

Times

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF OMAN



50

YEARS OF LEGACY

Founded 1975 · Volume 50 No. 38 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group

HIS MAJESTY TO MEET PUTIN TODAY



His Majesty the Sultan arrived on a two-day state visit in Moscow on Monday

MOSCOW: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik arrived in Moscow yesterday evening, on a two-day state visit to the Russian Federation.

An official reception was held at Vnukovo International Airport in Moscow, in a manifestation of warm welcome for His Majesty the Sultan.

At the foot of the ramp, His Maj-

esty the Sultan was received by Maxim Reshetnikov, Minister of Economic Development, some officials in the Russian Federation and members of the Omani Embassy in Moscow.

After that, His Majesty the Sultan inspected the Guard of Honour. Then, His Majesty proceeded to the dais of honour where the Royal Anthem of Oman and the National Anthem of the Russian Federation were played.

His Majesty the Sultan will be accorded an official reception protocols on Tuesday at the Kremlin Palace in the Russian capital, Moscow. His Majesty will meet with President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation, as the two leaders will hold official talks.

— ONA

His Majesty visits Tomb of Unknown Soldier in Moscow



MOSCOW: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Monday visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Alexander Garden in the Red Square in Moscow.

Upon His Majesty's arrival, he was received by Lieutenant General Yevgeny Seleznev, Commandant of Moscow and some Russian officials.

During the visit, His Majesty placed a wreath of flowers at the memorial. — ONA

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN

Over 69,000 plots and houses distributed

1 More than 69,000 plots of land and housing units were distributed during the period from 2021 to 2024, Dr. Khalfan Al Shuaili, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning said to the Shura Council in a meeting on Monday. **>A3**

OMAN

Digital revolution in libraries discussed

2 The University of Technology and Applied Sciences (UTAS) in Al Musannah on Monday hosted the second edition of its university library forum in South Al Batinah Governorate. **>A5**

MARKET

CBO to raise OMR100mn through GDBs auction

3 Oman's central bank announced new issue of Government Development Bonds. The size of the issue is OMR100mn, with a maturity period of 5 years and will carry a coupon rate of 4.60% p.a. **>B1**

HOLY SEE

Believers in Oman pay tribute as world mourns Pope Francis

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Roman Catholic community in Oman joined millions around the world on Monday in mourning the death of Pope Francis, remembered as a humble shepherd of peace and a tireless voice for the poor.

The Vatican confirmed that the 266th Pope passed away earlier in the day at the age of 88. Reflecting on the late pontiff's life and legacy, Fr. George Vadukut OFM Cap, Priest-in-Charge of Catholic Churches in Oman and Parish Priest at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Ghala, offered a heartfelt tribute that resonated with the faithful across the Sultanate.

"Today, Heaven welcomes a shepherd of souls, a prophet of peace, a friend of the poor," Fr. George said. "The Church has lost a father, but Heaven has gained a saint."

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires in 1936, Pope Francis entered the Jesuit order in 1958 and was ordained a priest in 1969. He rose through the Church's hierarchy with a pastoral heart rooted in service to the marginalised, eventually becoming Archbishop



HM condoles Holy Roman Church Camerlengo on Pope's death

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church on

the demise of Pope Francis.

In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sympathies to the people of the Vatican and Christians all over the world.

of Buenos Aires and later, a cardinal.

His election to the papacy on 13 March 2013 marked a turning point in the modern Church - he became the first Jesuit pope, the first from the Americas, and the first to take the name Francis, after St. Francis of Assisi.

Fr. George recalled, "He signalled a vision for a Church that is 'poor and for the poor.'"

He chose simplicity over grandeur, mercy over judgment." Pope Francis' pontificate was marked by an enduring commitment to interfaith dialogue, environmental responsibility, and global solidarity.

For Catholics in Oman, one of the most significant milestones during his leadership came when the Holy See formally established diplomatic ties with the Sultanate of Oman - a gesture that deepened mutual respect and recognition between the Vatican and the Muslim-majority country known for its religious harmony.

"That moment meant a great deal to us here in Oman," Fr. George told *Times of Oman* on Monday. **>A4**

CHANGAN

CS35 PLUS

Interactive and Social SUV

1.4L Turbo Engine, 156 hp | 7 Speed DCT

Manufacturer's Warranty - 6 YEARS / 250,000 KMS*



EMI OMR107* for 6 years

800 50800 9662 8909

Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC

*Terms and Conditions Apply

Images shown are for illustrative purpose only. Specification may vary as per the model variant. To know more, please visit the CHANGAN AUTO Showroom.

Showrooms : Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940, Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930, Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920

IN PICTURES



THE DIFFERENCE...

Our History with you

Banking that is proudly human



بنك ظفار
BankDhofar



HIS MAJESTY ARRIVES IN MOSCOW, VISITS TOMB OF UNKNOWN SOLDIER



BILATERAL RELATIONS

His Majesty the Sultan leaves on two-day visit to Russia



MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik left here on Monday heading to the Russian Federation on a two-day state visit, during which he will meet with President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation.

The visit, made in response to an invitation by the Russian President, underlines the advanced relations between Oman and Russia.

His Majesty the Sultan was seen off at the Royal Airport by HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, HH Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs and Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan, HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, Sheikh Abdulmalik bin Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council, Khalid bin Hilal Al Ma'awali, Chairman of the Shura Council, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Mohammed bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, Nasr



bin Hamoud Al Kindi, Secretary General of the Royal Court Affairs, Dr. Madeeha bint Ahmed Al Shibani, Minister of Education, Sheikh Al Fadl bin Mohammed Al Harthy, Secretary General of the Council of Ministers, Lt.Gen Hassan bin Mohsin Al Shuraiqi, Inspector General of Police and Customs, Lt.Gen Said bin Ali Al Hilali, Head of the Internal Security Service, Vice Admiral Abdullah bin Khamis Al



Raisi, Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces, Maj.Gen Mattar bin Salim Al Balushi, Commander of the Royal Army of Oman, Air Vice Marshal Khamis bin Hammad Al Ghafri, Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman, Rear Admiral Saif bin Nassir Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman and Maj.Gen Musallam bin Mohammed Jaaboub, Commander of the Sultan's Special Force.

His Majesty is accompanied during the visit by a high-ranking official delegation comprising HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office, Abdussalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority, Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Jamal bin Hassan Al Mosawi, Secretary General of the National Museum and Hamoud bin Salim Al Tuwaih, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Russian Federation.

May the Almighty Allah protect His Majesty the Sultan in his journeys, grant him good health and wellbeing and guard him as a source of pride for his people!" - ONA

BILATERAL TIES

Oman, China to boost trade relations

BEIJING: The 14th round of strategic consultations was held here on Monday between the Sultanate of Oman and the People's Republic of China.

The Omani side was headed by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, while the Chinese side was headed by Liu Bin, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs.

During the session, the two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation in political, economic and cultural fields.

They also discussed means of boosting strategic relations between the two countries in all



spheres, in addition to exchanging views on regional and international issues.

During the visit, the Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs met with Zhai Jun, Special Envoy of the Chinese Government on the Middle East Issue and Zhang Xiaoqiang, Executive Vice Chairman of China

Center for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE) and Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission. During both meetings, means of boosting economic cooperation and trade exchanges were explored.

The consultations session was attended by Nasser Mohammed Al Busaidi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the People's Republic of China and Sheikh Abdulaziz Mohammed Al Hosni, Head of the Asia and Pacific Department at the Foreign Ministry and several officials from both sides.

- ONA

POPE FRANCIS

FROM A1 Christians in Oman mourn immense loss

"It symbolised the growing friendship between faith communities and reinforced Oman's role as a land of peace and coexistence."

Another historic chapter in Pope Francis' life was his 2019 visit to the Arabian Peninsula, the first ever by a pope. During the trip, he signed the Document on Human Fraternity with the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar in Abu Dhabi - a call for global unity and interreligious understanding. Fr. George, who had the privilege of meeting Pope Francis on multiple occasions, said: "Each encounter with him was a moment of grace. His gentle eyes conveyed the very presence of Christ." As Oman's Catholic community mourns this immense loss, Fr. George said the best way to honour Pope Francis' memory is to live the values he preached. "He taught us to build bridges, not walls. To walk with the wounded. To serve the least among us. His message remains a living Gospel." A special memorial mass is expected to be held in Muscat this week as the faithful gather to offer prayers of thanksgiving for a life that inspired millions.

OPENING CEREMONY



Chemical Engineering Research Lab opened at UTAS in Salalah

SALALAH: A chemical engineering research laboratory was opened at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences (UTAS) in Salalah on Monday under the auspices of HH Sayyid Marwan Turki Al Said, Governor of Dhofar.

The lab embodies the existing partnership between academic and industrial sectors and reflects the national drive to support the system of research and innovation in the Sultanate of Oman.

The lab comprises advanced facilities, including special chambers for organic and inorganic chemistry, a research meeting hall and an applied research station.

The opening ceremony included a visual presentation about the laboratory's components and objectives.

On the sidelines of the ceremony, a programme for cooperation between the UTAS and Dhofar Governorate was signed by HH Sayyid Marwan and Dr. Said Hamad Al Rubaie, Vice-Chancellor of the UTAS.

Cooperation programme

The cooperation programme seeks to support partnerships in scientific, social and developmental fields. It also focuses on enhancing integration among state institutions and grooming national cadres.

The programme also provides for training the governorate's employees, offering consultation, benefiting from UTAS expertise and capabilities, supporting research and using the outcomes to develop projects and programmes in the governorate, among other objectives.

The cooperation programme aims to support practical training programmes for UTAS students in the governorate's institutions, promote innovation and entrepreneurship, develop SMEs (small and medium enterprises) and activate cooperation in the fields of environment and sustainability, digital transition and artificial intelligence (AI). - ONA

THREE-DAY EVENT

Oman International Food Safety and Quality Conference kicks off

MUSCAT: The 7th edition of Oman International Food Safety and Quality Conference began on Monday at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, featuring 500 specialists from 32 countries presenting 26 scientific papers.

The event was inaugurated under the patronage of HH Sayyid Dr. Kamil bin Fahd Al Said, Secretary-General at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Hussein Samah Al Masroori, Director General of the Food Safety and Quality Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, said that the ministry, in collaboration with relevant government entities and private sector institutions, is building an integrated environment to enhance an effective and sustainable food safety system.

"This conference is not merely a scientific event but a strategic platform where visions converge to shape solutions and initiatives that elevate food safety and quality systems in Oman and the region," he added, highlighting the participation of local and international experts.

Prof. Samuel Godefroy, President of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) and CEO of the Global Food Legislation Organisation, stated that the conference serves as a global platform for experts to address key challenges in agri-



cultural and livestock production while exploring technological and scientific solutions to enhance food production.

The conference focuses on five key themes, namely modernising food safety, quality control, and supervision, food fraud and authenticity verification, analytical and regulatory methods for food, risk assessment to support food regulatory decisions, and green food supply chains.

The three-day event, organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources in collaboration with government and private sector stakeholders, was attended by Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, alongside other ministers, undersecretaries, diplomatic representatives, and senior ministry officials.

- ONA

**HONGQI**

EVERY DETAIL, A STATEMENT OF LUXURY.

STAND A CHANCE TO WIN AN
OUSADO
7 CARS TO BE WON



7 years roadside assistance

7 years/105,000 kms service package

7 years unlimited mileage warranty

Amouage special edition gift box for first 50 customers | Complimentary Insurance and Registration | OMR 100 Fuel card

80080777

Azaiba



T&Cs apply

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Forum discusses digital revolution in libraries

AL MUSANNAH: The University of Technology and Applied Sciences (UTAS) in Al Musannah on Monday hosted the second edition of its university library forum under the title “Libraries and Information Institutions in the Era of Digital Revolution: The Transformation of Present and Future.” The event took place in Al Musannah, South Al Batinah Governorate.

The opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Sheikh Ahmed Ali Al Habsi, Wali of Al Musannah. The forum served as a key knowledge platform to enhance the role of libraries in keeping pace with digital transformation and adopting artificial intelligence (AI) tools.

It addressed contemporary issues and facilitated the exchange of expertise among specialists, contributing to shaping a more advanced future for this vital sector.

The event featured several research papers discussing diverse topics, including “Ethics of Using AI in Scientific Research”. Successful experiences in implementing AI in libraries and information institutions were also highlighted, with contributions from the Ministry of Education and Sultan Qaboos University.



Additionally, the forum included a panel discussion with a number of library directors and experts specializing in AI applications in libraries and information institutions.

The forum emphasised the importance of integrating AI applications in libraries and information institutions to enhance service quality and align with rapid digital transformations. — **ONA**

4TH MEETING FOR 2025

South Al Sharqiyah Municipality reviews developmental initiatives

SUR: The Municipal Council of South Al Sharqiyah Governorate on Monday held its 4th meeting for 2025 under the chairmanship of Dr. Yahya Badr Al Maawali, Governor of South Al Sharqiyah and Chairman of the Council.

The meeting reviewed developmental initiatives and service projects in the governorate.

The Council discussed the proposed “Al Sharq Gateway” project, which aims to transform the governorate into a promising regional hub. It also examined a proposal to develop an integrated tourism wa-



terfront along the coastal strip, designed to enhance tourism infrastructure and support recreational and economic activities.

Additionally, the council reviewed a request to reconsider land usufruct allocations in a man-

ner that preserves the marine environment and natural resources while supporting sustainable ecotourism efforts. This initiative seeks to strengthen the governorate's position as a unique tourist destination. — **ONA**

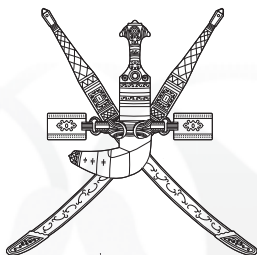
**Ministry of Defence**

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Defence invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in the following Tender:

Subject	Tender Number	Last date for inquiries	Last date to submit the Tender	Tender documnet price
Supply of Dietitian items (Nutrition & Dietetics dept) for Afh-Alkhoudh, Afh Salalahm Mam hospital-blanket purchase agreement for the period of 2-year	12/2025	19/05/2025	26/05/2025	135 OMR

- Tenders documents and terms may be obtained on payment from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, gate No. 14 of MAM Camp between 0900 to 1300 hrs. on the working days.
- Payment of Tender documents to be made by using of any Visa Electron Cards or "Visa credit" Cards or through Smart Card issued from all the banks are operated in Oman.



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender committee of Ministry of Social Development hereby announces the following tender :-

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-retundable)	
					small and Medium companies	local companies
150/2025	Providing and installing a meeting system in the meeting room of the Office of His Excellency the Undersecretary	Companies specialized in information technology services and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first, second, third or fourth grade	Thursday 01-05-2025 02:00 PM	Sunday 11-05-2025 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O
153/2025	Cleaning the National Autism Center building in Al Khoud	Companies specialized in cleaning, laundry, and pest control services, registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first, second, third, or fourth grade.	Sunday 11-05-2025 02:00 PM	Sunday 01-06-2025 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O
154/2025	Hosting the Ministry's AI chat system	Companies specialized in information technology services and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first, second, third or fourth grade.	Thursday 01-05-2025 02:00 PM	Sunday 11-05-2025 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O
155/2025	Hosting the Ministry's domain and email servers and official systems	Companies specialized in information technology services and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first, second, third or fourth grade.	Thursday 01-05-2025 02:00 PM	Sunday 11-05-2025 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O
156/2025	Consulting services (design and supervision) for the establish ment of an Autism Spectrum Disorder Center for Care and Rehabilitation - Al-Khoud	Companies specialized in consulting offices and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board with an excellent or first class.	Tuesday 06-05-2025 02:00 PM	Wednesday 21-05-2025 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O

- ❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the **Tender Board** may obtain the Tender documents at theTender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), on Tuesday 22/04/2025
- ❖ For Inquiry, please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) Tel. (24402200)

“ The lowest or any other tender shall not be binding to the Ministry ”



Ministry of Health

ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Tender Ref.	Description	Last date for Collection of tender Document	Bid Submission Closing Date on/ Before 10:00 am Wednesday	Eligibility	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)
1180/2025/ MOH/HQ-104	Replacement of Water Lines At Royal Hospital	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in Seconed & Third Grade	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1190/2025/ MOH/HQ-107	Replacement of Fully Automated Sterilization Device at Ibri Hospital in Al Dhahirah Governorate	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1193/2025/ MOH/HQ-108	Supply & Installation of Computed Tomography System at Mahoot Hospital in Al Wusta Governorate	24/4/2025	21/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1194/2025/ MOH/HQ-109	Provision of Software Solutions for Digitization Project for the Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL)	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in Excelent, First & Second	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1203/2025/ MOH/HQ-110	Provision of for Digitization Project for the Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL)	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in Excelent, First & Second	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1208/2025/ MOH/HQ-112	Supply of Paper Medicine Envelopes at Ministry of Health	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 10 • LO: 25
1253/2025/ MOH/HQ-113	Supply & Installation of Medical Equipments for the Suwaiq Hospital at North Al Batinah Governorate (Phase 1)	01/5/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 28 • LO: 140
1254/2025/ MOH/HQ-114	Supply & Installation of Medical Equipments for Sultan Qaboos Hospital at Dhofar Governorate (Phase 4)	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 19.300 • LO: 96.300
1280/2025/ MOH/HQ-116	Supply & Installation of Medical Equipment for Samail Hospital at Al Dhakhilya Governorate	30/4/2025	21/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 21 • LO: 105
1290/2025/ MOH/HQ-117	Supply and Installation of Medical Equipment for the National Heart Center at the Royal Hospital	24/4/2025	07/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	• SME: 21.600 • LO: 107.800
1299/2025/ MOH/HQ-118	Construction of Epilepsy Monitoring Unit in Directorate General of Khoula Hospital	24/4/2025	14/5/2025	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in Seconed & Third Grade	• SME: 10 • LO: 25

- Tenders should be submitted on line on <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>.
- Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender.
- For any Clarification, you may contact via Telephone: 24402200 , Email id etenderhd@ita.gov.om



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

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

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

ON 21 APRIL EVERY YEAR

Oman celebrates World Creativity and Innovation Day

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman on Monday joined the international community in celebrating World Creativity and Innovation Day, which falls on 21 April every year.

Oman's participation in the event reflects its keenness to promote the culture of innovation across various state institutions, in line with the goals of Oman Vision 2040. A celebration to this effect was organised by the Ministry of Labour in Muscat Governorate under the auspices of Sayyid Salim Musallam Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour for Human Resources Development.

Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit announced the launch of two national initiatives: "National Competencies in Corporate Innovation" and "Certified Innovation Professional."

The initiatives seek to upgrade the capabilities of Omani cadres operating in the field of innovation, in addition to developing institutional capabilities to keep pace with future updates and enhance government competitiveness. The ceremony included a visual presentation titled "Institutional Innovation and the Management of Change". The presentation featured the latest



trends and practices to support innovation in government work environments.

The ceremony also included a dialogue session titled "Institutional Innovation: The Path to Sustainable Government Excellence". The session, which saw the participation of stakeholders and specialists, discussed ways to enhance institutional innovation and explored prospects for developing government performance.

The event is an opportunity to focus on the importance of investing in human capital and building an integrated national system that contributes to transforming ideas into sustainable solutions that serve the country's development goals.

The celebration was attended by government officials, specialists and parties interested in innovation and institutional development. — OMA

كاسابيللا
casabella

اجعل حياتك أكثر صحة مع **سير بايو**
Make your life more healthy with **SIR Bio**

Available in Oman



FROM PRESIDENT OF GREECE

HM receives thanks cable

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has received a cable of thanks from President Konstantinos Tasoulas of the Republic of Greece.

In the cable, the President expressed his appreciation for His Majesty the Sultan's heartfelt

sentiments to him on the occasion of being elected as his country's new President.

He also underscored the importance of bolstering bilateral relations and cooperation in various fields to serve the interests of the two countries' peoples. — OMA



AWARENESS

Pakistan School System hosts Autism Awareness Symposium

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Pakistan School System proudly hosted its inaugural Autism Awareness Symposium under the esteemed patronage of Her Highness Sayyida Hujaija Al Said, marking a significant milestone for the school's Centre for Special Education (CSE).

This pioneering initiative reflects the management's unwavering commitment to promoting inclusivity and awareness for children with special needs.

The event was graced by a number of distinguished dignitaries. Her Highness Sayyida Hujaija Al Said honoured the occasion as the Chief Guest, offering her continued support for initiatives that foster inclusion and awareness. Also present were Ahmed bin Muhammad bin Hamed Al Jabey, Chairman of the Down Syndrome Association, as Guest of Honour; His Excellency Syed Naveed Safdar Bokhari, Ambassador of Pakistan to Oman, along with his spouse; the Spouse of the Chinese Ambassador; the Ambassador of Iran; and esteemed representatives from renowned institutions such as MCBS and Qurum International School.

Exhibition by students

A major highlight of the symposium was the exhibition presented by the students of the CSE, who showcased their talents and



creative projects.

Their work was met with admiration and appreciation from all guests. The programme also featured joint performances by both CSE and mainstream students, reflecting the school's strong emphasis on inclusivity, collaboration, and equal opportunity.

A meaningful panel discussion led by experienced Indian educators offered practical insights into

inclusive teaching strategies, and a special presentation highlighted the tireless dedication of the CSE faculty. To conclude the event, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Ameer Hamza, honoured the pioneers behind the development of the CSE department, along with the esteemed guests, acknowledging their valuable contributions to this transformative journey in education.

SME COMMITTEE

Development of domestic workers recruitment system discussed

MUSCAT: The Domestic Worker Recruitment Offices Regulation Team of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Committee at Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) discussed the development of the domestic worker recruitment system in the Sultanate of Oman during its meeting on Monday. The meeting was chaired by Sheikh Ahmed Amer Al Muselhi, Chairman of the Committee, at the Chamber's headquarters.

This meeting comes as part of the Chamber's efforts to improve the work environment in the SME sector and develop related services in line with Oman's digital transformation objectives. — OMA





Royal Oman Police

ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION TO SELL ROP HORSES

The Royal Oman Police - Directorate of Public Relations and Security Information – announces a public online auction through the ROP Auctions Platform to sell horses via the website (www.rop.mzadcom.om), starting from **Wednesday, 30 April 2025, for one day.**

The horses displayed for sale may be inspected during the period **from 27 to 29 April 2025 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm** at the Mounted Police Command in Al-Wattiyah.

Bidders must abide by the following terms and conditions:

- To register on the website www.rop.mzadcom.om
- To pay an insurance amount of RO 200/- (two hundred Omani Riyals) via the website, which is non-refundable in case of failure to pay the value of the purchased horses or carry out the procedures for their registration and transfer within the specified period.
- To pay the auctioneer fees at 2% of the value of the horses plus 5% VAT.
- To pay the value of the horses by electronic transfer within 48 working hours.
- To register and transfer the horses within 3 days after paying their value to avoid a fine of RO 5/- (five Omani Riyals) for each day of delay after the end of the specified period, without the Royal Oman Police bearing any responsibility in the event of their loss or damage.
- The Royal Oman Police and the Auction Website shall not bear any responsibility if the image or description of any horse displayed does not match the reality. Bidders must ensure the safety and health of the horses by visual inspection during the specified period.
- For more details, please visit the website (www.rop.mzadcom.om) or call **98886154.**



CASTVIBES

Listen to the secrets of great managers' success.

From management to entertainment, all the podcasts you love are right here!



www.castvibes.com

Download the CastVibes app now from Google Play or visit castvibes.com.



Born in Oman, Heard Everywhere

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by June 2025 reaching \$68.55, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by \$1.42 from the price of Friday, which was \$68.14. - **ONA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,293.00 points, down by 0.31% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.84% at 396.12 points. National Aluminium, up 12.50%, was the top gainer while, Liva Group, down 3.70%, was the top loser.



Own your dream car with Sayyarati Auto Loan

from Bank Muscat



Bank Muscat. Better Everyday.
Terms and conditions apply.

CBO to raise OMR100mn through Government Development Bonds



The issue will be open for subscription from 22 April to 28 April, while the auction will be held on Tuesday, 29 April

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) announced the new issue of Government Development Bonds (GDBs). The size of the new issue is at OMR100 million, with a maturity period of 5 years and will carry a coupon rate of 4.60% p.a. The issue will be open for subscription from 22 April to 28 April, 2025 while the auction will be held on Tuesday, 29 April 2025. The issue date will be on Thursday 1 May, 2025. Interest on the new bonds will be paid

semiannually on 1 May and 1 November, every year until maturity date on 1 May 2030. Noteworthy, the 74th Government Development Bonds issue is offered to all investors, residents and non-residents (irrespective of their nationality). Investors may apply for these Bonds through the competitive bidding process only and may submit bids through commercial licensed banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman during the subscription period. - **ONA**

CBO issues treasury bills worth OMR45mn

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) raised OMR45 million by a way of allotting treasury bills on Monday. The value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR8 million, for a maturity period of 28 days. The average accepted price reached OMR99.706 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR99.695 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 3.83739% and 3.84872%, respectively.

Whereas, the value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR4 million, for a maturity period of 91 days. The average accepted price reached OMR98.973 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR98.970 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.12129% and 4.16408%, respectively.

While, the value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR33 million, for a maturity period of 182 days. The average accepted price



reached OMR97.857 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR97.850 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.29814% and 4.39227%, respectively.

Treasury Bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportunity to invest their surplus funds.

The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) acts as the Issue Manager and provides the added advantage of ready liquidity

through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo). It may be noted that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 5.00 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 5.50 per cent.

Furthermore, Treasury Bills promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates.

Additionally, the Government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. - **ONA**

WORLD CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION DAY

Madayn organises event to reflect its commitment to excellence, innovation



Times News Service

MUSCAT: In celebration of World Creativity and Innovation Day, recognised by the United Nations to promote a global culture of innovation and creativity, the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates "Madayn" organised the event 'Your Creativity Makes a Difference' to reflect its commitment to excellence and institutional innovation.

The event featured two key presentations: "Role of Industrial Innovation Academy in Advancing the Industrial Sector" by Eng. Yahya Al Kharoosi, Director of Local Content and Investment Opportunities Development at Industrial Innovation Academy, and "Promoting a Culture of Institutional Innovation in Government Bodies" by Amal Al Wahaibi from Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit.

A panel discussion titled "Innovation at Madayn - Opportunities and Challenges" brought together

Madayn's senior leaders to explore topics aligned with Oman Vision 2040, focusing on advancing institutional innovation and turning challenges into growth opportunities.

Moderated by Dua Al Amairi from Madayn's Excellence and Institutional Transformation Department, the panel featured Salah Al Alawi, Director General of Ibri Industrial City, Eng. Ali Al Mashani, Director General of Al Wadi Al Kabir Industrial City, Zuhair Al Zadjali, Director General of Administration Affairs and Human Resources at Madayn, and Ahmed Al Hinai, Director of Oman Vision 2040 Follow-Up Office at Madayn.

The panelists spotlighted several topics related to institutional innovation aligned with the goals of Oman Vision 2040, including the current landscape of industrial innovation in the Sultanate in comparison with global benchmarks, while outlining the forward-looking vision for innovation across the industrial sector.

PIVOTAL ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Opaz hosts national workshop promoting innovation-driven economic growth

Times News Service

MUSCAT: In recognition of World Creativity and Innovation Day, observed annually on April 21, the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz), in collaboration with the Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit and the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation, organised a national workshop dedicated to fostering innovation-driven economic growth.

Held under the patronage of Sheikh Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of Opaz, the event brought together senior officials, industry leaders, and professionals, reflecting Opaz's steadfast commitment to harnessing innovation and creativity as fundamental pillars in shaping a sustainable and resilient future for Oman.



The workshop focused on the pivotal role of scientific research and innovation in realizing the objectives outlined in Oman Vision 2040. Discussions explored the transformative impact of technological advancements on special economic and free zones, with an emphasis on integrating cutting-edge innovations to enhance competitiveness and sustain

ability in industrial sectors.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Jameela bint Ali Al-Hinai, Oman's official representative to UNESCO and ISESCO, underscored the significance of leveraging innovation to strengthen special economic zones. She highlighted the critical role of technology-driven solutions in ensuring

long-term viability and positioning Oman as a leader in industrial development. Dr. Al Hinai also explored the potential synergies between industrial zones and scientific parks, emphasizing how innovation-led investments can elevate Oman's standing in the Global Innovation Index and yield sustained economic benefits.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Top officials visit Al Buraimi and Sohar Industrial Cities

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Aligned with the goal of maximising local economic impact and achieving shared objectives, Eng. Badr bin Salim Al Maamari, Secretary General of the Tender Board, and Halima bint Rashid Al Zaria, Chairperson of the SMEs Development Authority, alongside Eng. Dawood bin Salim Al Hadabi, CEO of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates "Madayn" visited Al Buraimi and Sohar Industrial Cities.

During their visit, the delegation was briefed on key investors and projects in both cities, inspiring success stories of Omani entrepreneurs, and the range of comprehensive support and incentives offered by Madayn to help businesses expand and thrive. These field visits reinforce the collaborative efforts between government bodies to support industrial growth, empower SMEs and entrepreneurs, as well as to explore the facilities and opportunities available across Madayn's industrial cities.



MARKET

MSX index ends lower

National Aluminium, up 12.50%, was the top gainer while, Liva Group, down 3.70%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,293.00 points, down by 0.31% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.84% at 396.12 points. National Aluminium, up 12.50%, was the top gainer while, Liva Group, down 3.70%, was the top loser. Shares of OQGN were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while OQEP were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1031 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 2.72 million, with more than 16.19 million shares changing hands. Out of 61 traded securities, 21 advanced, 27 declined, and 13 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 80K while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for RO 69K, followed by foreign investors for RO 11K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,532.40 points, down 0.61%. Prices of Takaful Oman, Al Madina Investments, Al Sharqia Investment, Taageer Finance, Sohar International Bank were up by

4.35%, 2.08%, 1.43%, 0.97%, 0.76% respectively. Prices of Liva Group, Oman & Emirates Investment, Al Anwar Investment, Global Financial Investments, Ominvest were down by 3.70%, 3.08%, 2.53%, 2.44%, 2.16% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,768.06 points, up 0.97%. Prices of National Aluminium, Oman Flour Mills, Voltamp Energy, Al Maha Ceramics, Al Anwar Ceramics were up by 12.50%, 5.75%, 4.02%, 3.09%, 1.61% respectively. Prices of Galfar Engineering, Jazeera Steel Products, A'Saffa Foods, Oman Cables Industry, Gulf Mushroom Products were down by 1.43%, 1.33%, 0.49%, 0.46%, 0.46% respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.36% before closing at 1,545.86 points. Prices of SMN Power Holding, Al Jazeera Services, Muscat Desalination were up by 5.91%, 3.36%, 3.08% respectively. Prices of Dhofar Generating, Renaissance Services, Phoenix Power, National Gas, Ooredoo were down by 3.64%, 1.68%, 1.67%, 1.37%, 1.16% respectively.

— United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES						
Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,307.94	4,289.60	4,293.00	4,306.40	-13.40	-0.31
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,526.31	7,532.40	7,532.40	7,578.61	-46.21	-0.61
Industry Index	5,785.06	5,687.84	5,768.06	5,712.44	55.62	0.97
Services Index	1,556.05	1,545.17	1,545.86	1,551.51	-5.65	-0.36
MSX Shariah Index	396.59	391.96	396.12	392.84	3.28	0.84
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,367.77	8,340.66	8,345.70	8,365.50	-19.80	-0.31
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	7,081.97	6,919.62	6,926.83	6,981.60	-54.77	-0.61
SERVICES TR IDX	1,978.57	1,964.73	1,965.61	1,972.80	-7.19	-0.36
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary						
Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal
16,194,561	2,716,165	1,031	27,137,369,611	21	27	13
Sec. Traded						
61						

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, APRIL 21

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST MD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	743,189	93,556	90	0.124	0.128	0.124	0.126	0.124	0.002	1.613	0.126	0.126	0.127	0.100
OM0000003440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO	20,000	1,430	1	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.071	0.001	0.781	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.100
OM0000003586	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	2,138,531	280,135	42	0.149	0.152	0.149	0.152	0.152	0.003	0.783	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.100
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	6,598	2,585	8	0.385	0.385	0.381	0.382	0.390	0.002	0.513	0.392	0.392	0.394	0.100
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	30,092	1,147	5	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.000	0.000	0.290	0.290	0.294	0.100
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	16,363,559	4,107,229	42	0.251	0.252	0.251	0.251	0.251	0.000	0.000	0.251	0.251	0.251	0.100
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	13,031	1,003	8	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.100
OM0000004925	AL QATNAH POWER	275,829	19,176	12	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100
OM0000004833	AL SUWADI POWER	439,824	30,768	22	0.069	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.068	0.070	0.100
OM0000003072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	2,401,401	307,291	70	0.128	0.129	0.127	0.128	0.128	0.000	0.128	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.100
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	252,706	206,042	40	0.819	0.820	0.819	0.819	0.819	-0.003	-0.365	0.818	0.803	0.803	0.100
OM0000008354	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	535,943	121,602	43	0.229	0.229	0.226	0.227	0.228	0.001	-0.439	0.227	0.226	0.226	0.100
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	20,300	8,151	9	0.400	0.404	0.400	0.403	0.405	-0.002	-0.484	0.403	0.403	0.403	0.100
OM0000001152	OMAN NATL ENG & INVESTMENT	33,030	3,823	5	0.115	0.116	0.115	0.116	0.117	0.001	-0.855	0.116	0.114	0.116	0.100
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	4,975	1,055	1	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.214	-0.002	-0.835	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.100
OM0000004735	SEMBOOR SALAH	14,260	1,328	2	0.094	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.094	-0.001	-1.064	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.100
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	51,945	8,838	18	0.171	0.171	0.170	0.170	0.172	-0.002	-1.163	0.170	0.166	0.170	0.100
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	12,444	4,831	4	0.374	0.376	0.370	0.370	0.375	-0.005	-1.333	0.370	0.371	0.375	0.100
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	92,447	27,303	22	0.297	0.297	0.290	0.292	0.297	-0.005	-1.684	0.292	0.292	0.296	0.100
OM0000001353	OMINVEST	353,361	80,898	19	0.232	0.232	0.227	0.227	0.232	-0.005	-2.155	0.227	0.227	0.228	0.100
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	4,899	400	1	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.082	-0.002	-2.439	0.080	0.080	0.081	0.100
OM0000001881	OMAN EMIRATES HO	45,707	2,880	3	0.063	0.063	0.063	0.063	0.065	-0.002	-3.077	0.063	0.065	0.066	0.100
Total	22	9,153,971	1,624,679	465											

Parallel Market															
OM0000009569	JABAL REIF	100	10	1	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.091	0.009	9.890	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
OM0000004249	SMN POWER HOLDING	55,048	12,414	32	0.220	0.228	0.220	0.223	0.220	0.013	5.909	0.233	0.227	0.233	0.100
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	107,238	44,712	32	0.404	0.423	0.404	0.423	0.400	-0.023	-5.750	0.420	0.420	0.430	0.100
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	12,500	593	3	0.047	0.048	0.047	0.048	0.046	0.002	4.348	0.048	0.045	0.048	0.100
OM0000003861	VOLTAMP ENERGY	3,083	2,087	7	0.610	0.699	0.610	0.699	0.672	0.027	4.018	0.699	0.655	0.699	0.100
OM0000002226	AL JAZEERA SERVICES	77,827	11,539	12	0.149	0.154	0.146	0.154	0.149	0.005	3.356	0.154	0.150	0.154	0.100
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	25,000	4,078	4	0.163	0.167	0.163	0.167	0.162	0.005	3.086	0.167	0.163	0.165	0.100
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	19,500	1,288	3	0.066	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.065	0.002	3.077	0.067	0.065	0.067	0.100
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	84,500	4,054	13	0.047	0.049	0.047	0.049	0.048	0.001	2.083	0.049	0.044	0.050	0.100
OM0000003036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	5,374	774	1	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.142	0.002	1.408	0.144	0.144	0.000	0.100
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	20,000	2,080	1	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.103	0.001	0.971	0.104	0.000	0.113	0.100
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	20,000	2,360	1	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.117	0.001	0.855	0.118	0.112	0.118	0.100
OM0000001608	OMAN PACKAGING	2,818	427	2	0.152	0.152	0.151	0.151	0.150	0.001	0.667	0.151	0.151	0.151	0.100
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTL DEV & INVESTMENT HO	21	5	1	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.100
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	8,565	740	3	0.077	0.078	0.077	0.078	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.100
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	173,018	480,831	110	0.278	0.279	0.277	0.278	0.278	0.000	0.000	0.278	0.278	0.278	0.100
OM0000009908	QUB BASE INDUSTRIES (SFP)	147,892	148,571	67	0.100	0.101	0.100	0.101	0.101	0.000	0.000	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.100
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	18,449	4,048	9	0.219	0.220	0.219	0.220	0.220	-0.001	-0.455	0.219	0.212	0.219	0.100
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	159	347	1	2.180	2.180	2.180	2.180	2.180	-0.010	-0.457	2.180	2.100	2.180	0.100
OM0000004669	SHARQIA DESALINATION	175	23	1	0.133	0.133	0.133	0.133	0.134	-0.001	-0.746	0.133	0.121	0.133	0.100
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	50,000	5,900	3	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.119	-0.001	-0.840	0.118	0.117	0.123	0.100
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	12,180	1,194	2	0.099	0.099	0.098	0.098	0.099	-0.001	-1.010	0.098	0.098	0.099	0.100
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	12,500	8,670	4	0.700	0.700	0.692	0.692	0.700	-0.008	-1.143	0.692	0.692	0.692	0.100
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	16,700	1,420	1	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.086	-0.001	-1.163	0.085	0.085	0.087	0.100
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	55,000	3,965	4	0.073	0.073	0.072	0.072	0.073	-0.001	-1.370	0.072	0.072	0.073	0.100
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	83,967	5,874	16	0.070	0.071	0.069	0.069	0.070	-0.001	-1.429	0.069	0.067	0.070	0.100
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	57,300	3,434	6	0.060	0.060	0.059	0.059	0.060	-0.001	-1.667	0.059	0.058	0.060	0.100
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	104,663	16,223	3	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.158	-0.003	-1.899	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.100
OM0000001772	OMAN INVESTMENT	732,978	56,791	31	0.078	0.078	0.077	0.077	0.079	-0.002	-2.532	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.100
OM0000001020	ASTAD SHIPPING	1,747,967	197,125	138	0.115	0.115	0.112	0.116	0.112	0.012	3.448	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.100
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	269,261	14,352	19	0.054	0.054	0.053	0.053	0.055	-0.002	-3.636	0.053	0.052	0.053	0.100
OM0000007043	LIVA GROUP	18,000	4,730	8	0.260	0.270	0.260	0.260	0.270	-0.010	-3.704	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.100
Total	32	6,827,381	1,040,453	539											

FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

FSA warns Ubar Hotels for violating disclosure provisions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Financial Services Authority has issued administrative decision warning Ubar Hotels and Resorts for failing to immediately disclose material news related to the resolution of the board of directors to increase the company's capital in rights issue.

Article 291 of the Executive Regulation of the Capital Market Law issued by Decision No. 1/2009 provides that "Issuer shall disclose all its material information and those pertaining to its subsidiaries immediately through the electronic transmission system. The issuer shall disclose such material information or events amply

World leaders mourn Pope Francis, remember him for compassion

From Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and French President Emmanuel Macron to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, they mourned the death of Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY: World leaders have expressed deep sorrow and paid heartfelt tributes following the passing of Pope Francis, remembering him as a compassionate spiritual leader.

From Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and French President Emmanuel Macron to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, they



mourned the death of Pope Francis.

Meloni expressed deep sorrow over the passing of Pope Francis, calling him a “great man and a great pastor.”

Italian PM Giorgia Meloni wrote, “Pope Francis has returned to the house of the Father. This news saddens us deeply, because a great man and a great pastor has left us. I had the privilege of enjoying his friendship, his advice and his teachings, which never failed even in moments of trial and suffering. In the meditations of the Via Crucis, he reminded us of the power of the gift, which makes everything flourish again and is capable of reconciling what in the eyes

of man is irreconcilable. And he asked the world, once again, for the courage to change direction, to follow a path that “does not destroy, but cultivates, repairs, protects. We will walk in this direction, to seek the path of peace, pursue the common good and build a more just and equitable society. His teaching and his legacy will not be lost. We greet the Holy Father with hearts full of sadness, but we know that he is now in the peace of the Lord.”

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen paid tribute to Pope Francis, remembering him as a figure of humility. She highlighted his love for the less fortunate and expressed hope that

his legacy would continue to inspire a more just and compassionate world.

“Today, the world mourns the passing of Pope Francis. He inspired millions, far beyond the Catholic Church, with his humility and love so pure for the less fortunate. My thoughts are with all who feel this profound loss. May they find solace in the idea that Pope Francis’ legacy will continue to guide us all toward a more just, peaceful and compassionate world,” von der Leyen wrote on X.

Vice President of the EU Commission Kaja Kallas wrote, “It is with great sadness that I learned that His Holiness Pope Francis passed away. When we met re-

cently in Rome, I thanked Pope Francis for his strong leadership in protecting the most vulnerable & defending human dignity. I extend my condolences to all Catholics in the world.”

French President Emmanuel Macron said, “From Buenos Aires to Rome, Pope Francis wanted the Church to bring joy and hope to the poorest. May it unite people with each other and with nature. May this hope continually revive beyond him. My wife and I send our thoughts to all Catholics and to the grieving world.”

Warm-hearted person

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said, “With Pope Francis, the Catholic Church and the world have lost an advocate for the weak, a reconciler, and a warm-hearted person. I greatly appreciated his clear vision of the challenges that concern us. My condolences go out to the faithful worldwide.”

Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament, also shared a post on X and wrote, “Europe mourns the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis. His contagious smile captured millions of people’s hearts across the globe. ‘The People’s Pope’ will be remembered for his love for life, hope for peace, compassion for equality & social justice. May he rest in peace.”

Poland PM Donald Tusk on X wrote, “Pope Francis is dead. A

good, warm and sensitive man. May he rest in peace.”

The Pope passed away on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025, at the age of 88 at his residence in the Vatican’s Casa Santa Marta, according to a statement from the Vatican.

At 9:45 AM on Easter Monday, Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Camerlengo of the Apostolic Chamber, spoke these words at the Casa Santa Marta.

“Dearest brothers and sisters, with deep sorrow, I must announce the death of our Holy Father Francis. At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the house of the Father. His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and of His Church. He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with fidelity, courage, and universal love, especially in favour of the poorest and most marginalised. With immense gratitude for his example as a true disciple of the Lord Jesus, we commend the soul of Pope Francis to the infinite merciful love of the One and Triune God.”

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as Jorge Mario Bergoglio, he was ordained a Catholic priest in 1969. Following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI on February 28, 2013, a papal conclave elected Cardinal Bergoglio as his successor on March 13.

He chose Francis as his papal name in honour of Saint Francis of Assisi. **-ANI**

CLASSIFIED NATIONAL DEFENCE INFORMATION

Hegseth shared Yemen war plans in second Signal chat: US media

NEW YORK: US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth shared sensitive information about a March attack on Yemen’s Houthis in a group chat on the messaging app Signal that included his wife, brother and personal lawyer, sources privy to the matter told US media.

The New York Times newspaper and broadcaster CNN reported on Sunday that Hegseth posted information about the attack to a second Signal group.

The group on Signal, a commercially available app not authorised for use in communicating sensitive or classified national defence information, included 13 people, the Associated Press reported.

Last month, it was revealed that in a separate Signal chat, Hegseth shared operational information regarding an attack on Houthis in Yemen in a group that had mistakenly included The Atlantic magazine’s editor-in-chief. That chat was created by national security adviser Mike Waltz.

The incident prompted investigations into US President Donald Trump’s top security officials, causing much embarrassment for his administration.



nell accused The New York Times of being “Trump-hating media.”

“There was no classified information in any Signal chat, no matter how many ways they try to write the story,” he said, without providing further specifics.

“The Trump-hating media continues to be obsessed with destroying anyone committed to President Trump’s agenda. ...We’ve already achieved so much for the American warfighter, and will never back down,” Parnell said in a statement on X.

What do we know about the second leak?

In the second leak, which includes

his brother and wife, Hegseth has shared details of the same March attack in Yemen, according to The New York Times.

The information shared “included the flight schedules for the F/A-18 Hornets targeting the Houthis in Yemen,” the newspaper reported.

According to the paper, unlike when Goldberg was inadvertently added, this time the group chat was created by Hegseth, and he added the group members.

The group was set up during Hegseth’s confirmation hearing as a way for his allies to strategize, US broadcaster CNN reported.

“It included his wife and about

a dozen other people from his personal and professional inner circle in January, before his confirmation as defense secretary,” the Times reported, citing unnamed sources.

The second leak raises more questions given the affiliations of Hegseth’s wife and brother.

Hegseth’s wife is a former Fox News producer and has been seen attending sensitive meetings.

His brother is a Department of Homeland Security liaison to the Pentagon.

It is unclear why either would need information regarding the attack in Yemen.

Lives at risk

Leading Senate opposition Democrat Chuck Schumer posted to X that Hegseth had put lives at risk.

“The details keep coming out. We keep learning how Pete Hegseth put lives at risk,” Schumer posted. “But Trump is still too weak to fire him. Pete Hegseth must be fired.”

Schumer wasn’t the only Democrat critical of Hegseth.

“Every day he stays in his job is another day our troops’ lives are endangered by his singular stupidity,” said combat veteran and Senator Tammy Duckworth. **-DW**

OFFICIAL VISIT



US Vice President JD Vance on first official visit to India

NEW DELHI: Vice President of the United States, JD Vance, received a ceremonial Guard of Honour as he arrived at Palam airport for his first official visit to India.

JD Vance, Second Lady Usha Vance, along with their children, were welcomed at Palam airport. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw received the Vice President.

Hoardings of Vice President Vance were also put up near Palam airport, ahead of his arrival today.

Vice President Vance’s four-day official visit to India will take place from April 21 to 24.

Vice President Vance is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi today. A formal meeting between Vice President Vance and Prime Minister Modi is scheduled for 6:30 pm at the Prime Minister’s official residence, 7, Lok Kalyan Marg.

Their discussions can be focused on strengthening economic, trade, and defence cooperation between the two nations.

Following official meetings, the Vance family is set to visit Jaipur and Agra. Vice President Vance will travel to Jaipur on Tuesday. On April 23, he is scheduled to visit Agra. **-ANI**

ON APRIL 28

India, France to sign largest ever fighter jets deal

NEW DELHI: India and France are expected to sign their largest-ever defence deal for the sale of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft for the Indian Navy on April 28 in the presence of French Defence Minister Sebastien Lecornu.

Defence sources told ANI that senior officials will represent the two sides at the signing of the over Rs 63,000 crore contract.

The sources said that the event is also planned to be held outside the Defence Ministry headquarters in South Block.

The French Minister is expected to reach India on Sunday evening and return on Monday late evening, the sources said.

India had cleared its largest-ever defence deal for 26 Rafale-Marine combat aircraft with France earlier this month on April 9 at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security led by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi under a government-to-government deal.

This government-to-government contract will include 22 single-seater and four twin-seater jets, along with a comprehensive package for fleet maintenance, logistical support, personnel training, and indigenous component manufacturing.

These fighters will be operational from INS Vikrant and will support the existing Mig-29 K fleet.

The Indian Air Force already has a fleet of 36 aircraft acquired under a separate deal inked in 2016.

The IAF Rafale jets operate from their two bases in Ambala and Hashinara.

The deal for 26 Rafale-Ms will increase the number of Rafale jets to 62 and increase the number of 4.5-plus-generation aircraft in the Indian arsenal. **-ANI**

INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM

Israel cites ‘professional failures’ in Gaza paramedics’ deaths

GAZA: Israel on Sunday said “professional failures” were made after the Israeli military killed 15 Palestinian paramedics in the Gaza Strip last month.

The paramedics were killed early on March 23, when the Israeli military opened fire on ambulances near the southern Gaza city of Rafah.

With the incident sparking international criticism, Israel had ordered an internal investigation into the deaths.

The probe found no evidence to “support claims of execution,” according to the Israeli military.

What did Israel find in its probe of the killing?

“The examination identified several professional failures, breaches of orders and a failure to fully report the incident,” the Israel Defense Forces said.

The Israeli military said an “operational misunderstanding by



the troops” occurred during the killings and added that there was also a “breach of orders during a combat setting.”

“Poor night visibility” also played a role in the shooting, according to the report.

Israel said a commanding officer would be remanded and a deputy commander dismissed because of the incident. The report did not say whether anyone would face criminal charges.

The Israeli investigation said

six of the victims in the killing were members of Hamas, but did not provide evidence to back up this claim. Hamas, which runs the Gaza Strip, is designated as a terrorist organization by Israel, the US and several other countries.

Paramedic killings spark controversy

The bodies of the of the Palestinian paramedics had been found in a shallow grave by the UN and the Palestinian Red Crescent.

Eight Red Crescent workers, six Palestinian Gaza civilian defense rescue agency employees and a UN staffer were among the people killed. The killings sparked anger and condemnation from the UN and human rights organizations such as Amnesty International.

The Red Crescent had said the paramedics were “targeted at close range” in the killing. Israel said there was no evidence to “support claims of execution or that any of the deceased were bound before or after the shooting.”

Israel had earlier claimed that the ambulances transporting the paramedics were driving at night unmarked without their lights on.

Later, the Red Crescent retrieved a mobile phone that belonged to one of the paramedics who had died. Mobile phone footage clearly showed the ambulances with blue lights flashing at the time of the shooting. **-DW**

SPORTS

Thrilling podium finish for Al Harthy, Rossi and Van der Linde in Imola



Team WRT trio misses LMGT3 victory by just 0.3 seconds in nail-biting six-hour race during the FIA WEC showdown

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's Ahmad Al Harthy secured a dramatic and hard-earned first FIA World Endurance Championship podium of 2025 on Sunday in Imola, Italy, as he and Valentino Rossi and Kelvin van der Linde powered their No.46 Team WRT BMW M4 LMGT3 to second place in a fiercely competitive 6 Hours of Imola. Starting from LMGT3 pole position following a superb qualifying run, the Team WRT trio narrowly

missed out on the class win by just 0.3 seconds, following an intense final-hour charge by van der Linde. Al Harthy, backed by OQ Group, Sohar International, Omantel, Oman LNG, BMW Oman, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, and Experience Oman, handled the opening double-stint with poise and pace, maintaining the lead through the early stages while battling the No.21 Vista AF Corse Ferrari 296. "The gap at the front was always shifting, but I was happy with how

we managed the early part of the race," said Al Harthy, whose opening stint saw him twice regain the lead through well-timed pit stops and consistent pace. By the time the Omani driver handed over to Rossi late in hour two, the WRT crew had firmly established themselves as contenders for the top step of the podium. Stop-go penalty Rossi pushed hard during his stint, overtaking the sister WRT BMW to move up into second and briefly leading after the Lexus pitted. However, a tangle with the Ferrari at Rivazza resulted in a stop-go penalty, forcing the No.46 BMW to drop back to the tail end of the top 10 with under two hours remaining. Faced with an uphill battle, van der Linde took over for the final double stint and delivered a stunning fightback. Blending outright speed with bold overtaking and

flawless strategy, he carved through the pack to reclaim second. In a heart-stopping final 20 minutes, the South African closed in on the leading No.92 Manthey Porsche, closing the gap to mere tenths of a second. But despite relentless pressure, the checkered flag came just too soon, with the WRT crew crossing the line a heartbreaking 0.3 seconds short of victory. Speaking after the thrilling race, Al Harthy said: "It was one of the most emotional and intense races in my endurance racing career." Reflecting further, he added: "What a race! My stint was amazing, we were doing a lot to make sure we were in the right position for the final few hours of the race. Leading Imola for such a long time was tough and challenging, so I was really pleased to give Vale the car in P1. "Due to what happened on

the track things started moving around, it was definitely one of the most emotional races for all of us. "At one point we were leading, at another point we're P10, and then to finish on the podium in P2 was an amazing result after an unbelievable recovery." Al Harthy said: "That (podium) goes down to all of the drivers and the team for working incredible strategy calls at the right time. I'm really so glad to be on the podium, Imola has always been so good to me. Now we work for the next round at Spa. "I want to say a huge thank you to all of my partners, all the people who believe in this project. "This is what it's all about, we are on the podium steps of the FIA World Endurance Championship. It's sometimes hard for that to sink in and to realise what we've achieved." The result lifted Al Harthy, Ros-

si and van der Linde to sixth in the LMGT3 standings with 19 points, just one strong race away from the leading pack. The next stop in the FIA WEC calendar is the Total-Energies 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps in Belgium on May 10. **6 Hours of Imola: LMGT3 top three results:** 1. Richard Lietz/Ryan Hardwick/Riccardo Pera – Manthey 1ST Phorm (Porsche 911 GT3 R), 2. Ahmad Al Harthy/Valentino Rossi/Kelvin van der Linde – Team WRT (BMW M4), 3. Esteban Masson/Arnold Robin/Finn Gehrsitz – Akkodis ASP Team (Lexus RC F) **FIA WEC LMGT3 driver standings (after round 2):** 1. Ben Keating/Daniel Juncadella/Jonny Edgar – 44 pts 2. Arnold Robin/Finn Gehrsitz – 33 pts, 3. Gregoire Saucy/James Cottingham/Sebastien Baud – 27 pts, 6. Ahmad Al Harthy/Valentino Rossi/Kelvin van der Linde – 19 pts.

PREMIER LEAGUE



Liverpool one win from title

LONDON: Trent Alexander-Arnold came off the bench to claim a late winner and move Liverpool within three points of the Premier League title and relegate Leicester City at The King Power Stadium on Sunday. The full-back, who has yet to sign a new contract and been heavily linked with a free transfer move to Real Madrid at the end of the season, struck 14 minutes from time after the leaders had been frustrated by the doomed Foxes. Alexander-Arnold enjoyed a dream return, since an ankle injury in early March, by scoring with a left-footed angled effort, following efforts by Mohamed Salah and Diogo Jota against the woodwork in a goalmouth scramble. And the 26-year-old showed what the moment meant by ripping off his shirt, then celebrating wildly with the joyous Liverpool fans before hanging it from the corner flag. Arne Slot's side are now set for a title party at Anfield against Tottenham Hotspur next Sunday - although the celebrations could start

sooner depending on the result of Arsenal's home game against Crystal Palace on Wednesday. Alexander-Arnold's finish came as a relief after Salah almost opened the scoring in the opening seconds, only to see his low drive hit both posts, while Wilfred Ndidi also hit the woodwork for Leicester early on. The stage is now set for Liverpool's coronation as champions, while the Foxes - who became the first side in top-flight history to go nine consecutive home games without scoring - will return to the Championship after a disappointing season back in the top flight. The script was written for Alexander-Arnold to make the decisive contribution after his contract impasse provided an intriguing sub-plot to Liverpool's relentless march to the title. While Salah and captain Virgil van Dijk signed new deals in recent days, Alexander-Arnold's situation remains unresolved amid confidence in Spain that he will join Real Madrid in the summer on a free transfer. - Agencies

SPANISH LA LIGA

Valverde hits late winner for Real Madrid

MADRID: Federico Valverde's stunning stoppage-time strike kept Real Madrid in the La Liga title hunt as Carlo Ancelotti's side eventually overcame stubborn Athletic Bilbao 1-0 at the Bernabeu on Sunday. Valverde crashed an emphatic half-volley into the top corner with the outside of his left foot three minutes into time added on to finally reward incessant second-half pressure from the hosts. It was his sixth league goal this season, but first since December against Sevilla. Victory kept Real, who were

without France striker Kylian Mbappe as he served a one-match ban following a red card in the 1-0 win at Alaves, four points behind leaders Barcelona with six games to go. Barca had produced their own added-time drama on Saturday, coming from 3-1 down to beat Celta Vigo 4-3 thanks to Raphinha's 98th-minute penalty. However, after a humbling week that saw the Champions League holders dumped out of this year's competition with a 5-1 aggregate defeat by Arsenal, Real kept alive their hopes of retaining their league title. - Agencies

FORMULA ONE

Piastri triumphs in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH: McLaren's Oscar Piastri took his third win of the year and with it the world championship lead at the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in Jeddah on Sunday. Piastri benefited from a penalty for Red Bull's Max Verstappen to take control of the race and score his second win in a week. Verstappen was given a five-second penalty for illegally keeping the lead from Piastri by going off the track at the first corner but had more than enough pace to keep second place. McLaren's Lando Norris recovered from 10th place on the grid after his crash in qualifying to finish fourth behind Ferrari's Charles Leclerc. Norris, on an off-set tyre strategy, was closing in on Leclerc as the race reached its closing stages but his medium tyres lost their edge of pace and the Ferrari driver was able to hold him back. Piastri's third win in five races



so far this season puts the Australian 10 points clear of Norris in the championship, with Verstappen just two points further adrift. Verstappen appeared annoyed at the penalty, saying in his post-race interview: "I'm going to keep it quite short. I want to say a big thank you to the fans in Jeddah. It's been a great weekend along

the track and the rest is what it is. I'm looking forward to Miami. See you there." Piastri said: "Once I got on the inside I wasn't coming out of Turn One in second. I tried my best and obviously the stewards had to get involved, but I thought I was far enough and in the end that's what got me the race.

"I'm very happy with all the work we've been doing on the starts and that's what won the race for us today." Verstappen's superlative first stint ensured he kept second place ahead of Mercedes' George Russell, but Leclerc brought himself into contention for the podium, with an outstanding first stint. Leclerc's podium was Ferrari's first in a grand prix this season. The race lived up to its reputation for a safety car every time when Red Bull's Yuki Tsunoda and Alpine's Pierre Gasly tangled on the first lap at Turn Four. But there were no further interruptions as Andrea Kimi Antonelli followed Russell home in sixth place after a quiet race, ahead of Hamilton, still struggling in the Ferrari. Williams' Carlos Sainz and Alex Albon took eighth and ninth ahead of the Racing Bull of Isack Hadjar.

IPL



Rohit, Suryakumar fireworks power MI to big win over CSK

MUMBAI: Mumbai Indians (MI) stormed to their third straight win in IPL 2025, crushing a lacklustre Chennai Super Kings (CSK) by nine wickets at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday. Chasing a modest 177, MI made a mockery of the target, romping home with 26 balls to spare thanks to classy unbeaten half-centuries from Rohit Sharma (76) and Suryakumar Yadav (68). The win gave MI not only two points but a boost to their net run rate (NRR), propelling them to eight points from eight matches. More importantly, it signaled the return to form of their seasoned campaigner Rohit, who brought up his first fifty of the season after a string of low scores. CSK innings never quite took off, especially in the crucial middle overs where they failed to hit a single boundary between the 10th and 15th. A late flourish from Ravindra Jadeja, who scored 53 not out off 33 balls, gave them a semblance of respectability. Opting to bat first, CSK took three overs to hit their first

boundary, and by the end of the powerplay they had crawled to 48 for 2. Rachin Ravindra fell early trying to force the pace, edging his first ball from Ashwani Kumar. The only real spark came from 17-year-old Ayush Mhatre, who impressed with a 15-ball 32 full of flair and enterprise. But his dismissal - caught off a slower ball from Chahar - derailed CSK again, forcing Jadeja and Shivam Dube to rebuild. The pair added 79 runs, but consumed 55 deliveries in the process. Dube reached his fifty off 30 balls before falling to a slower one from Jasprit Bumrah, who was outstanding again with 2 for 25 in four overs. Mitchell Santner, playing against his former franchise, kept things tight as well with a tidy spell in the middle. Even Jadeja's late push - 18 runs off the final over from Trent Boult - could lift CSK to 176 for 5. With MI's batting finally clicking in unison, the chase was a breeze. Rohit, who came into this match with a highest score of 26 in the tournament, looked

in sublime touch. He raced to 32 off 18 in the powerplay, punishing every error in length. Ryan Rickelton gave him able company in an opening stand of 63 - their first fifty-plus stand this season - before falling to Jadeja. That brought in Suryakumar, who was up against a familiar nemesis in Jadeja. Coming into the game with just 50 runs and four dismissals off 65 balls against the left-arm spinner, Suryakumar flipped the script in style. He launched Jadeja for his first-ever six off him, and then went into sweep mode, playing the shot nine times for a total of 35 runs. Suryakumar's unbeaten 68 off 37 balls came at a strike rate of 183, and he comfortably outpaced Rohit, who finished on a fluent 76* off 45. Together, they stitched an unbroken 114-run stand, sealing victory in just 15.4 overs. **Brief scores:** CSK 176/5 (Ravindra Jadeja 53*, Shivam Dube 50, Ayush Mhatre 32; Jasprit Bumrah 2-25) lost to MI 177/1 in 15.4 overs (Rohit Sharma 76*, Suryakumar Yadav 68*, Jadeja 1-28).

Alizz Islamic Bank organises panel discussion on ‘Financial awareness amidst modern economic challenges’

Alizz Islamic Bank has been raising financial awareness through various initiatives

MUSCAT: As part of the banks dedicated efforts to raise financial awareness and in coordination with the Ministry of Finance's National Program for Financial Sustainability and Financial Sector Development 'Estdama', Alizz Islamic Bank, recently organised



a panel discussion on 'Financial Awareness Amidst Modern Economic Challenges' in the Grand Hall of the bank's Head Office in Wilayat Baushar.

The panel consisted of Sheikh Essam Khalaf Al Enezi, Chairman of the Shari'a Supervisory Board of Alizz Islamic Bank Bank, Sheikh Ahmed Subhi Ayadi, member of

the Shari'a Supervisory Board, Ibrahim Nasser Al Sawafi, member of the Shari'a Supervisory Board, Khalid Al Busaidi, Director of the National Framework Initiative to

Promote Financial Literacy within the National Program for Financial Sustainability and Financial Sector Development (Estdama) and was moderated by Sheikh Ahmed Al Harthi, Graduate of the Tamkeen programme for 'Empowering the Second Line of Shari'a Supervisory Board Members'.

The panelists highlighted the importance of financial stability and independence and equipping the next generation with the financial knowledge and skills essential for contributing to the sustainable development and economic well-being of both individuals and society with the goal being to prepare an economically educated generation, aligning with the Oman Vision 2040 for a prosperous future for Oman and its people.

In light of the current economic

challenges that may impact financial stability for individuals and families; Alizz Islamic Bank has focused its efforts to ensure that financial awareness become instilled across the nation.

Alizz Islamic Bank has been raising financial awareness through various initiatives, as it believes it is imperative for everyone to have a solid understanding of basic financial concepts and skills to navigate their way to achieve a successful and sustainable future.

Financial literacy represents a necessity for sustainable growth and creation of a well-planned future and the bank is dedicated to launching sustainable initiatives and programmes, encouraging all segments of society to financially plan well for their future.

MAZDA PICKS FINAL WINNER

Throughout the holy month Ramadan, Mazda Oman captured the spirit of Ramadan by offering customers the extraordinary chance to own a Mazda and win a Mazda through the raffle. With Serap Yildirim joining the list of lucky winners, the campaign wraps up on a high note, having already celebrated the success of Ruqaiya Ahmed, Omar Nadeem, and Wissal T.



JASHN-E-DECCAN

Deccani Wing hosts cultural evening



MUSCAT: The Deccani Wing of the Indian Social Club Oman hosted a spectacular cultural evening, "Jashn-e-Deccan," at the CBFS Hall, drawing a large and enthusiastic audience of over 700 guests. The event brought together music lovers and cultural enthusiasts to celebrate the soul of Hyderabad through timeless ghazals, soulful Sufi renditions, and vibrant community participation.

The evening was graced by G.V. Srinivas, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, as the Chief Guest. Also present were Babu Rajendran, Chairman of the Indian Social Club Oman, and Suhail Khan, Vice Chairman of ISC, whose support has been vital in fostering such cultural experiences for the community.

The highlight of the evening was the mesmerizing performance by ghazal maestro Ustad Nizam Ali Khan, who captivated the audience with his soul-stirring renditions of ghazals by iconic Hyderabad poets such as Shaz Tamkinat and Anjad Hyderabad. His deep, resonant voice and heartfelt delivery transported listeners to a bygone era of lyrical elegance and classical charm.

Joining him were his sons, Faizan Ali Khan and Fareed Ali Khan, who added youthful energy and emotional depth to the evening. Faizan's velvety voice and emotive ghazals struck a chord with the audience, while Fareed

electrified the hall with his stirring Sufi renditions that blended devotion, rhythm, and melody to perfection. The musical synergy between father and sons created an atmosphere of nostalgia, reverence, and joy.

A memorable poetry segment featured Dawood Khan, who recited the popular Hyderabad poem "Nai Bole Toh Sunte Nai" by renowned poet Ghouse Mohi-uddin Khamakha, drawing warm applause and appreciation from the crowd. The performances were further elevated by the brilliant musical support of Sikander Khan and Mohammed Rafi, whose expertise on tabla and harmonium added richness and authenticity to the evening.

Adding a special touch to the evening was Zaheer Al Din, a popular Omani, who delighted the audience with his participation, reflecting the deep cultural connections between the Omani and Indian communities.

Dr. Wasif, Convenor of the Deccani Wing, opened the event with a heartfelt welcome, and Samad anchored the program with grace and charm. The evening concluded with a warm vote of thanks by Sayeed, who acknowledged the efforts of the entire team, artists, dignitaries, and the vibrant audience. Mansoor Sabri Co-Convenor coordinated the event for the Deccani wing along with other committee members.

SPECIAL OFFER

Bank Muscat offers annual fee waiver on Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card

MUSCAT: As part of its commitment to providing the best banking services and solutions tailored to meet the diverse needs of the customers, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate of Oman, has announced a special offer on its Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card.

Designed to provide an exceptional banking experience for new cardholders, the card opens up a world of opportunities with a wide range of benefits and features that enhance customers' banking journey, especially for those planning trips within the Sultanate or abroad. With the current offer which is valid until 31 May, new customers applying for the Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card will enjoy a waiver of the first year's annual fee.

This exclusive promotion is part of the Bank's ongoing efforts to enrich the customer experience by offering value-added benefits on credit cards. It also supports the growing adoption of digital payments by offering customers a secure and convenient way to initiate transactions, particularly



during travel when minimizing cash usage is ideal.

Commenting on the offer, Abdulnasser N. Al Raisi, General Manager – Personal Banking at Bank Muscat said: "We are pleased to launch this exclusive offer for new customers applying for the Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card. Our range of credit cards continues to receive positive feedback from customers who benefit from our ongoing promotions. As a pioneer

in the banking sector, Bank Muscat is committed to offering valuable features and benefits that meet the evolving needs of our customers. This offer is especially timely with the summer travel season approaching, and we invite everyone to take advantage of it to enjoy a superior travel experience."

The Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card offers customers a number of benefits, including complimentary travel insurance services, 1%

cashback on both domestic and international transactions, and access to a wide network of airport lounges worldwide, including lounges at Muscat, Salalah, and Duqum airports. Cardholders can also enjoy a variety of discounted offers on services such as health, beauty, entertainment, travel, and hotel bookings.

In line with its commitment to enhancing digital banking and its corporate vision of "To serve you better every day," Bank Muscat recently launched a new version of its Mobile Banking App. Through the App, customers can apply for a range of credit cards, including the Al Jawhar Platinum Credit Card. This feature aims to expand the options available through the Bank's digital channels, making it easier and quicker for customers to apply for products and services without visiting branches.

Once the application is submitted, customers receive a confirmation message with a reference number via SMS and email.

The Bank also offers home delivery for credit cards through courier services.

OFFER



Offer to own premium Lexus to end soon

MUSCAT: Grab the best Ramadan deals in town with Lexus Oman's incredible offer to own a premium Lexus vehicle.

Now get the chance to enjoy Lexus' luxury range with up to 10 years/100,000 km of stress-free service benefits, along with first-year free registration and win the latest iPhone 16 Pro Max by participating in the raffle draw before the offer ends on April 24.

Visit your nearest Saud Bahwan Automotive Showroom and explore Lexus' luxurious high-performance sedans, SUVs, and hybrids. Make every memory count and experience the finest Japanese craftsmanship and latest technological advancements.

Designed for the young at heart, the IS is available in two trims: the Lexus IS300 and IS350 F Sport. The IS300 offers an exhilarating response with a turbocharged 2.0L 4-cylinder engine delivering 241 HP at 5,800 rpm. The IS also has a powerful 3.5L V6 engine F-Sport trim.

Made for the trendsetter

Made for the trendsetter and the go-getters to experience class beyond aesthetics. The Lexus ES boasts remarkable efficiency with smooth handling that makes every journey a breeze. Available in three powertrain options; the ES250, ES350, and the hybrid ES300h is a true powerhouse of innovation. The ES250 features a 2.5L engine

that produces 204 hp at 6,600 rpm and 24.8 kg•m of torque, while the ES350 boasts a larger 3.5L V. All trims are mated to a Direct Shift 8-speed automatic transmission.

For SUV lovers, the Lexus Flagship LX range offers a confidence-inspiring ride that balances elegance and power. Available in 5 and 7 seating options, the LX600 has a 3.5-litre twin-turbocharged engine producing 409 hp.

Moreover, adding newer and sustainable experiences to the LX range, the all-new LX 700h, features an advanced hybrid system. As powerful as ever, the LX features a twin-turbocharged 3.5L V6 engine, producing 457 horsepower paired with a 10-speed automatic

transmission. Enjoy cruising in Lexus' premium SUV with increased fuel efficiency to 10.8km/l. The hybrid control system intelligently manages the transition between engine-only and motor-only modes, optimizing the performance and delivering an immersive driving experience.

Get the most out of this offer and upgrade to a Lexus this season. Head to your nearest Lexus showroom to know more about the offer and win the latest products in town. Don't miss out!

The offer is valid on Lexus' luxury range, which includes the executive sedans IS, ES, and LC, as well as the high-performance SUVs RX, LX, NX, and UX.

ROUND-UP

Jetour expands with new branch in Sohar, launches all-new T2 PHEV



Customers can now experience the all-new 2025 Jetour T2 Plug-In Hybrid – a cutting-edge vehicle that blends high performance with eco-friendly technology

MUSCAT: Jetour Oman, a brand synonymous with adventure, innovation, and premium driving experiences, announced two exciting milestones – the grand opening of its new branch in Sohar and the launch of its highly anticipated plug-in hybrid model, the Jetour T2 PHEV.

As part of MHD Automobile's strategic expansion, the new Sohar facility reinforces the brand's commitment to making world-class automotive solutions more accessible to customers across Oman. This state-of-the-art branch is designed to deliver an exceptional sales and service experience, showcasing Jetour's latest models in a premium environment. To mark the occasion, customers can now experience the all-new 2025 Jetour T2 Plug-In Hybrid – a cutting-edge vehicle that blends high performance with eco-friendly technology. In

this exciting new addition to the Jetour lineup, innovation meets efficiency. Powered by the 5th-generation ACTECO 1.5TGDI High-Efficiency Hybrid Special Engine, the Jetour T2 PHEV offers an ideal balance of power and fuel economy. It combines a turbo-charged petrol engine with an intelligent hybrid system, delivering impressive acceleration, low emissions, and extended electric driving range – perfect for the modern Omani driver who seeks both performance and sustainability. The Jetour T2 PHEV also boasts advanced features such as

an all-terrain intelligent 4WD system, multiple driving modes, and a futuristic cockpit with a high-resolution infotainment display, smart connectivity, and enhanced safety tech, ensuring a smooth, confident, and connected drive across Oman's diverse landscapes. Commenting on the occasion, Mohsin Hani Al Bahrani, CEO of MHD ACERE, stated: "The launch of the Sohar branch alongside the introduction of the Jetour T2 PHEV is a testament to our ongoing mission to drive innovation and convenience for our customers. We are proud to expand our

footprint in Oman while offering products that reflect the future of mobility—powerful, eco-conscious, and engineered for exploration." Jetour continues to solidify its position as a preferred choice for both adventure-seekers and urban drivers alike. In addition to the new Sohar branch, Jetour currently operates showrooms in Muscat, Mabela, Buraimi, and Salalah. Customers are invited to visit the newly opened Sohar showroom to explore Jetour's full lineup and experience the cutting-edge Jetour T2 PHEV firsthand.

STUNNING RANGE



Malabar Gold & Diamonds launches festive edition jewellery collection

DUBAI: Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewellery retailer in the world with a global presence of over 390 showrooms across 13 countries, unveiled its much-anticipated Festive Edition Jewellery Collection. The collection was officially unveiled by Bollywood icon and brand ambassador of Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Kareena Kapoor Khan at a function held in Dubai, UAE. The Festive Edition features a stunning range of jewellery crafted in 22K gold, diamonds, and precious gemstones, capturing the essence of tradition blended with contemporary charm. The collection is spread across Malabar's most sought-after exclusive brands and collections including Mine, Aanika, Era, Precia, Ethnix, and Divine. For those seeking a modern touch, the collection also includes captivating designs in 18K gold. The designs in the Festive Edition jewellery is available across all Malabar Gold & Diamonds showrooms globally. Commenting on the launch, Shamlal Ahamed, MD-International operations, Malabar Gold

& Diamonds said: "At Malabar Gold & Diamonds, our commitment has always been to deliver designs that resonate with the aspirations of our customers. The Festive Edition is a tribute to the cultural vibrancy and the joyous spirit of the festive season. With a rich blend of traditional motifs and modern elegance, this collection is thoughtfully curated to offer something special for everyone. We are honoured to have our brand ambassador Kareena Kapoor Khan unveil this special collection. Her timeless charm and grace perfectly embody the beauty of this collection". To further enhance the value of their purchase, customers can take advantage of Malabar Gold & Diamonds' exciting "Gift of Gold" offer. As part of this festive promotion, shoppers will receive free gold coins with every purchase of diamond or precious gemstone jewellery exceeding AED 3,000 / QAR 3,500 / OMR 300 / BHD 300 / KWD 250 / SAR 3,000. Additional exclusive offers and benefits are also available in-store.

ISLAMIC BANKING WINDOW OF BANK DHOFAR

Dhofar Islamic Ameen Investment account maximises returns with ethical finance

MUSCAT: Based on the concept of Wakalah, the Ameen Investment Account from Dhofar Islamic, the Islamic Banking window of Bank Dhofar, empowers individuals to grow their wealth through ethical investments, ensuring both financial prosperity and peace of mind. It is designed to help individuals grow their funds while ensuring their investments align with Sharia principles. The Account stands out for its ability to offer higher profit rates based on the amount deposited, making it an attractive option for those looking to maximise their savings. One of the key benefits of the account is that it has no minimum balance requirement, allowing individuals from all walks of life to participate and benefit from the account's competitive returns. Profit rates are adjusted based on the account balance, rewarding customers with higher yields as



their savings grow. It is pertinent to note that Dhofar Islamic prioritises accessibility and convenience, offering 24/7 banking services through its mobile app and internet banking platforms. This allows customers to manage their investments and access their funds anytime, anywhere. Besides, the account's flexibility allows for closure at any time, providing customers with complete control over their funds. According to Amor Said Al Amri, DGM & Head of Dhofar Islamic Retail Banking, the Ameen Investment Account reflects the bank's commitment to providing its customers with innovative and ethical financial solutions. "By offering a profit-based structure with no minimum balance, we aim

to make profitable, Sharia-compliant investment options accessible to a broader range of individuals. Our commitment is to provide secure and rewarding solutions that align with Islamic values while also meeting the diverse needs of our customers," he explained. Tailored for Omani nationals and expatriate residents aged 18 and above, this account functions on the Wakalah principle, where Dhofar Islamic acts as the agent, investing funds in Sharia-compliant ventures. This ensures that investments are conducted ethically and in accordance with Islamic guidelines. While the account offers substantial profit potential, it's important to note that certain services may incur fees, as outlined in the bank's tariff sheet. Individuals interested in opening an Ameen Investment Account can apply through any 25 of Dhofar Islamic branches.

DIGITAL INNOVATION

NBO offers supplementary credit card digital feature

MUSCAT: The National Bank of Oman (NBO) has announced launching a new feature on its NBO app, enabling customers to easily and securely request Supplementary Credit Cards for their family members. This digital innovation reflects NBO's commitment to enhance customer convenience while promoting financial empowerment across families. With just a few taps through the app, NBO credit cardholders can now relax and share the benefits of their primary credit card—such as cashback rewards, airport lounge access, 50% VOX Cinema discount, complimentary travel insurance and free chauffeur services and more—to their family

members without the need to visit a branch, manage spending limits, and track the status of applications in real-time. "We're excited to introduce this new capability that combines family support with cutting-edge digital convenience," said Maha Al Raisi, Assistant General Manager and Head of Products at NBO. "Our goal is to empower our customers to provide their loved ones with financial flexibility and offer family members access to exclusive benefits catering to their lifestyles." From his end, Dr. Ali Salim Al Shekeili, Assistant General Manager - Head of Digital & E-Channels at NBO, said: "Our goal with

this launch is to make credit card sharing as seamless and secure as possible for our customers. By introducing this fully digital service, we're not only enhancing customer experience but also reducing dependency on in-branch visits; empowering families with financial flexibility while keeping the primary cardholder fully in control." To apply, customers simply need to log in to NBO app, navigate to the "Credit Cards" section, and select "Request Supplementary Card." After filling in the necessary details, the request is submitted digitally, with SMS alerts provided once the card is ready for collection.





سجل الآن

عرض حصري

بمناسبة رمضان وعيد الفطر

مدة العرض: من ١ مارس حتى ١٠ يوليو ٢٠٢٥

٨٠٠ ٧١ ٢٢٢
٩٦٧٥ ٥٥٢٢

صفر

واكف

مياه شرب

إبداعي

OmanOasis | OmanOasisOfficial | OmanOasisWater

٢٠٢٥/٣/٢٥ - ٢٠٢٥/٧/١٠

٢٠

روز مجاني

موزع مياه بطيئور

موزع مياه بطيئور

موزعة مياه بدوية

حامل مم بطيئور

عبوتين

قسمة إعادة تعبئة

٥٠

روز مجاني

موزع مياه ساخن وبارد

عبوتين

قسمة إعادة تعبئة

HIGH-END DESIGN
HIGH ON SAFETY
HIGH-TECH



GX3PRO

GEELY RANGE
STARTING AS LOW AS
RO 4,399



EMGRAND



STARRAY 4WD



Now in Oman
Drive It to Believe It!
Visit Your Nearest Showroom!



مركز تاول للسيارات ش.م.م
Towell Auto Centre LLC

geelyoman.com
9444 0666
/geelyoman

Visit the showroom and view it to believe it.

Azaiba • Al Hail • Wattayah • Barka • Sohar • Nizwa • Sur • Salalah

Vehicles shown for illustrative purposes. Accessories shown not part of standard equipment. Specifications subject to change without notice. *Conditions apply.



THE NEXT IN DIGITAL INNOVATION

23 APR 2025 | JW MARRIOTT MUSCAT



Oman's Premier Digital Innovation Event Kicks Off Tomorrow!



CHIEF GUEST & KEYNOTE SPEAKER

H.E Ahmed bin Jaafar Al-Musalmi
Governor, Central Bank of Oman



GUEST OF HONOUR & KEYNOTE SPEAKER

H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Abdullah Al-Rawas
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Firas Al Lawati
General Manager - Information Technology
Central Bank of Oman (CBO)



Kawthar Al Hinaï
Head of Digital Transformation Programs
Ministry of Transport, Communications
& Information Technology (MTCIT)



Muadh Al Omairi
Vice President – Commercial
Infoline

PANEL 1 : 'Digital Innovation: Advancing Oman's Vision 2040'



Abdullah Al-Maskari
General Manager, Cybersecurity Services
Dreamlab Technologies Oman



Faris Abdullah Al-Kharusi
Transformation Consultant



Dr. Haitham AL Hajri
Chief Information Security Officer
Oman Housing Bank

MODERATOR

PANEL 2 'AI - Shaping the Future of Work, Life and Beyond'



Ali Hassan Moosa
Financial Expert/Advisor – Estidamah,
Ministry of Finance & Member - Finance &
Insurance Committee, Oman Chamber of
Commerce & Industry (OCCI)



Dr. Kamal Al-Sabahi
Director - Centre for Excellence in
FinTech, College of Banking &
Financial Studies (CBFS)



Hamza Adil Mohamed Al Sabri
Security Operation Center Lead,
Securado



Sanjeev Madavi
Digital Transformation Expert

MODERATOR

PRESENTATIONS BY:



Saud Al Zakwani
Head of Digital Transformation
Petroleum Development Oman (PDO)



Nameer Khan
Chairman, MENA Fintech Association (MFTA)
& Founder and CEO of Fils



Ali Abdul Hossain Al-Lawati
Co-founder & Chief Technology Officer
QPay



Muadh Al Omairi
Vice President – Commercial
Infoline



CO-LOCATED DLive AWARDS

DLive Awards also honor excellence in digital transformation, celebrating the individuals and organizations shaping tomorrow's tech landscape.



STRATEGIC PARTNER

talabat

E-COMMERCE PARTNER



FINTECH PARTNER



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



AUTOMOTIVE PARTNER



Muscat Media Group

**Gulf Leaders
Circle**

ORGANIZED BY



ORGANIZED BY



ORGANIZED BY



EVENT PARTNER



RADIO PARTNERS



RADIO PARTNERS



SUPPORT PARTNER

For more information, contact: Sanjeev Rana – sanjeev@mmg.om | +968 97221630 | Syed Amir Saleem -syed.amir@mmg.om | +968 78471944

Follow us on [in](#) DLive