthem, marking the conclusion of the RNO Annual Day ceremony.

On this occasion, Rear Admiral Saif bin Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman, stated: "The Third of November has dawned upon us, and we are cloaked in glories immortalised by history—a glory that testified that the Omanis are the masters of the sea and its great sailors. They etched the most magnificent meanings of sacrifices and heroism upon the waves. We follow in their footsteps with an ancient legacy and firm resolve, drawing inspiration and vision from an inspirational leader who willed us to

be a modern naval force highly regarded by all."

He added: "On this day, the sky of our dear homeland is adorned with the garments of glory, might, and pride, and the Royal Navy of Oman is wrapped in the splendor of the thirty-fifth anniversary of receiving the Naval Standard—a maritime history full of achievements, rich in progress, development, and prosperity."

"Its features were drawn by a vision whose foundations of glory and might were laid by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, to be a symbol of might and leadership. Under his wise command, we affirm that we are moving forward,

remaining true to the covenant, so that the nation's seas remain pure, filled with security and tranquility."

The event was attended by a number of senior officials, Commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces and military and security units, a number of retired commanders, several members of the State Council, several senior officers from the Sultan's Armed Forces and other military and security units, a number of senior retired RNO officers, military attachés from Arab and foreign countries, a number of military and civilian invitees, several RNO personnel, and a gathering of the graduates' parents. —ONA

‘Oman already feels like home’: Indian singer Madhubanti Bagchi ahead of her Muscat debut

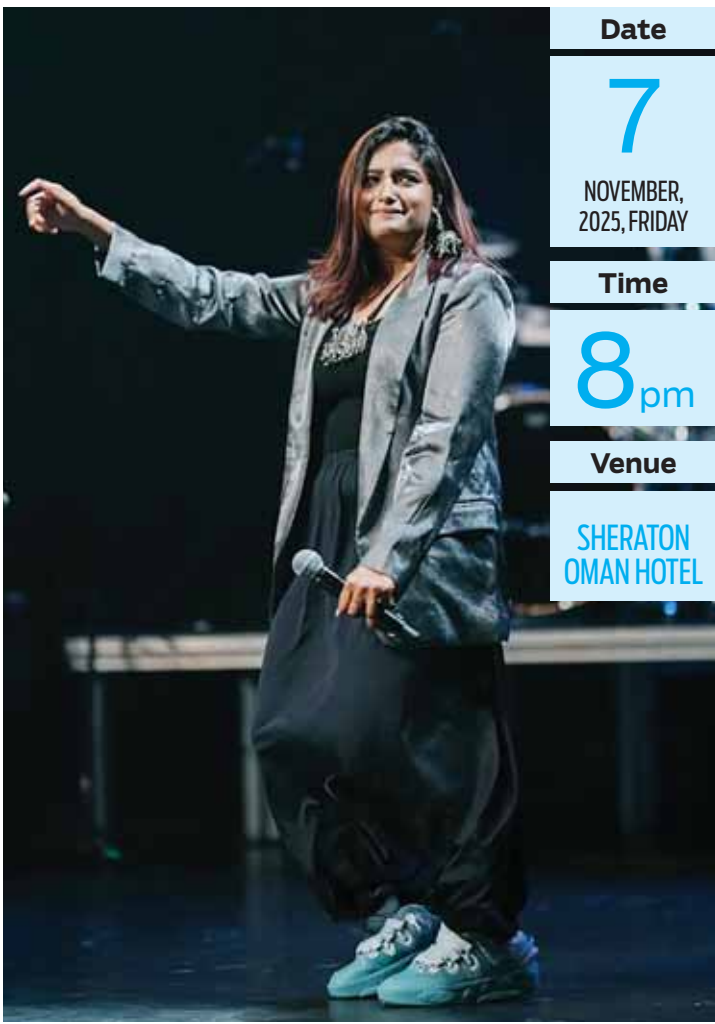
Omani singer Nadeem Al Balushi will also perform, creating a unique cross-cultural showcase that blends Arabic and Hindi influences

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As anticipation builds in Muscat for one of the most awaited live performances of the year, India's award-winning playback singer Madhubanti Bagchi is ready to bring her soulful voice and signature style to the Sultanate for the very first time.

Winner of the Best Playback Singer (Female) at both the Filmfare Awards and the Zee Cine Awards 2025 for her chart-topping number "Aaj Ki Raat" from Stree 2, Madhubanti will perform live at the Sheraton Oman Hotel on November 7.

Speaking ahead of her debut



Date
7
NOVEMBER,
2025, FRIDAY

Time
8pm

Venue
SHERATON
OMAN HOTEL



concert in the Middle East, the singer revealed just how warmly she has been received by her fans in Oman. "The love from the entire Sultanate of Oman has been overwhelming. The messages, the anticipation — it's so heartening. It already feels like a home concert even before stepping on stage," she said with a smile.

For the Kolkata-born artist, performing in Muscat marks not just another stop on her musical journey, but a milestone moment in connecting with a new audience that shares her passion for melody and emotion. "It feels incredibly special," she shared. "Muscat has such a rich cultural and musical history, and performing there for the first time feels like opening a new chapter in my artistic journey. The Middle East has a deep appreciation for melody and rhythm, and I'm very excited to bring my music to such a soulful audience."

Known for her versatility that spans across genres—from classi-

cal and fusion to contemporary film music — Madhubanti's live concerts are often described as emotional storytelling experiences. Her upcoming Muscat performance, she hinted, will be no exception.

"Every concert is a chance to tell a slightly new story," she said. "I've been reworking a few of my older songs with a fresh live arrangement and also adding some surprise elements in the set that are exclusive to Muscat. The goal is to make it an experience, not just a performance."

As much as she looks forward to performing, Madhubanti is equally eager to explore the sights and sounds of Oman. "I'm really looking forward to soaking in Oman's culture and rhythm," she said. "I've heard the local music and percussion traditions are amazing, and I'd love to experience that up close. Exploring the souqs, the coastline, and the desert sounds inspiring. Every place has its own sound, and I'm excited to see what Oman's will add to mine."

For her, music is not just about performance—it's about connection. She hopes that her first concert in Muscat will leave audiences not just entertained, but emotionally touched. "After the show, I want people to leave feeling uplifted," she said. "Music, for me, is emotion — whether it's joy, nostalgia, or peace. If people go home humming a tune and carrying that energy with them,

that's the biggest reward."

As excitement continues to build, one thing is clear: Madhubanti Bagchi's concert promises to be more than a performance — it will be a celebration of melody, culture, and shared emotion.

Omani singer Nadeem Al Balushi will also perform, creating a unique cross-cultural showcase that blends Arabic and Hindi influences

Following the soulful performance by Madhubanti, the evening's energy will soar as DJ Pri (Priyanka) will take over the console, spinning an electrifying mix of beats to keep the crowd grooving late into the night. And for Muscat's music lovers, November 7 is shaping up to be a night to remember.

The events are being organised in association with Nexus Novel, and Kings United Dance Academy. Travel Point is the travel partner while Sheraton Oman Hotel is the hospitality and ticketing partner. The Ultimate AV Production is the AV Partner of the event. Other sponsors include OmPay, Unimoni, Gulf Exchange, Global Pay, Guide Me, Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital, Ripples and Times of Oman.

For sponsorship inquiries, please contact: Mobin Beg, Business Head – Nexus Novel Advertising +968 99440826.

Tickets are available on PlatinuList Oman.

WILAYAT OF MUTTRAH

Body of missing citizen found near Port Sultan Qaboos

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Maritime rescue teams led by the Coast Guard Police have recovered the body of a missing citizen on Tuesday, approximately one nautical mile from the Port Sultan Qaboos in the Wilayat of Muttrah in the Muscat Governorate. According

to authorities, a search operation was launched after the individual, a resident of the Wadi Adi area in Muttrah, was reported missing. The citizen had left his family home last Sunday, and all contact with him was lost thereafter, prompting concern and an extensive search effort by the Coast Guard and supporting teams.





Ministry of Defence

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3. Tender fees must be paid electronically via the aforementioned portal for each respective tender.

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HM accorded official reception in Spain

His Majesty was received by King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain and Queen Letizia

MADRID: An official reception ceremony was held at the Royal Palace in Madrid on Tuesday for His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on the occasion of his state visit to the Kingdom of Spain.

Upon the arrival of His Majesty the Sultan's motorcade at the precincts to the Royal Palace, it was escorted by a cavalcade of Royal Cavalry's knights.

His Majesty was then received by King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain and Queen Letizia. The Royal couple welcomed His Majesty the Sultan and extended their wishes for a successful visit and a pleasant stay in the Kingdom of Spain to him and the accompanying official delegation.

Thereafter, His Majesty the Sultan accompanied by King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia ascended the dais of honour, during which the Omani Royal Anthem and the Spanish National Anthem were played, while the artillery fired a 21-gun salute in honour of His Majesty the Sultan. Afterwards, His Majesty inspected the



Guard of Honour. After that, His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with senior Spanish officials who welcomed him, while King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia shook hands with the official Omani delegation. His Majesty the Sultan and the King of Spain then witnessed the March-Past of the Guard of Honour to the accompaniment of military musical pieces. After the conclusion of the official reception protocols, His Majesty the Sultan and the King of Spain held a cordial meeting at the Royal Palace. -ONA

GRACIOUS GESTURE

HM, Spain King exchange Orders, Gifts

MADRID: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain exchanged Orders and Commemorative Gifts at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid, on the occasion of His Majesty the Sultan's visit to the Kingdom of Spain.

In a gracious gesture reflecting the profound relations between the two nations, His Majesty the Sultan conferred upon King Felipe VI the "Order of Al Said." His Majesty further bestowed upon Queen Letizia the "First Class Order of Oman," and presented Omani royal orders upon some

Spanish dignitaries. In a reciprocal gesture, King Felipe VI conferred upon His Majesty the Sultan the "Order of Isabella," the highest royal decoration of the Kingdom of Spain, in recognition of His Majesty the Sultan and in affirmation of the enduring strength of bilateral relations between the two nations. The King of Spain further honoured members of the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan with royal decorations, in addition to the exchange of commemorative gifts between the two sides. -ONA



STRENGTHEN COOPERATION

HM visits Madrid City Council

MADRID: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik visited the Madrid City Council on Tuesday evening within the framework of his state visit to the Kingdom of Spain.

Prior to the arrival of His Majesty the Sultan, the motorcade was escorted by a cavalcade of the Royal Cavalry's knights.

Upon his arrival, His Majesty was received by Inmaculada Sanz Otero, Deputy Mayor of Madrid. His Majesty then inspected the Guard of Honour, which was formed up alongside a group of cavalymen, to the accompaniment of musical pieces played in welcome of His Majesty the Sultan's visit.

After that, His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with senior members of the City Council, while the Mayor of Madrid shook hands with members of the official Omani delegation.

His Majesty graciously signed the Distinguished Visitors' Book. The Mayor then accompanied His Majesty the Sultan to the Council Hall, where the Mayor delivered a welcoming address expressing his profound appreciation for the gracious visit and his country's aspiration to strengthen cooperation and partnership with the Sultanate of Oman in service of the mutual interests of both nations.

The Mayor of Madrid then presented the Key to the City of Madrid to His Majesty the Sultan, as a symbol of the respect and esteem held for His Majesty, marking his historic visit.

His Majesty the Sultan then graciously delivered an address on this occasion, in which he stated: "We have received the key to this



magnificent city with profound gratitude, deeply appreciating your abundant goodwill towards us and our nation, the Sultanate of Oman. This gracious gesture dem-

onstrates that your capital, and indeed your country as a whole, extends a welcome to all. It is a destination cherished by tourists, literati, intellectuals, and artists who journey here from across the

globe, drawn by its rich history, unique architecture, excellent services, and captivating beauty. "We have been greatly impressed by your system of metropolitan governance, in which you play a central role. You undertake the duties of metropolitan government as the chief executive, through which you supervise the daily operations of this city. "We look forward to strengthening the relations between the magnificent city of Madrid and our capital city of Muscat. It is our firm hope that this will lead to a mutually beneficial exchange of the two cities' experiences across various fields, thereby contributing to the development and consolidation of the relations between our two nations." In his turn, His Majesty the Sultan presented a commemorative gift on the occasion of his visit to this city. The gift was received by the Deputy Mayor of Madrid. -ONA



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Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 22009004, E-mail: amcoman@choueirigroup.com
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SIGNED VISITORS' BOOK

His Majesty visits Senate of Spain



MADRID: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik visited the Senate of Spain in Madrid on Tuesday morning as part of his state visit to the Kingdom of Spain.

His Majesty was received upon arrival by Pedro Rollan, President of the Senate and Francina Armengol, President of the Congress of Deputies.

His Majesty subsequently ascended the podium accompanied by the President of the Senate and the President of the Congress, during which the Omani Royal Anthem and the Spanish National Anthem were played.

His Majesty the Sultan then shook hands with some members from both the Senate and the Congress of Deputies, while the two parliamentary speakers shook hands with members of the official Omani delegation.

His Majesty further graced the occasion by signing the Distinguished Visitors' Book. In a gesture of high esteem, His Majesty the Sultan was presented with two commemorative medals by the parliamentary speakers, each engraved with his name in recognition and honour of this noble and gracious visit.

The two parliamentary speakers then escorted His Majesty the Sultan to the main podium within the grand hall of the Senate building, where the President of the Senate delivered a welcoming address.

He expressed his profound honour at His Majesty's gracious visit, commending the deeply rooted historical relations between the two nations and underscoring the commitment of both leaderships to strengthening these ties to achieve mutual benefit across all spheres.

His Majesty the Sultan then delivered an address on the occasion of his visit to the Senate, stating: "We feel profound delight at this opportunity to address your esteemed Council in both its chambers—the Senate and the Congress of Deputies—which represent the friendly Spanish people, for whom we hold great respect and appreciation for their honourable positions on the many issues facing the world. We cherish a historic friendship with them, built on mutual respect and productive cooperation—a friendship whose steadfastness the passage of time has only reinforced, making it even more resolute and qualified for further advancement. "From the moment we arrived in your gracious land, we have found welcome from the Spanish people—a response that is characteristic of them, for they have always interacted, and con-

tinue to interact, with all civilisations through a unique spirit manifested in the sciences, arts, and archaeological landmarks they have preserved and consider among the most important achievements of historical and civilisational encounter, transforming them into a cultural heritage and historical monuments visited by millions of tourists.

"This visit of ours also reveals the strength of the relationship that personally binds us to His Majesty the King of Spain, and demonstrates the solidity of the bond between the Omani people and the Spanish people—relations we are most earnest to support and strengthen to include all political, economic, commercial, and cultural aspects.

"Councils in every country, regardless of their names, play a central role in developing national work. They represent the link between the government and society, are the source of laws and legislation, and work to enhance the principle of community participation in decision-making, thereby achieving balanced development and entrenching a spirit of cooperation between the citizen and state institutions.

"In the Sultanate of Oman, having covered clear distances in various walks of life, we look forward to continued constructive cooperation with your country, which has achieved evident leaps in progress and prosperity.

"During this visit, we will have the opportunity to explore aspects of future cooperation between our two countries at the governmental and private levels, hoping to stride forward in this cooperation to serve the interests of our two peoples.

"We pray for your continued success in your endeavours to serve the Spanish people, and we pray for the Spanish people to be granted further progress and prosperity. May the relations of our two countries develop permanently toward wider horizons that serve our nations and promote cooperation between them."

The President of the Congress of Deputies then delivered an address expressing her profound welcome and honour at this gracious visit, affirming her country's aspiration to open new horizons of cooperation and partnership between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Spain in service of their shared interests.

The meeting was attended by the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan, along with members from both the Senate and the Congress of Deputies of the Kingdom of Spain. -ONA



Oman's top golfer reflects on his 11th Asia-Pacific Amateur appearance in Dubai recently

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's top golfer Azzan Al Rumhy recently returned from the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship (AAC) in Dubai with a sense of pride and renewed motivation. Though he missed the cut in this year's event, played at the Emirates Golf Club, it marked his 11th participation in 16 editions — a remarkable record that underscores both his consistency and his passion for representing Oman on Asia's biggest amateur stage. "It's always an honour to play in the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship," Azzan said. "Every time I'm here, I learn

something new. The standard is world-class — these are players who are on the edge of turning professional — so competing with them keeps me sharp." For Azzan, who first represented Oman in 2002, the AAC has been a defining part of his golfing journey. "This championship has become the main event and I look forward to each year," he said. "It challenges me to prepare better, train harder, and see where we stand against the best amateurs in the region." Held at the Majlis Course of the Emirates Golf Club this year, the tournament featured an elite field from across Asia and the Pacific — including several players who have

since gone on to play professionally. "That's the beauty of this event," said Azzan. "You're sharing the fairways with players who could be on the DP World Tour next season. It pushes you mentally and technically." While his performance wasn't what he had hoped for, Azzan sees it as another valuable learning experience. "My putting let me down on the first day — I had too many three-putts," he admitted. "But I adjusted on day two, saved a few shots, and finished stronger. Sometimes it's just about small margins." **Fine-tuning for future** Preparation, Azzan believes, is a constant process — and one that never stops evolving. Two weeks before the tournament, he worked with long-time coach Stephen Deane at Dubai's Pete Cowen Academy to fine-tune his swing. "We made a few adjustments that I think will help in the long run," he said. "Maybe the timing wasn't ideal so close to a tournament, but these changes are part of

improving as a player." The experience also reaffirmed to him how important high-level events are for player development. "When you play in these conditions, with long and demanding courses, you realise where your strengths and weaknesses really are," he said. "That's how you grow." Azzan will next compete at the Pan Arab Golf Championship in Riyadh, set for mid-November. "I'm feeling positive," he said. "Every event builds towards the next, and I'm eager to put what I've learned here into practice." **A journey of dedication** With over two decades of representing Oman internationally, Azzan has become a fixture in regional golf. "It's been 23 years since I first played for Oman," he said, smiling. "Golf gives you that longevity — it's a game that rewards patience and persistence." He has also become a role model for a growing pool of young Omani golfers who are taking to the sport

with enthusiasm. "The new generation has better facilities, more tournaments, and access to coaching we never had when we started. I stated when there were sand courses in Oman. Today, we have world class championship courses to be proud of," he said. "That's why I'm optimistic about the future. There's a lot of potential in Omani golf." Among those following in his footsteps is his son, Yusuf, who already competes in junior events across the region. "He's passionate, and he's got a great opportunity to learn the game the right way," Azzan said. "As a father, it's special to see that." Azzan believes Oman's golfing community under Oman Golf Association is moving in the right direction — but that sustained support and visibility remain key. "We have passionate people in the Oman Golf Association who are working hard to grow the game," he said. "We just need to keep building momentum — more tournaments, more junior pro-

grammes, and more awareness." He also emphasised the importance of maintaining Oman's profile as a golfing destination. "We've hosted great events in the past, and I hope we can attract more in the future," he said. "Oman has world-class courses and amazing scenery. When international players come here, they're always impressed." Despite a busy schedule, Azzan remains deeply committed to the sport — both as a competitor and as a mentor. "As long as I can still contribute to the national team, I'll keep playing," he said. "And when the time comes, I'll be happy to see the younger players take over. That's how the game grows." Looking ahead, he's already eyeing next year's Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship in New Zealand. "If I qualify again, it'll be an honour," he said. "Every time I tee off with Oman's flag on my shirt, it feels like the first time — it's a privilege that never fades."

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by January 2026 reaching \$65.33, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.25 from the price of Monday, which was \$66.58. - OMA

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 5,616.02 points, down by -1.04% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.33% at 478.84 points. Renaissance Services, up 5.76%, was the top gainer while, Salalah Mills, down 7.46%, was the top loser.



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Pact inked to establish industrial complex in Sohar Industrial City

The OMR1.5 million project comes in line with the growing demand for industrial and logistics investments in Oman, following a comprehensive market study conducted by the implementing company to identify actual market needs and opportunities for industrial facilities and services

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Sohar Industrial City, operating under the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), signed an investment agreement with Silver Stone Company to establish an



industrial complex within the city. The project involves developing and equipping a 45,000 sqm area with a total investment exceeding OMR1.5 million. The project comes in line with the growing demand for industrial and logistics investments in the Sultanate of Oman, following a comprehensive market study conducted by the implementing company to identify actual market needs and opportunities for industrial

facilities and services. The agreement includes the design, construction, and marketing of modern industrial buildings that can be divided into multiple units, with each unit covering a minimum area of 500 sqm. Investors will have the flexibility to lease or own one or more units according to their business needs. The complex will feature integrated infrastructure, including water, sewage, electricity, and tele-



com networks, in addition to internal roads, parking spaces, lighting, and rainwater drainage channels. Each unit will be allocated sufficient space to facilitate loading and unloading operations. **Support tenants** The complex will also include workshops to support tenants and investors on the site, and thereby enhancing operational efficiency and reducing logistics costs. All

buildings and facilities will be designed and constructed in line with local and international standards, reflecting Madayn's vision and values of providing a safe, clean and sustainable industrial environment, and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authorities. The Industrial Complex in Sohar Industrial City represents a significant addition to the industrial infrastructure in North Al

Batinah Governorate, supporting the light industries sector by offering an integrated environment for local and international investors and contributing to attracting SMEs and promoting the growth of manufacturing and light industries. This aligns with Oman Vision 2040, which aims to achieve economic diversification, enhance the competitiveness of the industrial sector, and strengthen partnership with the private sector.

IDENTIFYING KEY POLICIES



Economy ministry organises workshop on national circular economy project

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Economy is organizing the third workshop of its kind on the National Circular Economy Project in the Sultanate of Oman. The two-day workshop, which kicked off yesterday, aims to review Oman's circular economy roadmap and identify the key policies needed. In its first day, the workshop explored the developments of the circular economy project in Oman. The participants took note of the observations made by the authorities concerned about baseline outcomes achieved so far. The workshop also saw the presentation of modelling scenarios about the application of

circular economy strategies and policies. It also reviewed some existing initiatives and projects in the field of circular economy in Oman with the participation of representatives of government departments, private sector establishments and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). As part of the programme of the workshop, the participants will take part in panel discussions to identify the main policies, stakeholders and partners in implementing the circular economy roadmap. The workshop brings together experts, specialists and representatives of public and private sectors and the academic sector. -OMA

EXHIBITION

Asyad Group demonstrates logistics excellence for energy sector at ADIPEC



ABU DHABI: Asyad Group, the global integrated logistics provider, is currently taking part at ADIPEC 2025 in Abu Dhabi, being held during 3-6 November. The group showcases a comprehensive model of its logistics ecosystem and the pivotal role it plays in enabling energy supply chains and global trade. At ADIPEC 2025, Asyad Group presents an integrated operational model that demonstrates the capability of its logistics infrastructure to ensure the safe, efficient, and sustainable flow of energy globally. The Group also showcases the scale and sophistication of its global logistics network, which connects more than 200 ports across 40 countries through a diversified

fleet of over 90 vessels, supported by advanced infrastructure including deep-water ports, free zones, and regional warehouses, all operating seamlessly to provide smart transport solutions that enhance supply chain efficiency and support global trade stability. Juma Ibraheem Al Maskari, Director at Asyad Logistics, said: "Today's energy companies demand comprehensive logistics solutions that go beyond basic services. They need ports operating around the clock, advanced storage facilities, streamlined customs clearance, seamless land connectivity, real-time shipment visibility, and rigorous accountability in emissions management. These capabilities are what truly distin-

guish Asyad Group in the market." **Unwavering commitment** Al-Maskari added: "Our presence at ADIPEC 2025 demonstrates our unwavering commitment to energy sector clients and partners as a strategic ally throughout the entire energy value chain. Whether it's traditional fuels or the next generation of energy sources—including green hydrogen and low-carbon alternatives—we deliver intelligent cost and risk management, rapid and efficient market access, and uncompromising environmental compliance." Within the ADIPEC conference program, Muhsin Abdulmajeed Al Rustom, Group Chief Financial Officer - Asyad Group, will

join a high-level panel on financing models for port and transport infrastructure and their role in building the logistics backbone for the future energy sector. In addition, Captain Khalil Ali Al Hooti, Vice President of Marine at Asyad Shipping, will speak on maritime security and the resilience of shipping operations amid complex geopolitical dynamics, underscoring how secure supply routes are integral to energy security. Through its presence at ADIPEC 2025, Asyad Group reaffirms its role as a trusted logistics partner for the global energy sector, strengthening supply security and continuity, connecting Oman as a global logistics hub to regional and international markets. -OMA

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Renaissance Services, up 5.76%, was the top gainer while, Salalah Mills, down 7.46%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,616.02 points, down by -1.04% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.33% at 478.84 points. Renaissance Services, up 5.76%, was the top gainer while, Salalah Mills, down 7.46%, was the top loser. Shares of OQBI were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 5696 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 32.63 million, with more than 141.75 million shares changing hands.

Out of 64 traded securities, 16 advanced, 28 declined, and 20 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 975K while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for RO 629K, followed by foreign investors for RO 346K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 9,193.91 points, down -1.30%. Prices of Dhofar Insurance were up by 0.50% respectively. Prices

of Takaful Oman, Sohar International Bank, Global Financial Investments, Bank Dhofar, Al Sharqia Investment were down by 3.77%, 3.09%, 2.94%, 2.47%, 2.33% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 7,305.95 points, down -0.10%. Prices of A'Saffa Foods, Gulf Mushroom Products, Al Anwar Ceramics were up by 1.04%, 0.69%, 0.61% respectively. Prices of Salalah Mills, Galfar Engineering, Voltamp Energy, National Detergent, Oman Flour Mills were down by 7.46%, 1.59%, 0.74%, 0.71%, 0.21% respectively.

Services Index was down by -0.36% before closing at 2,274.30 points. Prices of Renaissance Services, Barka Desalination, Al Jazeera Services, Oman National Engineering, Ooredoo were up by 5.76%, 4.29%, 1.68%, 1.50%, 1.29% respectively. Prices of Phoenix Power, Abraj Energy, Majan College, Sembcorp Salalah, Oman Oil Marketing were down by 1.33%, 1.02%, 0.81%, 0.54%, 0.38% respectively.

— United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

OMAN STOCKS

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	5,674.93	5,601.61	5,616.02	5,674.93	-58.91	-1.04
FINANCIAL INDEX	9,315.02	9,188.82	9,193.91	9,315.02	-121.11	-1.30
Industry Index	7,313.93	7,287.32	7,305.95	7,313.23	-7.29	-0.10
Services Index	2,282.88	2,271.30	2,274.30	2,282.51	-8.21	-0.36
MSX Shariah Index	478.84	475.37	478.84	477.26	1.58	0.33
MSX TR INDEX	8,517.40	8,407.35	8,428.98	8,517.40	-88.42	-1.04
FINANCIAL TR IDX	11,066.56	10,916.64	10,922.68	11,066.56	-143.88	-1.30
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	9,017.44	8,984.63	9,007.60	9,016.58	-8.98	-0.10
SERVICES TR IDX	2,964.18	2,949.14	2,953.04	2,963.70	-10.66	-0.36
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,205.12	1,205.12	1,205.12	1,205.12	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
141,758,572	32,632,473	5,696	31,439,759,115	16	28	20	64

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

SN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF B/D	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PRE VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000000324	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	1,666,820	478,772	142	0.278	0.303	0.278	0.294	0.278	0.016	5.755	0.294	0.294	0.302	0.100	69,504,540
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	35,485	6,446	11	0.182	0.183	0.181	0.182	0.179	0.003	1.676	0.182	0.180	0.183	0.100	7,797,424
OM0000003868	OOREDOO	551,871	129,853	21	0.235	0.236	0.235	0.236	0.233	0.003	1.288	0.236	0.233	0.239	0.100	13,622,838
OM0000002804	A'SAFFA FOODS	1,209,120	531,911	6	0.485	0.485	0.440	0.485	0.480	0.005	1.042	0.440	0.474	0.485	0.100	58,200,000
OM0000002188	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	105,703	17,156	16	0.162	0.164	0.162	0.164	0.163	0.001	0.613	0.164	0.161	0.164	0.100	36,980,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	107,286	27,570	14	0.261	0.261	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.000	0.000	0.260	0.261	0.260	0.100	26,000,000
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	1,676	3,642	6	2.190	2.190	2.150	2.150	2.150	0.000	0.000	2.150	2.101	2.150	0.100	19,855,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA TRAIL PRODUCTS	10,000	5,800	1	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.000	0.000	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.100	72,440,817
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	2,107,155	2,187,275	121	1.040	1.041	1.035	1.038	1.038	0.000	0.000	1.038	1.038	1.038	0.100	77,590,000
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	118,946	118,450	16	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.104	0.105	0.100	232,643,115
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	238,885	20,776	23	0.087	0.087	0.086	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.000	0.087	0.086	0.087	0.100	13,255,000
OM0000004925	ALBATHNAH POWER	119,425	20,725	6	0.176	0.176	0.173	0.174	0.174	0.000	0.000	0.174	0.174	0.176	0.100	117,430,413
OM0000004932	AL SUWADI POWER	121,203	21,039	15	0.174	0.174	0.173	0.174	0.174	0.000	0.000	0.174	0.174	0.176	0.100	124,396,703
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	178,363	58,758	15	0.330	0.330	0.328	0.329	0.330	-0.001	-0.303	0.329	0.329	0.330	0.100	307,949,115
OM0000003861	VOLTAMP ENERGY	23,600	27,682	14	0.938	0.939	0.931	0.938	0.945	-0.007	-0.741	0.938	0.951	1.039	0.100	87,809,146
OM0000008854	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,475,965	729,678	694	0.285	0.285	0.280	0.282	0.285	-0.003	-1.017	0.282	0.282	0.290	0.100	254,488,400
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	1,676,900	604,189	100	0.362	0.362	0.360	0.360	0.364	-0.004	-1.099	0.360	0.360	0.364	0.100	583,340,688
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	18,120,672	6,150,859	772	0.340	0.340	0.335	0.341	0.341	-0.004	-1.173	0.337	0.338	0.337	0.100	2,539,655,810
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	53,400	5,350	6	0.064	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.065	-0.001	-1.538	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.100	22,792,147
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	202,071	16,996	21	0.084	0.086	0.084	0.084	0.086	-0.002	-2.336	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.100	7,580,000
OM0000000672	OQAS NETWORKS	23,322,335	4,348,828	872	0.188	0.190	0.184	0.185	0.190	-0.005	-2.632	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.100	801,165,425
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	80,217	13,239	9	0.166	0.166	0.165	0.165	0.170	-0.005	-2.941	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.100	33,000,000
OM0000003386	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	21,716,609	3,468,325	679	0.163	0.162	0.156	0.157	0.162	-0.005	-3.086	0.157	0.157	0.157	0.100	1,038,907,894
Total		75,298,805	18,960,799	3,550												

Parallel Market

OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	32,278	4,543	7	0.139	0.145	0.139	0.145	0.139	0.006	4.317	0.145	0.140	0.145	0.100	85,758,348
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	72,786	10,609	10	0.140	0.146	0.140	0.146	0.140	0.006	4.286	0.146	0.146	0.151	0.100	11,026,212
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV.	5,000	875	1	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.133	0.002	1.504	0.135	0.134	0.134	0.100	20,250,000
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	97,500	4,885	5	0.086	0.086	0.084	0.084	0.083	0.001	1.205	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.100	13,096,234
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	106,102	23,343	9	0.220	0.222	0.220	0.222	0.220	0.002	0.909	0.222	0.210	0.222	0.100	44,319,103
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	12,739	3,712	7	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.288	0.002	0.684	0.290	0.290	0.297	0.100	13,272,081
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	800	141	2	0.177	0.177	0.174	0.174	0.173	0.001	0.578	0.174	0.174	0.179	0.100	27,840,000
OM0000003000	ALMAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	4,416	4,412	5	0.990	1.000	0.990	1.000	0.995	0.005	0.503	1.000	0.993	1.000	0.100	69,000,000
OM0000001095	DHOFAH INSURANCE	10,480	2,119	2	0.094	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.091	0.003	0.488	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100	23,302,900
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	27,279	2,289	11	0.083	0.085	0.083	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.100	714,000
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	11,020	1,300	4	0.116	0.118	0.116	0.118	0.118	0.000	0.000	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.100	3,540,000
OM0000001608	OMAN PACKAGING	4,271	399	2	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.000	0.000	0.155	0.150	0.155	0.100	2,027,558
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	27,870	22,885	24	0.084	0.084	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.082	0.083	0.100	9,993,750
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	3,000	400	3	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.198	0.200	0.100	3,254,733
OM0000002077	AL OMANIA FINANCIAL SERVICES	9,228	1,154	3	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.000	0.000	0.125	0.122	0.125	0.100	38,427,125
OM0000003281	TAAQEER FINANCE	7,340	910	1	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.127	0.127	0.000	0.000	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.100	35,461,348
OM0000007407	DHOFAH GENERATING	10,300	927	1	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.086	0.090	0.100	20,001,600
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	1,097,857	87,536	12	0.082	0.082	0.081	0.082	0.082	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.080	0.082	0.100	16,400,000
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	42,135	3,792	9	0.090	0.090	0.089	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.092	0.100	58,373,129
OM0000007659	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	11,987,967	4,279,808	412	0.357	0.358	0.356	0.357	0.357	0.000	0.000	0.357	0.356	0.357	0.100	2,856,000,000
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	500	240	1	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.480	-0.001	-0.208	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.100	79,380,000
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	2,232	1,863	2	0.800	0.800	0.797	0.797	0.800	-0.003	-0.375	0.797	0.796	0.799	0.100	48,826,175
OM0000004725	SEMBCORP SALALAH	501,961	92,910	22	0.187	0.187	0.185	0.186	0.187	-0.001	-0.535	0.186	0.185	0.190	0.100	177,550,383
OM0000003265	NATIONAL DETERGENT	305	214	1	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.705	-0.005	-0.709	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.100	14,600,000
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	78,908	8,630	10	0.123	0.123	0.122	0.122	0.122	-0.001	-0.813	0.122	0.121	0.122	0.100	10,880,000
OM0000008908	OQBASE INDUSTRIES (SPZ)	29,752,104	5,261,871	728	0.178	0.178	0.175	0.176	0.178	-0.002	-1.124	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.100	608,870,390
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	30,160	4,524	2	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.152	-0.002	-1.316	0.150	0.148	0.160	0.100	40,602,048
OM0000005863	PHOENIX POWER	127,282	19,120	14	0.151	0.151	0.149	0.149	0.151	-0.002	-1.325	0.149	0.148	0.152	0.100	21,737,618
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	83,250	8,949	7	0.109	0.109	0.108	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.109	0.108	0.109	0.100	10,400,000
OM0000001500	MUSCAT FINANCE	3,423,000	7,017	6	0.051	0.051	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.001	1.961	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.100	15,357,375
OM0000002549	ALSHUHEIB	18,523,042	3,209,285	17	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.167	0.000	0.000	0.166	0.167	0.167	0.100	24,000,000
OM0000000250	BANK DHOFAH	1,432,000	621,776	17	0.160	0.162	0.158	0.158	0.162	0.001	-0.469	0.162	0.157	0.160	0.100	480,288,181
OM0000000478	TAKAFUL OMAN	92,065	4,753	9	0.083	0.083	0.081	0.081	0.083	-0.002	-0.374	0.081	0.080	0.081	0.100	127,800,000
OM0000000386	SALALAH MILLS	508	350	5	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.368	-0.008	-7.415	0.360	0.365	0.380	0.100	22,400,000
Total		34	66,304,348	13,598,785	2,120											



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CONTACT: 96741587
Email-umarustad@gmail.com.

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Contact : 90477180
Email : dasstarnew@gmail.com

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Indian male, MBA finance, 15 yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation, VAT submission. Immediate joining. Contact: 96290882, Email: ajithakes@gmail.com

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279

Male,46yrs, Manager (handling accounts & operations) 22yrs of exp (20yrs in Oman,seeks suitable placement Contact: 91410602

42yrs female(M-com) working as Finance manager 18yrs of exp over-all (15yrs in Oman) Currently working in a reputed shipping company Contact: 98184705

Accounts job Oman experienced Indian female looking for Accounts job in Muscat region,on a family visa and available for immediate joining.Contact: 78041486/98523127 Email: mathadhira@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

M.com, Indian, Chief accountant, having DL, 16 yrs experience in Oman, looking for a suitable position, 5 yrs exp in fuel station Contact 96973776

Indian male Accounts assistant (2yrs of GCC experience) seeking job and available to join Immediately.Contact: 93100261 Email: askarmhd5506@gmail.com

Indian male,Sr.Accountant (Mcom & MBA Finance),having 10 yrs of Oman experience up to finalization with D/L. Contact: 97524285. Email bobykjkj@gmail.com

Indian male, Bcom,MBA finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs. Contact: 97436925. sasdskr@gmail.com”

ADMINISTRATION

Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 78439875

Indian ex-police officer (39 yrs) with over 10 yrs of experience in law enforcement, crime prevention, and public safety. Served as a Supervisory Police officer (Inspector of Police) with proven expertise in security management and leadership. Currently in Oman and available for security or administrative roles. Contact +968 72268055. Email: shd9182@gmail.com

24 yrs experience , BSc, Diploma in office management. Secretary, tender tech, supporter, company registrations, subcontracting coordinator, admin & HR looking for job. Contact 96934274.Email oamku-markc@yahoo.com

ADMINISTRATION

Indian female, M.Sc.(Computer Science), overall 13+ yrs of experience in different administrative as well as project roles looking for suitable placement.Contact 79166904/97498882

B.A urdu qualified Diploma in hospital administration 1 yr experience (India). Contact: +968 76219596 WA: 7356942365.Email farzanafrzn2@gmail.com

Indian M (26 yrs) BBA graduate with 3 yrs Gulf experience, admin and accounts - Contact: 75026482

Highly skilled accounting and administrative professional with diverse experience in technical and office administration roles Contact 90473476 Email: kpsanjay202@gmail.com

ARCHITECT

Architect, Interior designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com

DRIVER

Pickup light driver available,having all PDO licences & can speak English. Contact: 97681676

Driver with 25 yrs experience, PDO licence looking for job . Contact: 99116288

Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801

Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/+968 94117967 Email: induchandra01@gmail.com

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Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive)looking for suitable position. Contact: 98132055

MECHANICAL/ TECHNICAL

BMS, SCADA operator, 5+yrs experience, skilled in Siemens & Honeywell systems, Oman DL. Contact: 90461944 Email emmarbz1199@gmail.com

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PURCHASE/ PROCUREMENT

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Indian male 40 yrs Bcom MBA having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L,seeking suitable opportunities. Contact: +971529546753

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Indian,MBA, 20yrs of experience in Sales(FMCG/retail) with D/L seeks suitable placement. Contact: 95548480

Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 94566786

Indian male with 12 yrs of experience in Oman and UAE looking for Sales business development manager job opportunity in FMCG and UPVC Industry Contact 95842228

Young Indian sales coordinator and data analyst,B.com graduate having 5yrs experience looking for Immediate placement.Contact 96875080968

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Indian M(35) MBA in Oman 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma Contact: 79755795

US shutdown: Flight delays mount as air traffic controllers skip work

Air traffic controllers are not showing up for duty leading to mounting flight delays and long queues at major airports, raising passenger concerns about safety and reliability

WASHINGTON: The ongoing US government shutdown has stretched into its 34th day, worsening conditions across the country's airports as air traffic controllers, TSA screeners, and other essential workers continue working without pay, according to media report.

Air traffic controllers, many of whom are not showing up for duty or taking second jobs to manage expenses, have led to mounting flight delays and long queues at major airports, raising passenger concerns about safety and reliability.

Nick Daniels, president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, told CNN News Central that the extended shutdown is putting increasing pressure on



workers and compromising safety.

"Every single day that this goes on tomorrow is now less safe than today," he said. "We're supposed to go to work and be 100%, 100% of the time. I'm going to work right now, and I'm thinking about, how do I pay my rent?"

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said the delays were a precautionary measure to ensure safety despite staffing shortages.

"Is there more risk in the system when you have a shutdown? Absolutely there's more risk," he told CNBC. "If we thought that it was unsafe... we'll shut the whole airspace down. We won't let people travel. We're not there at this point. It's just significant delays."

The shortages have disrupted air traffic across major hubs, including Chicago, Denver, Houston, and Newark, causing extensive ground delays. Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport has warned

passengers that TSA checks could take up to three hours due to staff shortages.

Keith Jeffries, vice president of K2 Security Screening Group and a former TSA federal security director at Los Angeles International Airport, told CNN that call-outs will likely continue.

"Call-outs will continue to rise in TSA, because those frontline employees are forced with making those decisions," he said.

Mike McCormick, assistant professor of Air Traffic Management at Embry-Riddle University, told CNN that while there are safety concerns, controllers are handling the situation responsibly.

"If controllers were more reporting to work in such a condition that they could not be 100%, for their air traffic control duties, then, yes, that creates a risk of safety," he said. "From what I'm seeing across the system, controllers



are recognizing their limitations, and they're not reporting to work, so that is actually helping to keep the system safe."

Erik Hansen, senior vice president of government relations at the US Travel Association, said the

shutdown is hurting the dependability of air travel.

"The challenge is that the system is never going to compromise safety, but we're absolutely compromising predictability and the ability of Americans to get to where they

want to go on time," he said.

Union leaders and airline executives have urged lawmakers to resolve the impasse.

"Our message is simple, open the government, and it has to open now," Daniels said. — **ANI**

TYPHOON KALMAEGI

Winds and rain lash central Philippines

MANILA: Typhoon Kalmaegi brought torrential rain and strong winds as it hurtled into central Philippines on Tuesday killing at least two people, officials said.

The typhoon, locally known as Tino, made landfall around midnight in the eastern province of Southern Leyte and also hit Cebu, where residents were still reeling from a powerful earthquake that struck the province last month.

The typhoon had sustained winds of up to 140 kilometres (87 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 195 kph (121 mph) as of Monday afternoon.

Kalmaegi is forecast to move across the Visayas Islands region and out over the South China Sea by Wednesday.

The Vietnamese government also said Tuesday it was preparing for the worst-case scenario as it braced for the impact of Kalmaegi.

Thousands of residents evacuated, many trapped on rooftops

Gwendolyn Pang, secretary-general of the Philippine Red Cross,



said people were trapped on their roofs by floodwaters in the coastal town of Liloan in Cebu province.

In Cebu's city of Mandaue, floodwaters reached "up to the level of heads of people," she said, adding that several cars were either submerged in floodwater or floated in another Cebu community.

More than 160 flights to and from affected areas were cancelled. Those at sea were advised to head to the nearest safe u immediately and stay in port.

The weather bureau PAGASA warned of a high risk of "life-threatening and damaging storm surges" that could reach over 3 metres high along coastal and low-lying communities in central Philippines, including parts of Mindanao. — **DW**

BILATERAL TALKS

Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin

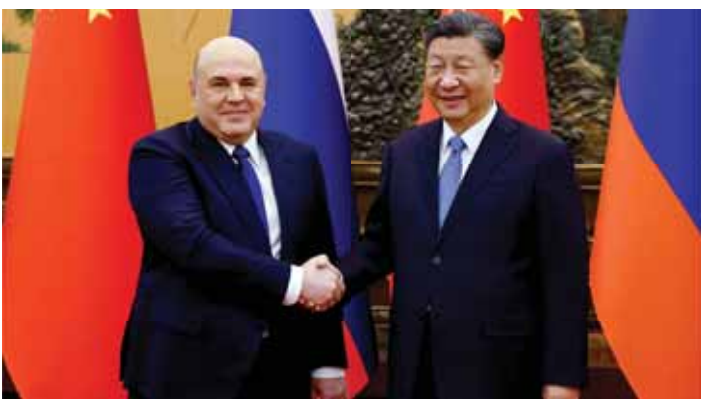
BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin on Tuesday in Beijing, official media of both countries reported.

Mishustin, who is on a two-day visit to China, held a bilateral meeting in the Great Hall of the People in the Chinese capital, Russian state media TASS said.

The Russian Prime Minister was accompanied by a large delegation, including Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova, among others, who arrived in Hangzhou on Monday. The Chinese side was represented by its Foreign Affairs Minister, Wang Yi, and others.

Mishustin met with the Chinese Premier Li Qiang yesterday and as per China's state media Xinhua, the two sides agreed that the strategic guidance of the two countries' leaders offers political guarantees to relations and co-operation between Russia and China.

"China is ready to consolidate the integration of development strategies with Russia, expand



cooperation across the board and continuously develop Chinese-Russian relations of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation in the new era and progress along the path of modernization together," Li stated as per TASS.

Li made the remarks while co-chairing the 30th regular meeting of the Chinese and Russian heads of government in Hangzhou yesterday.

The two leaders also proposed expanding cooperation mecha-

nisms and increasing investment in bilateral cooperation.

The Russian Prime Minister's visit to China follows a bilateral meeting between Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in South Korea last week. Trump had described the talks with Xi as "amazing."

CNN, in its reportage of the meeting, showcased photographs released by the White House of the meeting in which Xi is cap-

tured in a rare candid moment, appearing "to grin with his eyes shut, with Foreign Minister Wang Yi laughing by his side."

After escalating trade tensions between the two countries over the past months, the US and China seemed to have reached a truce, with Trump reaching a one-year agreement with China on rare earth supplies, taking the overall tariff on Chinese goods down to 47 per cent.

Meanwhile, a proposed meeting between Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Budapest has not materialised after Trump, on October 23, announced that the summit would be postponed indefinitely, stating that he did not want a "wasted meeting."

Putin, according to TASS, has indicated that the meeting in Budapest has more likely been postponed than cancelled.

The Russian media outlet cited Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov as stating that the focus should be on Ukraine settlement work, not on the Putin-Trump meeting. — **ANI**

CONSULTATION MEETING

India, League of Arab States discuss ways to further deepen cooperation

NEW DELHI: Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Secretary (South), Neena Malhotra, chaired a meeting on Monday with the Arab Ambassadors here in the national capital.

Sharing the details in a post on X, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaishwal highlighted how efforts were discussed to further strengthen cooperation between India and the League of Arab States.

"Secretary (South) chaired a consultation meeting with Arab Ambassadors in New Delhi today. The meeting discussed efforts to further strengthen cooperation between India and the League of Arab States."

Earlier, the Embassy of India in Cairo highlighted how India has traditionally enjoyed close and friendly relations with the countries that form the League of Arab States, also known as the Arab League.

These relations date back to ancient times when traders, scholars and diplomats would often trav-



erse the Arabian Sea and the land routes linking India to West Asia and the Arab peninsula, transferring knowledge and merchandise. A shared cultural heritage, through the linkages of language and religion, continues to lend energy to these historic bonds.

"Today, the nations of the Arab League are part of India's extended neighbourhood. India's staunch commitment to deepen engagement with this region, shared views on major international developments, and strong economic and commercial rela-

tions form the bedrock of India-Arab relations. Most of India's external trade passes through the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, and the Gulf of Aden. There are vital Indian investments in countries stretching from Oman and Saudi Arabia to Egypt, Sudan and beyond. The India-Arab trade relations have withstood the test of time. Even during the covid pandemic and global geopolitical conflicts, the trade between India and the Arab world continued to grow," the Embassy noted.

It further underscored how the partnership with the Arab countries goes across almost every aspect of human endeavour, such as Food & Energy, Financial Services, Health & Education, Information Technology, Renewable Energy, including start-ups and large infrastructure projects. Over 9 million Indian diaspora have made the Arab League nations their home and play a vital role in the region's progress and prosperity. — **ANI**

DUE TO MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS

Former US VP Dick Cheney passes away

WASHINGTON DC: Former US Vice-President Richard Bruce Cheney, hailed as America's most powerful modern vice president and oft called the chief architect of the Iraq war passed away at the age of 84 due to medical complications, media reported citing a statement by his family.

"His beloved wife of 61 years, Lynne, his daughters, Liz and Mary, and other family members were with him as he passed," the family said, as reported by CNN, adding that he died due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease.

"Dick Cheney was a great and good man who taught his children and grandchildren to love our country, and to live lives of courage, honour, love, kindness, and fly fishing," the family said.

Cheney was the 46th vice president, who served alongside Former President George W Bush for two terms between 2001 and 2009.

Richard Bruce Cheney was born January 30, 1941, in Lincoln,



Nebraska.

During his political career, he was picked by Donald Rumsfeld as his deputy White House chief of staff under President Gerald Ford and then succeeded his mentor and close friend in the job in 1975.

CNN reported that while Democratic President Jimmy Carter was in the White House, Cheney decided to run for Congress and was elected to Wyoming's sole US House seat in 1978. Cheney served six terms, rising to become House minority whip. — **ANI**



Qualitative leap in allocating projects for development of Musandam Governorate

The governorate receives special attention from His Majesty the Sultan

KHASAB: Musandam Governorate receives special attention from His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik.

Plans were laid out in the recent past to establish a qualitative leap in developing the Governorate's performance as decentralised institutions with administrative and financial independence and granted prerogatives, enabling them to participate in the planning process and drive economic and social development in the Governorate.

Sayyid Ibrahim Said Al Busaidi, Governor of Musandam, said that the economic and social development strategy for Musandam Governorate, launched with the Ninth Five-Year Development Plan (2015-2020) and continued in the Tenth Five-Year Plan (2021-2025), focused on completing development in several sectors, such as logistics, and strengthening the health, education, environment, and tourism sectors.

Tourism, Al Busaidi explained, is one of the pillars of the Governorate's economy. He explained that a large part of the approved projects in these plans has been completed, and the rest will be finalised in the Eleventh Five-Year Development Plan (2026-2030).

In an interview with Oman News Agency, the Governor added that with the launch of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan, the Governorate will see the completion of the basic required aspects of development, especially in the logistics and tourism sectors.

He noted that the education and health sectors in Musandam are growing and have witnessed significant development since the start of the Tenth Five-Year Plan and will be completed in the first three years of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan.

He clarified that the geographical environment of Musandam Governorate, overlooking the seas and surrounded by towering mountains, has created a competitive advantage for it, but at the same time, it posed a development challenge due to the difficulty of the terrain.

Despite this, the Governorate managed to utilise optimally some mountainous plateaus. He indicated that the Office of the Governor of Musandam, in coordination with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, has begun planning for the mountainous areas to become the future urban centres of the Governorate over the next five decades, creating major investment opportunities.

He affirmed that the funds allocated for the Governorate during the Tenth Five-Year Development Plan were utilised, and additional amounts were added to develop various sectors, especially the municipal sector.

He explained that in the Eleventh Five-Year Development Plan,



this concept will be reinforced to integrate development programmes with the Governorate's development.

Al Busaidi indicated that the focus is on strengthening the logistics sector in Musandam Governorate to deliver and export goods and facilitate the movement of the community, whether internal movement due to the Governorate's geographical nature or movement within and outside the Sultanate of Oman.

He emphasised the importance of enhancing port development in Musandam Governorate, as most of its Wilayats overlook the sea. Jetties were added in the Wilayat of Bukha for fishermen, and the port in the Wilayat centre is being maintained.

Furthermore, the Khasab Port investment was tendered to become a commercial port, and the



maritime harbors in Lima and Kumzar are being maintained.

He noted that the waterfronts in the main residential areas of the Governorate are being developed.

The Governor of Musandam stated that the government has invested approximately OMR40 million in the Dibba Port, where the completion rate has reached about 95 percent, and it is expected to open by the end of this year. It involves several sectors, includ-

ing transport, tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and the security sector, forming an integrated system prepared to develop the Wilayat of Daba and other Wilayats in the Governorate.

Regarding the urban development of coastal villages, he explained that a project to develop these villages has begun, and the development of a number of other coastal villages will be added in the Eleventh Five-Year Plan to

complete urban development and services in those villages, along with recreational and beautification services that will improve the well-being of the community.

He added that work on the land connectivity within Musandam Governorate is proceeding rapidly. The completion rate for the Sultan Faisal bin Turki Road has exceeded 56 percent, which is 6 percent ahead of schedule, with a cost of RO 152 million.

It is a vital and main road connecting the Wilayats of Dibba and Khasab, passing through Lima.

It is also planned to improve the efficiency of the Khasab-Bukha Road in the future. He noted that the best ways to connect coastal villages in the Wilayat of Khasab, such as "Khor Sham," "Ghub Ali," and Kumzar village, will be studied to facilitate movement and access to these villages, whether

by sea or land. He clarified that a number of internal roads exceeding 120 kilometres are being paved in the residential areas of Musandam Governorate to facilitate the movement of citizens and residents, in addition to establishing parks and waterfronts, rehabilitating and investing in some gardens, and providing opportunities for SMEs there.

The governor stressed the importance of strengthening land crossings through the opening of the land crossing in the Wilayat of Dibba with the United Arab Emirates, which will boost the movement of goods and facilitate the movement of citizens, residents, and visitors to the Governorate in general.

Regarding the New Khasab Airport project, he indicated that the construction of the airport is still in the early stages of planning, and civil aviation traffic will boost air navigation, and consequently, the logistics sector in Musandam Governorate.

On the winter season in Musandam Governorate, His Excellency explained that the "Musandam Winter" season, which runs from November to April each year, has contributed to stimulating tourism and economic activity in Musandam Governorate, attracting various tourists from within and outside the Governorate.

It includes numerous diverse events in most urban areas and coastal Wilayats of the Governorate, with the participation of civil society and the private sector.

Al Busaidi mentioned that marine tourism is currently the most prominent in Musandam Governorate.

A number of local investors have developed boats to provide high-quality services to tourists for the purpose of exploring Musandam's marine environment, directing some enthusiasts towards diving, in addition to hiking and mountain climbing, with all necessary services and training provided for these activities, which have witnessed a large influx of tourists and significant interest recently.

In the education sector in Musandam, he noted that some modern schools have been established, others are in the tendering process, and classrooms are being added in densely populated areas, along with maintenance for some educational facilities. The enhancement of this sector's system and the provision of many classrooms is expected to be completed by the end of the 2026/2027 academic year.

In the health sector, he said that the Referral Hospital in the Wilayat of Khasab will open early next year, Kumzar village will receive a health facility, and a new hospital will be built in the Wilayat of Madha, in addition to ongoing maintenance in most health facilities in the Governorate. **OMA**

SPORTS

Al Harthy targets podium finish



FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) season set to conclude in Bahrain on November 8

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omani endurance racing star Ahmad Al Harthy is aiming to close out the 2025 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) season in style this Saturday, November 8, when the Bapco Energies 8 Hours of Bahrain brings the global series to a close at the Bahrain International Circuit.

For Al Harthy, the Middle East finale is more than another race — it's a homecoming. After competing across three continents, the No.46 BMW M4 LMGTT3 driver is eager to deliver a strong result for Team WRT and team-mates Valentino Rossi and Kelvin van der Linde, backed by a huge show of support from Oman.

"It's always a delight to race as close as possible to home, especially after so much travel across the globe all year, so I really can't wait to be back in Bahrain this week for the final round of the WEC season," said Al Harthy.

"We're expecting a lot of support at the track and we are determined to fight for the best result possible to round out the championship."

The 2025 campaign has been a rollercoaster for the Omani racer, highlighted by brilliant podium finishes in Imola and Austin (COTA) — both narrowly missing victory by just tenths of a second. Despite some misfortune along

the way, Al Harthy and his team-mates have shown front-running pace throughout the season, currently sitting eighth in the LMGTT3 standings for both drivers and teams.

"We've had some great highlights, mostly the podiums at Imola and at COTA, and I would love to be able to finish the season with another trophy," Al Harthy added.

"Actually, we're only five points away from the top six in the championship so that's another target, to see if we can at least match the P6 finish in the points standings we achieved last year."

Practice sessions in Bahrain begin Thursday, November 6, followed by qualifying and the Hyperpole session on Friday, November 7.

The race will start at 14:00 local time on Saturday, November 8, with live coverage and timing available at www.fiawec.com.

OMAN FREE-STYLE DRIFTING

Al Ajmi, Al Junaibi emerge champions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Smoke, speed, and screeching tires marked the return of the Sultanate's most electrifying motorsport spectacle as the first round of the Oman Free-Style Drifting Championship roared to life at the Muscat Drift Arena recently.

A packed crowd at the Oman Automobile Association (OAA) venue witnessed more than 50 drivers from Oman and abroad battle it out in a display of precision, power, and style.

The season opener delivered non-stop action as local and regional drifters went head-to-head, executing daring slides and gravity-defying maneuvers that kept spectators on their feet.

The grandstands were filled with fans of all ages — from families to die-hard petrolheads — reflecting the sport's fast-growing fan base across the Sultanate.

In the Sedan (Rear-Wheel Drive) category, Oman's Manea Al Ajmi emerged victorious after a commanding performance that impressed both judges and fans.

Fellow Omani Ayoub Al Shreqi clinched second place, while Qais Al Qarini completed the all-Omani podium in third. Abdullah Quroa of the UAE finished fourth, with Mazen Al Kharoosi of Oman taking fifth.

The 4x4 category saw fierce regional competition, with Mohammed Al Junaibi from the UAE drifting his way to the top spot. Omani driver Shihab Hamed came in a close second, followed by Hamad Al Balushi and Ahmed



Al Shamsi — both from the UAE — in third and fourth, respectively. Ya'arub Al Hinai of Oman rounded out the top five. Organised by the Oman Automobile Association,

the championship continues to serve as a platform for both professional and amateur drifters to showcase their skills in a safe and competitive environment. With

its distinctly Gulf flair and growing international participation, the event underscores Oman's rising profile as a regional motorsport hub.

ENGLAND SKIPPER

Stokes signs 2-year England contract

LONDON: Ben Stokes on Monday signed a fresh two-year England contract, providing the clearest indication yet that he intends to play in the 2027 Ashes series on home soil.

Stokes, 34, has tapered his schedule significantly due to injury, to the extent that the only side he has represented in the past 12 months is England's Test team. He has been sidelined with hamstring and shoulder issues this year and has not played a limited-overs international since November 2023, but his new contract suggests he has no plans to stop soon.

Brendon McCullum, England's head coach, is under contract until the end of 2027 and Stokes' new deal suggests that the coach-captain combination could continue for another two years. England have won 25 and lost 14 Tests since McCullum and Stokes took over in June 2022, but are yet to register a series win over a "Big Three" opponent ahead of the imminent Ashes tour to Australia.

Stokes is one of 14 players to have signed a new two-year central contract, with a further 12 players under contract until October 2026 and four more signing development deals. The ECB announced the list on Tuesday, which director of men's cricket, Rob Key, said reflected "the depth and strength of talent" in the English game.

Five players have signed their first central contracts: Sonny Baker, Liam Dawson, Saqib



Mahmood, Jamie Overton and Luke Wood. A further six players were not offered deals after their contracts expired: Jonny Bairstow, Jack Leach, Liam Livingstone, Olly Stone, Reece Topley, and Chris Woakes, who has retired from international cricket.

Central contracts (Two-year until Sep 30, 2027): Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Jos Buttler, Brydon Carse, Sam Curran, Ben Duckett, Will Jacks, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Ben Stokes, Josh Tongue.

One-year contracts: (until Sep 30, 2026): Rehan Ahmed, Sonny Baker, Shoaib Bashir, Zak Crawley, Liam Dawson, Saqib Mahmood, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Matthew Potts, Phil Salt, Luke Wood, Mark Wood.

Lapsed contracts: Jonny Bairstow, Jack Leach, Liam Livingstone, Olly Stone, Reece Topley, Chris Woakes, John Turner. - Agencies

WOMEN'S ODI RANKINGS

SA's Wolvaardt climbs to No.1

DUBAI: South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt crossed India's Smriti Mandhana to get to the No.1 spot in the ICC's ODI batting rankings for women after her centuries in the semi-final and final of the World Cup in India.

Wolvaardt's 169 in the win against England in the semi-final, and then the 101 in a losing cause against India in the final, gave her an aggregate of 571 runs in the tournament, a record for World Cups, and that took her up to 814 ratings points, a career high for her, and three more than Mandhana's 811. Mandhana was the No.1 batter in the rankings throughout the World Cup, but was below her best in the knockouts, scoring 24 in the semi-final against Australia, and 45 in the final. She still finished second on the World Cup run-scorers' list.

Ellyse Perry, meanwhile, made



a top-ten move to seventh with a knock of 77 in the semi-final against India, sharing the spot with Sophie Devine, who retired from ODI cricket after the tournament, where New Zealand failed to make the semi-finals.

Jemimah Rodrigues was the star of the semi-final against Australia, scoring a match-winning unbeaten 127, which pushed her

up nine spots to No.10, while Phoebe Litchfield, Australia's top-scorer in the semi-final with 119, jumped 13 spots to 13th.

Marizanne Kapp, alongside Wolvaardt, was the hero for South Africa in the semi-final against England, with returns of 5 for 20 with the ball, and that took her up to second spot among bowlers, a jump of two places. That leaves Kapp only behind England's Sophie Ecclestone, Annabel Sutherland (sixth) and Kim Garth (seventh) also moved up a spot each inside the top ten, where their team-mate Alana King is at No.3, pushed down by Kapp.

Deepthi Sharma, the Player of the Tournament at the World Cup, had seven wickets and 82 runs across the knockouts, and moved up a spot up to fourth on the all-rounders' rankings, crossing Sutherland in the process. - Agencies

WTA FINALS

Rybakina stuns Swiatek to progress

RIYADH: Elena Rybakina stunned Iga Swiatek to confirm her place in the knockout stages of the WTA Finals while Amanda Anisimova produced a comeback victory to stay in contention in Riyadh on Monday.

Former Wimbledon champion Rybakina was outplayed in the opening set against world No.2 Swiatek but completely dominated thereafter.

Sixth seed Rybakina won 12 of the final 13 games to storm to a 3-6, 6-1, 6-0 win and snap a four-match losing streak against Swiatek.

American Anisimova later beat Madison Keys to send Rybakina through to the semi-finals.

"Mentally, I am happy that I stayed focused. I got some confidence in the second set and everything was going my way," Rybakina said. "Hopefully I will



play like that through the whole tournament."

Anisimova battled back from a set and a break down to beat compatriot Keys 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 and set up a winner-takes-all final group

match against Poland's Swiatek on Wednesday. The leading eight women's players in singles and doubles are competing in Saudi Arabia, where £12m (\$15.5m) in prize money will be won. - Agencies

A package of projects boosts economic momentum in Al Wusta Governorate



The focus of projects is on enhancing the quality of life, developing infrastructure, and strengthening economic and tourism components

HAIMA: Al Wusta Governorate is witnessing extensive developmental and economic activity through the implementation of a package of projects across its four wilayats.

These projects focus on enhancing the quality of life, developing infrastructure, and strengthening economic and tourism components, contributing to community development and elevating service standards.

Sheikh Ahmed Musallam Al Kithiri, Governor of Al Wusta, stated to Oman News Agency (ONA) that over 22 developmental and improvement projects are currently being implemented across various villages and wilayats of the governorate, with a total cost of approximately OMR20 million.

He added that in the Wilayat of Haima, 7 qualitative development projects are being executed at a total cost of about OMR5.732 million.

The most prominent among these are the Knowledge Park project and the Exhibitions Square project, valued at OMR796,000, aimed at improving the urban landscape and encouraging domestic tourism.

Additionally, a camel racing track is being developed at a cost of OMR248,000 to promote cultural heritage and activate heritage events, along with a residential planning development project in Haima costing over OMR1.8 million.

He pointed out that a project to pave 30 kilometres of internal roads in the Wilayat of Haima is underway, alongside the installation of 250 lighting poles, with a total value of OMR2 million.

An integrated agricultural nursery is also being established at a cost of OMR181,000. Furthermore, new public parks will be established in various locations at a cost of OMR214,000.

As for the Wilayat of Mahout, the Governor explained that 6 development projects are underway at a total cost of approximately OMR5.873 million.

These include the Central Market project, costing OMR450,000, to provide a suitable commercial environment for economic activity in the wilayat.

Other projects include developing the wilayat center's facade (OMR1.5 million), a platform and camel racing track (OMR138,000), along with projects for designing and paving 30 kilometres of internal roads, and developing the commercial plan, with a total cost of OMR2 million.

He pointed out that 350 lighting poles are being installed across various villages of the wilayat at a total cost of OMR400,000. Additionally, projects to establish

parks and beach shelters in the villages of Wadi Al-Seil, Al-Khulouf, Sarab, and Al-Ghadn are being implemented, with a total cost exceeding OMR1.385 million.

In the Wilayat of Duqm, he said that 6 developmental and improvement projects are being carried out at a total cost of OMR5.107 million.

These include the second phase of developing the Ras Madrasah waterfront to enhance the appearance of the wilayat's village facades, costing OMR265,000. Projects to develop the facades of Dahar and Ras Madrasah villages cost a total of OMR1 million. Other projects involve establishing a park in Dahar village, beach shelters in Hitam and Ras Madrasah villages, and the first phase of developing Wadi Tharf at a cost exceeding OMR744,000 to promote eco-tourism.

The Governor indicated that, as part of developing the infrastructure of Duqm, a 17-kilometre road from Hitam to Al-Bar is being designed and paved, alongside 30 kilometres of internal roads for the wilayat, which includes the installation of 250 lighting poles at a total cost of approximately OMR3 million.

A football field is also being constructed in Hitam village at a cost of OMR98,000.

He stated that the Wilayat of Al Jazer is witnessing the implementation of several developmental and improvement projects at a total cost of OMR2.837 million. These include the second phase of developing Ras Sawqarah Beach at a cost of OMR188,000, developing the facade of Al-Lakbi Beach at a cost of OMR430,000, alongside designing and implementing 24 kilometres of internal roads in the wilayat, as well as 2.5 kilometres of roads for the commercial plan.

This includes installing 322 lighting poles in the wilayat centre, Al-Lakbi, and several villages affiliated to Al-Jazer, at a total cost of OMR2 million.

The governor added that several projects in the cultural and sports sectors are being implemented, including a platform for camel races costing OMR115,000 and a football field in the wilayat centre costing OMR104,000.

Economic and social initiatives

He pointed out that the governorate continues to implement a number of economic and social initiatives in coordination with the Ministry of Economy and relevant authorities, as part of supporting the local economy and attracting local and foreign investment. He clarified that among the qualitative projects underway are shrimp farming projects with total investments reaching OMR462 million, alongside the allocation of a site for a sea cucumber farming project with an estimated cost of approximately OMR2.31 million.

He added that the governorate is working on designating the Haima Natural Reserve in cooperation with the Environment Authority, in addition to supporting renewable energy projects. Al Wusta Governorate is considered a promising environment for investment in green hydrogen projects, solar and wind energy, as well as initiatives to develop cold chains in the fisheries sector in Duqm, which contributes to enhancing the added value of this vital sector.



The Governor stressed the governorate's keenness to empower youth and women by building sports fields, organizing qualitative programmes, supporting women's associations and charitable teams, following

up on social files, implementing the sustainable family care initiative, and holding direct meetings with youth and the local community to understand their needs and enhance their participation in development. -ONA



ROUND-UP

Rediscover Hongqi Ousado: Where luxury meets power and innovation

Designed for those who appreciate sophistication and substance, the Ousado continues to stand out as one of the most compelling sedans in its class

MUSCAT: MHD ACERE, the exclusive distributor of Hongqi vehicles in Oman, invites customers to rediscover the exceptional Hongqi Ousado — a luxury sedan that seamlessly blends refined comfort, intelligent technology, and dynamic performance.

Designed for those who appreciate sophistication and substance, the Ousado continues to stand out as one of the most compelling sedans in its class.

Commenting on the model's continued appeal, Mohsin Hani Al-Bahrani, CEO of MHD ACERE, said: "The Hongqi Ousado continues to capture the essence of modern luxury—where technology, comfort, and performance come together seamlessly. It's a vehicle that speaks to those who appreciate refinement in every detail. At MHD ACERE, our goal is to ensure that every Hongqi owner enjoys not just a car, but an elevated driving experience backed by outstanding value and peace of mind."

Statement of modern elegance

The Hongqi Ousado embodies refined aesthetics with a bold, sculpted exterior that reflects power, confidence, and modern luxury. Its strong character lines flow seamlessly across the body, complemented by a distinctive front fascia that gives the sedan an unmistakable presence on the road.

Inside, the cabin exemplifies craftsmanship and harmony. A flowing waterfall-style dashboard, ambient interior lighting, and premium materials elevate the driving environment—offering every journey a sense of grace and calm. The 12.3-inch digital display enhances visibility and control, merging functionality with beauty.

Power, performance and precision

Under the hood, the 2.0L turbo-charged aluminum engine delivers an impressive 223 horsepower and 340 Nm of torque, offering a



smooth yet responsive drive. The 8-speed automatic transmission ensures effortless acceleration, taking the car from 0 to 100 km/h in just 7.8 seconds while maintaining remarkable fuel efficiency of 19.6 km/L

With Adaptive Driving Beam

(ADB) headlights, the Ousado intelligently adjusts illumination for enhanced nighttime safety, while the Semi-Parking Assistant provides ease and precision when parking. These features reflect Hongqi's vision of innovation built around driver confidence and comfort.

Technology that enriches every drive

12.6-inch central control screen supporting Apple CarPlay and Android connectivity

DYNAUDIO surround sound system with 12 premium speakers for a rich, immersive

audio experience

Large panoramic sunroof (1010x890mm) offering open-sky views day and night

Wireless charging system for seamless convenience

Ousado Smart Key with remote start for advanced access and

functionality

The Ousado's intelligent systems and luxury features work in harmony to provide a personalized, comfortable, and safe driving experience for modern motorists.

Exclusive limited-time offer

Customers purchasing the Hongqi Ousado can enjoy an attractive set of benefits designed to enhance ownership value and peace of mind:

Choose 1 of 3 rewards:

- 0% Finance, or
- Up to OMR 1,000 Trade-in Support, or
- iPhone + Travel Credit

Plus, every new Hongqi Ousado comes with:

- 1-Year Free Registration and 1-Year Free Insurance in both Oman and the UAE
- 7 years Roadside Assistance
- 7 years / 105,000km service package
- 7 years Unlimited Mileage Warranty – the best in its class, offering bumper-to-bumper coverage and unmatched confidence

This comprehensive package reflects Hongqi's commitment to customer satisfaction and long-term reliability.

MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

CELEBRATION

Janoska Ensemble: Classical meets modern in unique 'Janoska Style' with Vienna Chamber Orchestra



MUSCAT: Musical excellence and innovation come together as the internationally acclaimed Janoska Ensemble performs with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra for two special evenings at the Royal Opera House of Musical Arts.

Renowned for their distinctive blend of classical mastery and modern flair, known worldwide as the Janoska Style, the ensemble redefines the boundaries of clas-

sical performance. Audiences will experience timeless works and original compositions enriched with improvisation and energy.

The group includes three brothers from Bratislava, Ondrej Janoska and Roman Janoska on violin, and František Janoska on piano, with their brother-in-law Julius Darvas on double bass. The Janoska Ensemble has performed internationally, admired for their

inventive approach to classical music.

The programme features a new interpretation of Vivaldi's Four Seasons, jazz-inspired works, and the ensemble's own compositions, creating a concert that connects tradition with a modern perspective.

Join us for two nights of remarkable musicianship, celebrating classical music in a 21st century expression.

ISWK inaugurates ECHOES exhibition

MUSCAT: ISWK inaugurated its first-ever ECHOES Exhibition, an initiative by the Humanities Department, designed by students and teachers of Grade 11 & 12, to showcase the vibrant and insightful perspectives of students engaged in Psychology and Sociology.

The event, themed "Agencies of Socialization," took place with great enthusiasm and was graced by neighbouring schools that included the senior students, teachers & Vice Principal of Asma Bint Abu Bakr Omani School and the Humanities students of ISWK Cambridge.

The exhibition opened with a thought-provoking invocation reflecting on the vital role of education as the "lighting of a fire," as quoted from William Butler Yeats, emphasizing the collective responsibility in shaping young minds not only by parents and teachers but also by the broader social environment including peers and media. This set the tone for the exploration of how various agencies like Family, School, Peers, and Media influence personality, behavior, and values.

The Humanities faculty introduced the concept behind ECHOES—as an interactive platform for students from diverse academic backgrounds to bridge theoretical learning with real-world social phenomena.

The Principal, D.N. Rao formally welcomed the guests and



presented a bouquet to the guest of honor, the Vice Principal from Asma Bint Abu Bakr School, symbolizing friendships and new beginnings. The guest of honor officially declared the exhibition open, followed by encouraging words that inspired both students and faculty.

Throughout the event, students demonstrated their creativity and dedication in presenting various aspects of socialization, providing visitors a rich experience to engage with

psychological and sociological concepts through games and activities beyond textbooks.

The exhibition encouraged interaction, questions, and a deeper appreciation of the Humanities between students of different cultures and educational boards (CBSE, Cambridge & Omani National Curriculum).

ISWK ECHOES remains a testament to the power of Humanities in fostering imagination, critical thinking, and social awareness among young learners.