



50 GOLDEN YEARS



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HM SENDS CONDOLENCES

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia on the death of Princess Turfa bint Saud bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy, praying to Allah the Almighty to rest the deceased's soul in peace in paradise and grant her family patience. **-OMA**



Founded 1975 · Volume 45 No. 228 | 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

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OIL TRADING AT 12-MONTH HIGH

Economists expect the Oman crude to rise to about \$60 a barrel in the coming months

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Prices of Oman crude oil have reached their highest in 12 months, owing to the reopening of industries and global COVID-19 vaccination drives around the world.

On January 26, 2021, Oman crude traded at \$55.30 (OMR21.3) per barrel on the Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME), having steadily risen to this price since the beginning of the year.

An official from the Ministry of Energy and Minerals spoke exclusively to *Times of Oman* about the rise in price of Oman oil: "We cannot be completely certain about the current level of the price of Omani oil (\$55 per barrel) in the future, but we



see that the concerns of investors and energy companies are beginning to recede. However, the continued improvement in the oil price sends positive indicators for the markets."

He added: "Currently, analysts and energy institutions around the world are predicting that crude prices will continue to improve. There is some optimism that oil prices will remain above the \$50 barrier during the next few months."

"The rise in the price of Omani

crude oil, of course, will contribute to maximising government revenues, as well as reviving the market, the local as well as the global economy," he said.

Coronavirus

Economists in the country expect the price of oil to increase to about \$60 a barrel in the coming months, but don't expect it to cross that mark soon, owing to the unpredictability around the coronavirus.

"It's been almost a year since

we've seen these prices," said a senior manager at a leading oil company in Oman.

"Because of the COVID-19, the prices of oil dropped severely. Oil prices were at this level before the pandemic began.

In January, 2020, the price of oil was \$62. It came down to \$48 in February, and touched \$27 in March. That is the lowest price oil has so far fallen to, during the pandemic. I am sure the oil prices will touch at least about \$61 or \$62 in the coming

months," he explained.

Expectations

"As per our expectations, I do not believe the oil prices will go down for a while. If it does, though, the oil prices could fall to what they were last year. But this is unlikely, because we see improvements right now, compared to the previous year."

Revealing how incidents around the world had positively affected the price of oil, he said, "We now have a new, more stable government in the US, and all of the concerns around the new strains of the virus have more or less gone, so this is helping the oil price climb up. Under the current circumstances, the prices of oil could go down if there are failures in the vaccination programmes, or more concerning variants of the virus discovered."

"Things are expected to stabilise now, and the highest I see the prices going to right now is about \$65 a barrel."

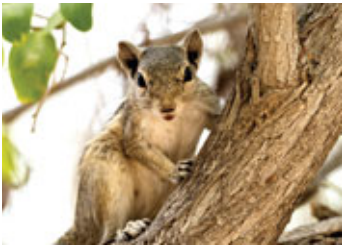
"To say oil is expected to soon touch about \$75 or \$80 a barrel is too optimistic, because in the current scenario, prices reaching \$60 will also be considered a great improvement. It will take at least a year or two for things to come back to normal." **>A3**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Palm squirrel invasion likely, says study

1 A preliminary study suggests that there may be an invasion of palm squirrels in Oman, which may be harmful to the botanical garden ecosystem. **>A3**



WORLD

Trump impeachment goes to Senate

2 A single article of impeachment against former US President Donald Trump was presented to the Senate. **>A6**

MARKET

Pact inked for \$1.2mn ceramic tiles factory

3 Sohar Port and Freezone has signed an agreement with Eagle Ceramics FZC for \$1.2mn ceramic tiles manufacturing facility in Sohar on January 26. **>B1**

MAJLIS AL SHURA

Apparels, textiles work Omanisation mooted

Times News Service

MUSCAT: More Omani women must be encouraged to take up jobs in fashion design, tailoring, and embroidery, and need to be given the right support, the Youth and Human Resources Committee of the Majlis Al Shura has said.

The committee made these suggestions after the Shura Council raised the idea of employing more local women in these fields, given their employment opportunities and economic contribution.

To share their insights and take this plan forward, the committee hosted Nasr bin Amer Al Hosani, the Undersecretary of Labour at the Ministry of Labour, along with representatives from the Ministry of Commerce, Industry

and Investment Promotion and the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The meeting was chaired by Younis bin Ali Al Mandhari, the head of the committee, and in the presence of its members, who discussed the controls and standards set by the competent authorities to regulate women's sewing shops, and sought the opinion of the authorities on proposals to feminise the profession of fashion design, tailoring and embroidery.

Speaking to *Times of Oman*, Younis bin Ali Al Mandhari, said: "During the meeting, a specific mechanism was agreed upon as per which at the front of the sewing shops there will be an Omani woman employee for taking up measurements and design, and

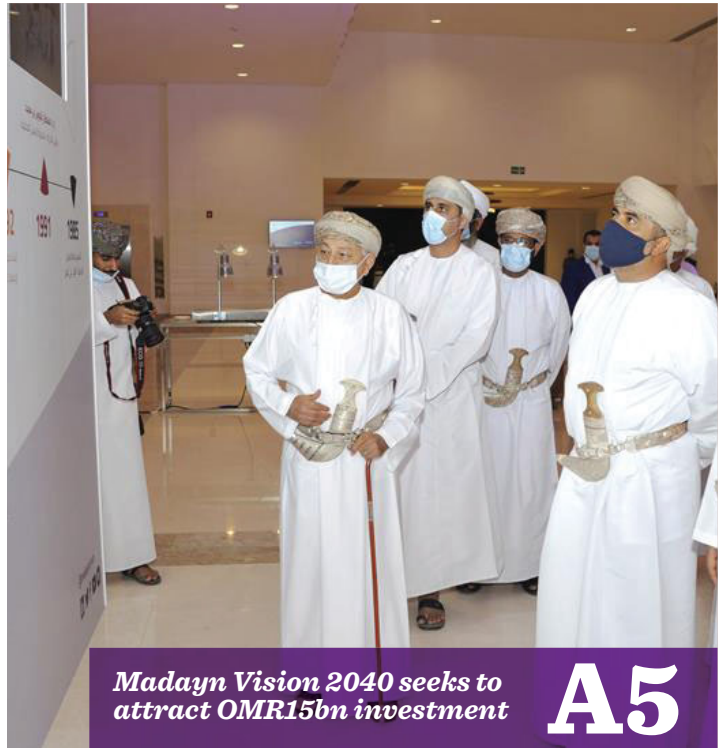


Nasr bin Amer Al Hosani, the Undersecretary of Labour at the Ministry of Labour.

that the shop should be under the Omani management. The expatriate worker will remain in shops for sewing purpose only."

He added that this mechanism would be sent to the governorates after agreement with various government agencies. The committee will submit a report on this discussion to be approved and discussed at a plenary session of the Shura Council's office for approval, which will be then sent to the authorities concerned, he said.

Also discussed during the meeting were the support these professions will need, and the hurdles preventing their Omanisation across the governorates, and the need to restructure these professions so that they can be overcome. **>A5**



Madayn Vision 2040 seeks to attract OMR15bn investment

A5

RESEARCH

Omani plants being studied as possible antibiotics source

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Variants of ginger and garlic that grow naturally in the wild in Oman are being used in a study for creating antibiotics from plants that have medicinal properties, and provide an alternative to medicines made from chemicals synthesised in laboratories.

The study is one of many being carried out by the University of Nizwa in partnership with the University of Oxford. A number of native microorganisms and samples taken from marine vegetation will also be studied to analyse and replicate their medicinal and healing capabilities.

At the University of Nizwa, this research is being conducted by the Natural and Medical Sciences Research Centre, which is founded and led by Dr Ahmed Sulaiman Al Harrasi, who also serves as the institution's vice chancellor for research and graduate studies. "This project with Oxford concerns collection of samples from different parts of the country, in order to identify natural antibiotics," he explained.

"This has been slowed down due to the pandemic, but the next step will be isolation of these antibiotics, after which we will conduct research with our colleagues at Oxford. We have on our list a group of plants, including many that are edible, such



Dr Ahmed Sulaiman Al Harrasi, founder, Natural and Medical Sciences Research Centre, University of Nizwa

as ginger and garlic, in this case, Omani garlic, as well as others are non-edible but are medically important ones," Al Harrasi went on to say.

Genome sequencing

"We intend to conduct their genome sequencing in order to understand their biosynthesis, and how plants synthesise these antibiotics naturally. We will then try to mimic these procedures in the laboratory."

The first positive results from this study are expected in about a year's time. These plants were chosen because of their high concentration of beta-lactams, compounds that are very effective

against bacteria, and are therefore a crucial component in antibiotics and other essential medicines. "This is likely to take time," explained Al Harrasi. "The protocol we need to follow will need us to observe several steps. Biosynthesis of such compounds will take longer, so I expect this entire process to take two years."

This is one of many projects the University of Nizwa is running in collaboration with the University of Oxford. Among its most important projects are joint research into looking at the potential of compounds from frankincense being used to create COVID-fighting medicines. **>A3**

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Fajr (Tomorrow).....5.31am

OCCI

CABLE

‘Your Doctor by Your Side’ app launched

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The smartphone application, Tabibak Janbak (Your Doctor by Your Side) was launched yesterday under the patronage of Ridha bin Juma Al Saleh, Chairman of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI).

The launch ceremony was held at the headquarters of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The celebration also included the speech of the project owner Khalil Al Aghbari, in which he spoke about how the health information technology sector would see a remarkable growth due to the increase of demand for modern technologies, mainly the fourth Industrial Revolution.

“We have to keep abreast of this digital development and technology for the sake of provision of quality services to society. We are pleased – as an Omani company – to announce the launch of the application for smartphones under the name “Your Doctor by Your Side”, he said.

“The application has a database equipped with all that relates to health services and which is accessible within a relatively short time, he said. The programme would enable citizens, residents, visitors and tourists to find doctors and medicines at any time



FUNCTION: The launch ceremony was held at the headquarters of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

and place in the Sultanate, by asking the domestic healthcare service.”

The speech of Khalil Al Aghbari was followed by screening of a documentary on the project of Tabibk Janbak which represented the launch of the project.

The project represents the largest platform which comprises all government and private health

services and domestic healthcare in the Sultanate. The application includes a map of the Sultanate showing all hospitals, health complexes, health centres , clinics, pharmacies, etc providing all government and private health services.

The application includes seven sections as follows:-

The first section is on basic data

of healthcare facilities including pharmacies, opticians and medical laboratories. The second section is on medical consultations “Your Doctor for Consultations”, which allows users to conduct video conversations with doctors and would help a doctor explain the plan of treatment.

The third section has the provision of participation of several

medical practitioners who have registered themselves for the provision of home healthcare.

The fourth section enables the participation of allied health professionals such as nurses, physiotherapists and cupping technicians who provide domestic healthcare services for patients at home or at any other place where the patient is available.

The allied professionals also provide continued and comprehensive healthcare and follow up for patients. The fifth section titled “ life coaches” enables life coaches to make conversations with patients to help them with the plan and to assist them in making material changes in their lives. The sixth section is for “emergency cases’ doctors and provides fast response as the list shows the nearest paramedic, doctor, hospitals or ambulances.

The seventh section is on “Health education”. It includes videos and tips for emergency cases. It also includes publications and notices of the Ministry of Health and other institutions.

The programme aims to train families on basic skills and contributes to offering domestic healthcare for patients following operations / surgeries and for those suffering from bedsores. The application would save time spent at hospitals to obtain the

HM sends greetings

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa of Portugal on the occasion of re-electing him as a president of his country.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere congratulations and best wishes of success to President de Sousa in leading the Portuguese friendly people towards further progress and welfare, and the good relations between the two countries further progress and growth. -ONA

VIDEO CONFERENCING

Oman, Yemen hold meeting

MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister held a meeting with Ahmad Awad Binmubarak, Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs of Yemen.

Held via video conferencing, the meeting stressed the deep, strong relations between the two countries. The two sides discussed the latest developments in Yemen. They also reaffirmed supporting endeavours of the UN Envoy to Yemen. -ONA

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NCSI

Number of registered vehicles tops 1.5mn

MUSCAT: The total number of registered vehicles until the end of December 2020 was 1,557,453, which is a rise of 0.6 per cent compared to the same period of 2019, according to a recent update from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

The number of vehicles with temporary registration (the numbers use for a short period due to the examination purpose before the registration, the export and import vehicles included) reached 15,351 vehicles, an increase of 27 per cent over the end of 2019.

Private vehicles topped the list of vehicles registered, with number of 1,221,302 vehicles,



followed by 239,639 commercial vehicles and 29,931 taxis.

Meanwhile there was a drop in the number of rental, government (does not include military vehicles) and motorbikes registered by 5.3 per cent, 2.3 per cent and 3.1 per cent, respectively. -ONA

MEETING

Sayyid Asa'ad receives Cyprus envoy

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan, received in his office here yesterday Andreas Nikolaides, Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the Sultanate.

The meeting reviewed fields of the good bilateral relations and aspects of the existing cooperation between the Sultanate and Cyprus in several fields to serve the common interests of the two friendly countries and peoples.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary General and the two advisers at HH Sayyid Asa'ad's Office. -ONA



'Invasion of palm squirrels to harm botanical garden'

These squirrels are feeding on the fruit of jujube trees and may become serious pests affecting date palms

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A preliminary study suggests that there may be an invasion of palm squirrels in Oman, which may be harmful to the botanical garden ecosystem. According to the study, these squirrels are feeding on the fruit of jujube trees and may become serious pests affecting commercially

valuable date palms.

Funambulus pennantii is supposed to be the one species of squirrel to be found in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with evidence of this three-striped Indian squirrel - *Funambulus palmarum* - in Ras Al Khaimah. But the study has recorded evidence of palm squirrels of the genus *funambulus* invading Oman for the first time. These squirrels have been recorded in seven locations in northern Oman contributing to a total of 11 records. Seven records were of the five-striped northern palm squirrel, *Funambulus pennantii* and species identification was uncertain for four records.

The researchers said, "Their numbers are low at present in Oman, but they are well established in the adjacent UAE from where sustained invasion is more than likely. At present, these animals can be sold through pet



Evidence of palm squirrels of the genus *funambulus* invading Oman has been recorded for the first time in a new study.

shops in Oman. These furry and cuddly animals are liked by pet owners, who may release them into the natural environment for whatever reason or the animals by

themselves can escape from captivity. The invasion of Oman by the palm squirrels is in its infancy and strategies should be formulated now to eradicate/control them as a matter of priority."

The presence and extent of the spread of these squirrels was first noted by Ms Jamila J Hakam, a self-employed expert academic editor, spouse of Prof. Khaled Day, a computer scientist and an avid birdwatcher. During a walk in the SQU Botanical Garden on June 16, 2020, at about 6 am, she saw a bushy-tailed, striped rodent on a branch of a Christ's Thorn Jujube (*Ziziphus spina-christi*) tree near the ornamental pond. She observed it vocalising constantly for about 10 minutes. Based on an online search for its description and its vocalisation, Ms. Hakam believed that she had seen an Indian palm squirrel and was concerned that this invasive species may be

harmful to the botanical garden ecosystem.

Ms. Hakam again saw the squirrel in a different location in the botanical garden on July 12 and 22, 2020. Apparently, it had managed to survive for more than a month on whatever food resources were available in the garden. Dr. M. Barry, from the Department of Biology, SQU took photographs of this animal shown here on 17 July 2020 and its identity was confirmed as the five-striped northern palm squirrel.

The initial sightings were reported to Dr Erika Cuellar Soto, of the Biology Department, who in turn informed Prof Reginald Victor of the same Department who has been studying invasive species in Oman for the last two decades. Both these colleagues triggered an investigation into the invasive status of palm squirrels in Oman.

RESEARCH

Medicinal plants

"We have a bank of more than 1,000 compounds - some of them are isolated from different plants of Oman, while others are synthetically modified by us," Al Harrasi went on to say. "We have studied more than 70 medicinal plants of Oman. This is when it comes to medicinal plants, but the Natural and Medical Sciences Research Centre is also working on various other activities - marine species, micro-organisms, bacteria, fungi, biomedical research, anti-venoms, anti-diabetes and anti-cancer research," he said.

The university is also looking at other plants that have potential COVID-fighting capabilities, because of the high presence of alkaloids within them. Some of them are very similar to chloroquine, a drug that was first used to treat COVID-19, later withdrawn, and then reintroduced. "The advantages of the alkaloids we have isolated is that they are naturally occurring, their structures are fascinating, and they are very promising," Al Harrasi added.

EMBASSY OF INDIA

Indian community in Oman marks Republic Day with patriotic fervour

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Embassy of India in Muscat celebrated the 72nd Republic Day on Tuesday. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the event was limited to Embassy officials and staff.

However, it was telecast live, enabling Indian community to join the celebration virtually. Before the start of the event, a video highlighting the cooperation on COVID-19 with India's friendly countries across the world including delivery of life-saving medicines vaccines was played.

The event started with the unfurling of the Indian flag by Munu Mahawar, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, followed by singing of the National Anthem.

The ambassador gave a brief speech and read out excerpts from the address of the President of India to the nation.

Outstanding support

He greeted the Indian community in Oman and thanked them for their outstanding support during the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthening India's friendly relations with Oman.

The ambassador highlighted the recent initiatives taken by the Government of India, including



FLAG HOISTING: The event started with the unfurling of the Indian Flag by Shri Munu Mahawar, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman.



Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and stated that the Indian diaspora in Oman would have an important role to play in it. He thanked the Oman government for taking good care of Indian nationals during the COVID-19 pandemic and stated that India can be a strong and resilient partner in all priority areas under Oman's Vision 2040.

Videos of patriotic songs sung by students of Indian School Muscat (ISM) and by Neha Vishal Shah were played after the speech of the ambassador, adding to the sense of patriotism and enthusiasm. Hundreds of Indian nationals joined the celebration online expressing their spirit and enthusiasm on the Republic Day.

CRUDE

Demand expected to rise

The pricing system for Omani crude on the DME is used by five national oil-producing entities in the region: Oman, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the Emirate of Dubai. Prices of Oman oil have been hovering around the \$55 mark since 7 January, when it reached \$54.46.

Highest

The highest it has been since then was on January 13, when it rose to \$56.42. After once again dipping into the \$55 per barrel range, Omani crude prices rose to \$56.23 on January 20, an increase of \$1.17 compared to the previous day's rates.

The price of oil is set to increase further, as more and more public services that require oil consumption are brought back, having been temporarily suspended during the pandemic.

Not at full capacity

"There are a lot of services such as public transport and aviation that have still not reached full operations, because of the pandemic," said Dr Syed Mujahid, the head of the Department of Economics and Finance at the College of Economics and Political Science at Sultan Qaboos University.

"Once they resume, there will be more need for vehicle and aviation fuel, which will lead to more demand for crude. But the bulk of oil demand comes from the indus-

trial sector," he added.

"Many factories around the world shut down and scaled back operations during the pandemic. They have all since reopened, which has led to energy exporters around the world resuming shipments of oil once again. The recovery in oil prices right now is dictated by two factors: the production cuts by oil-producing countries, and the demand of these industries."

Global factors

Adding to this, Khalfan Al Touqi, an economist in the Sultanate, said that while it was good the prices of oil were increasing again, the country would naturally benefit if they went even higher in the months to come. "Oman's oil price depends on the global markets, so it is not entirely in our hands," he said.

"We are still suffering from COVID-19 and its economic impacts. The country's budget estimates the price of oil at \$45 a barrel, but a price of \$75 to \$80 per barrel is required for the economy to function in a more effective manner.

"However, I am hopeful the price of oil will not fall, and the government is carrying out its economic diversification plans so that we have alternate sources of income to run our economy in the future, and not remain reliant on just oil and gas prices," he added.

CHOCOLATE CAKE DAY: LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Chocolate Cake Day is celebrated on January 27, a day dedicated to the most popular cake flavour. Be it any occasion, chocolate cakes are bound to take the centre-stage. Though we don't know much about how this day originated we still love celebrating this delicious day dedicated to a decadent dessert.

It is said that the chocolate cake was born in 1765 when Dr. James Baker and a chocolate maker teamed up in an old mill. They ground up cocoa beans between huge millstones to make a thick syrup. The liquid was poured into moulds shaped like cakes, which were meant to be transformed into a beverage.

In 1828, Conrad Van Houten of the Netherlands developed a mechanical extraction method for extracting the fat from cacao liquor resulting in cacao butter and the partly defatted cacao, a compacted mass of solids that could be sold as it was "rock cacao" or ground into powder.

Eliza Leslie, a cookbook author from Philadelphia was perhaps the first to share her chocolate cake recipe in 1847 in *The Lady's Receipt Book*. In her recipe she used chopped chocolates and not the way it is made now.

O. Duff and Sons was the first company to create boxed cake mix in the late 1920s and Betty Crocker, that is popular even today, launched their first dry cake mixes in 1947.

So how do you plan to celebrate Chocolate Cake Day. The answer is simple. Make some delicious chocolate cakes, click pictures, share the pictures as well as the cake and celebrate. As Audrey Hepburn rightly said, "A nice creamy chocolate cake does a lot for a lot of people; it does for me."





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IMPEACHMENT TRIAL

Trump impeachment goes to Senate over deadly attack on the Capitol

WASHINGTON: The US House of Representatives on Monday presented to the Senate a single article of impeachment accusing former President Donald Trump of inciting insurrection in a speech to his supporters before the deadly attack on the Capitol, setting in motion his second impeachment trial.

In a solemn procession, the nine House impeachment managers silently walked the article through the same ornate halls of Congress overrun by Trump supporters on January 6 and delivered it to the Senate.

Representative Jamie Raskin of Maryland then read out the charge against Trump on the Senate floor, where the former president continues to enjoy significant support from Republican senators.

Ten House Republicans joined Democrats in voting to impeach Trump on January 13. Senate

Democrats will need the support of 17 Republicans to convict him in the Senate, a steep climb given the continued allegiance to Trump among the Republican Party's conservative base of voters.

Chief justice won't preside

On Monday, it was learned that Chief Justice John Roberts is not expected to preside at the trial, as he did during Trump's first impeachment. The shift is said to be

in keeping with protocol because Trump is no longer in office.

Instead, Senator Patrick Leahy, a Democrat, who serves in the largely ceremonial role of Senate president pro-tempore, is set to preside.

Chief Justice John Roberts presided over the impeachment trial when the Senate, then controlled by Trump's fellow Republicans, acquitted Trump in February 2020 on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress arising from his request that Ukraine investigate President Joe Biden and his son. Leahy will still be able to vote in the trial, an aide said, noting that senators still vote on all matters when presiding over the chamber. Some Republicans questioned the arrangement. "How does a Senator preside, like a judge, and serve as juror too?" Republican Senator John Cornyn asked on Twitter. **DW**



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



Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
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OVER CORONAVIRUS

New Zealand likely to keep borders shut for most of 2021: PM

WELLINGTON: New Zealand's borders are likely to remain closed for most of the year depending on the progress in the vaccination campaign against the coronavirus, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said on Tuesday.

New Zealand closed its borders to foreigners and non-residents in the spring of 2020, when the global COVID-19 crisis kicked off. "Given the risks that exist in the world, and the uncertainty with the introduction of vaccines, we can expect that this will affect our borders for most of the year," Ardern said at a briefing broadcast on her Facebook page.

The prime minister explained that the borders could be opened either when the vaccination curbed the virus' transmission among the population or when enough citizens were inoculated to allow safe entry.

Despite the closure of borders, New Zealand will keep special "tourist bubbles" with Australia and the countries of the Pacific region, she noted.

Ardern also said that the country's health authorities were expected to authorize the Pfizer/BioNTech candidate as the first vaccine in the national portfolio next week, with the first batches anticipated to be delivered in late March. Notably, the government

secured 1.5 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine last October.

The country also signed agreements with the UK's AstraZeneca and the US' Novavax pharmaceutical companies to purchase 7.6 million and 10.72 million doses of their vaccines, respectively. New Zealand is also eligible for 5 million pre-ordered doses of the vaccine developed by Belgium's Janssen Pharmaceutica firm.

The government plans to start a mass vaccination campaign against the coronavirus in the second half of 2021, with the priority given to border guards and those most exposed to the pandemic.

Notably, the country has recorded the first internal COVID-19 transmission in over two months several days ago.

To date, the health authorities have detected a total of 2,290 COVID-19 cases and 25 related fatalities. **ANI**

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Oman Marketing and Services Company LLC wishes to inform all customers that a number of "PANASONIC" "BLACK & DECKER", "ACSON", "AFTRON" and "YAMAHA" sets sent for repair estimates to our Service Centres at Bousher, Sur, Sohar, Niswa and Salalah before 30/06/2020 have not yet been collected.

Customers are hereby informed that all such sets must be collected within one month from the date of this Announcement on submission of the Official Repair Slip.

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Tender Ref no.	OFM/TD-211-002
Tender subject	Merchandisers & Loading and Unloading
Start date for tender collection	27.01.2021
Last date for tender collection	02.02.2021
Site Visit (Mandatory)	04 & 05.02.2021
Last date for receiving the technical queries	09.02.2021
Closing date of the tender	10.02.2021
Email address for communication	tender3@omanflourmills.com
Mode of submission	All bidders are required to submit their proposals addressed to tender3@omanflourmills.com on the 09 th February 2021.

- Vendor selection will be based on "best and final offer". OFM is not bound to select the lowest bidder.
- Each bidder must leave a business card with contact details for required communication.
- All tender communication must be addressed to: tender3@omanflourmills.com







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Protesting farmers go violent amid Republic Day celebration in India

The protestors came to central Delhi deviating from the route which had been decided for tractor march

NEW DELHI: Protesters agitating against the new farm laws entered the premises of Red Fort in the national capital and waved flags they were carrying from its ramparts.

A protestor also went up the mast on the ramparts of the historic 17th century monument and raised a flag he was carrying at the place where the Tricolour is hoisted. The protestors came to central Delhi deviating from the route which had been decided for tractor march. Violence erupted near ITO area of national capital as tractors driven by protestors tried to scare and even run over police personnel deployed in the area.

Protesting farmers reached ITO after breaking police barricades placed opposite old Delhi Police headquarters and were seen attacking police personnel and vandalising vehicles.

Several people including police personnel suffered injuries during the clash between protesting farmers and police.

Groups of farmers were also seen vandalizing public property and targeting police personnel deployed for Republic Day security.

Reports of farmers breaking



ANTI-FARM LAWS PROTEST: Farmers' tractor rally reached Red Fort on the 72nd Republic Day, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

barricades to enter Delhi and indulging in vandalism poured from several parts of the city. Delhi Police officials sat on the road in Nangloi to block the area where farmers holding tractor parade have reached. In view of protestors entering parts of Delhi, gates of several metro stations have been closed.

"Entry/exit gates of Samaypur Badli, Rohini Sector 18/19, Haiderpur Badli Mor, Jahangir Puri, Adarsh Nagar, Azadpur, Model Town, GTB Nagar, Vishwavidyalaya, Vidhan Sabha and Civil Lines are closed," DMRC said in a tweet.

Entry/exit gates of all stations on the green line, Lal Quila, Indraprastha, Delhi Gate and ITO metro stations have also been closed.

Former leader and Spokesperson, Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) Rakesh Tikait said he had no information of violence by farmers.

"Rally is going on peacefully. I don't have any information of it (violence). We are at Ghazipur and are releasing the traffic here," he said.

Internet services temporarily suspended

The Central government on Tuesday ordered the suspension of Internet services till 11:59 pm at Delhi's border points - Singhu, Ghazipur, Tikri, Mukarba Chowk, Nangloi and areas adjoining these protest hubs due to intensifying clashes between the police and farmers who are protesting the new agricultural laws.

The Ministry of Home Affairs order stated that it was necessary and expedient to order the temporary suspension of internet services in the areas in the interest of maintaining public safety and averting a public emergency. According to a senior government

official, the order has been issued by the MHA after the Delhi Police briefed about the situation and requested to suspend services in some parts of Delhi. According to sources, after some time the ministry will review this order and will decide further course of action. "In exercise of the power conferred by Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, read with sub-rule 1 of Rule 2 of the temporary suspension of telecom services (public emergency or public safety) rules 2017, and in the interest of maintaining public safety and averting public emergency it is necessary and expedient to order, the temporary suspension of internet services in the areas of Singhu, Ghazipur, Tikri, Mukarba Chowk and Nangloi and their adjoining areas in the NCT of Delhi from 12.00 hours to 23.59 hours on January 26, 2021," read the order. **ANI**

HANDLING OF PANDEMIC



Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte resigns

ROME: Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte stood down on Tuesday amid criticism of his handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

President Sergio Mattarella confirmed he had accepted Conte's resignation. The prime minister held a Cabinet meeting earlier this morning to inform the government of his plans.

Conte, in power since 2018, quit after ex-PM Matteo Renzi pulled his Italia Viva party out of the governing coalition. Renzi opposed Conte's plans for spending more than €200 billion (\$243 billion) of EU recovery fund cash.

Conte fights for survival

Conte survived a confidence vote in Italy's lower house of parliament last week, but failed to secure a majority in the Senate, the upper house.

It would have hampered his government from enacting further reforms, and he will now try to form a stronger government by tapping new potential coalition partners.

His remaining allies, the center-left Democratic Party and the populist 5 Star Movement, have already said they will back the

former law professor. If he fails, the president could ask another candidate to try and form a new administration, or fresh elections would be called.

Govt under pressure over pandemic response

More than 85,000 people have died in Italy since the outbreak of COVID-19 last year and ministers are also under fire for the perceived slow rollout of the EU's vaccine scheme.

The Italian government on Sunday threatened to sue pharmaceutical giants over the delays in delivering contracted shots.

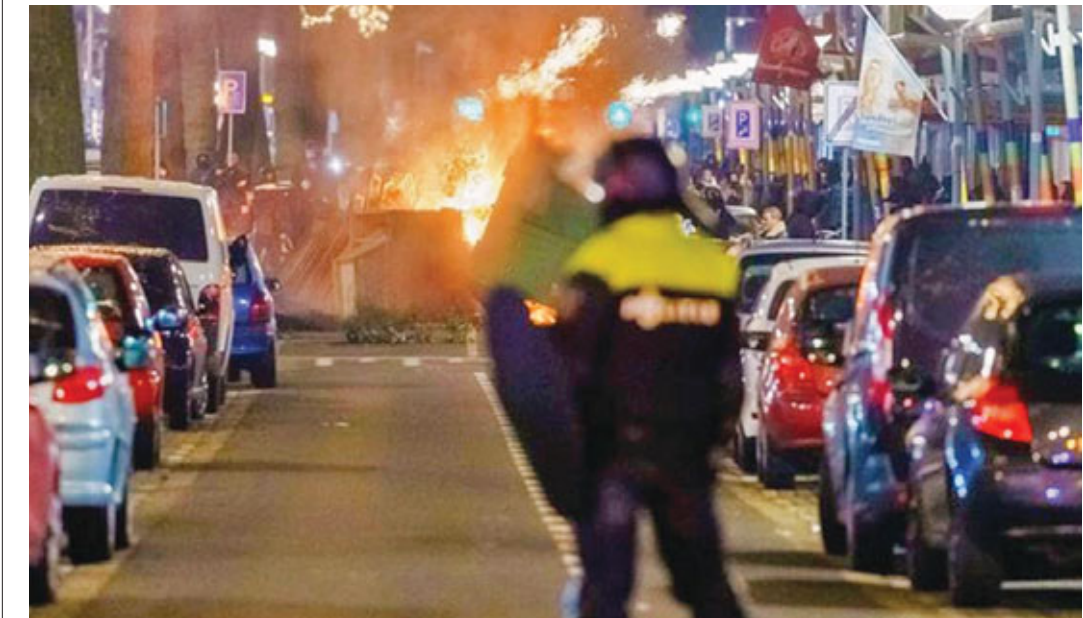
Conte, who is an independent and not officially affiliated with any political party, also has had to contend with the country's high unemployment and public debt.

He initially headed up a coalition between 5 Star and Matteo Salvini's far-right League party. But Salvini quit in August 2019 in a failed bid to trigger new elections. The ruling parties want to avoid snap elections this time.

Opinion polls suggest they would lead to victory for a center-right coalition comprising Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia and the League party. **AP**

RIOT OVER CURFEW

Another night of riots over coronavirus curfew in Netherlands



RIOT: Riot police clashed with groups of protesters in Amsterdam as well as the port city of Rotterdam, Amersfoort in the east, and the small southern city of Geleen near Maastricht.

AMSTERDAM: The Netherlands experienced another night of unrest heading into Tuesday after protesters opposing a coronavirus curfew confronted police and threw fireworks.

Riot police clashed with groups of protesters in Amsterdam as well as the port city of Rotterdam, Amersfoort in the east, and the small southern city of Geleen near Maastricht, police and Dutch news reports said.

Nationwide, police made just over 150 arrests.

In Rotterdam, police used a water cannon after clashing with rioters, the national broadcaster NOS reported. The city's mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb has issued an emergency decree which gives police broader powers of arrest. "The riot police have carried out charges and arrests have been made," Rotterdam's city council said in a tweet. "There is an urgent request to all to leave the area," the council added.

The motivation behind Monday's incidents was not immediately

clear, but rioters were overwhelmingly in their teens and twenties.

'Worst rioting in 40 years'

It was the second night of unrest in towns and cities across the Netherlands that initially grew out of calls to protest against the country's tough lockdown, but degenerated into vandalism by crowds whipped up by messages swirling on social media.

Dutch media reported calls on social media for further violent protests even as the country struggles to contain new coronavirus infections, hospitalizations and deaths.

The Netherlands has seen more than 950,000 COVID infections and over 13,600 confirmed virus deaths so far.

The curfew, the first in the country since World War II, was imposed after the National Institute for Health (RIVM) warned a new wave of infections was on its way owing to the risk posed by new and more infectious vari-

ants, though numbers of new infections in the Netherlands have been declining for weeks.

Violators of the 9 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. curfew, which is set to last until at least February 10, face a €95 (\$115) fine. Exemptions are allowed, for example for people having to work, attend funerals or walk their dogs, on condition that they present a certificate.

The Netherlands was already under its toughest measures since the start of the pandemic, with bars and restaurants having closed in October, and schools and non-essential shops shut since December.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mark Rutte condemned "criminal violence" which broke out Sunday, described by police officials as the "worst rioting in 40 years."

"It's unacceptable. All normal people will regard this with horror," Rutte told reporters. "What motivated these people has nothing to do with protesting, it's criminal violence and we will treat it as such." **AP**

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Lampard disappointed after being sacked, wishes ‘every success’ to Chelsea

Lampard took to Instagram to share a post in which he also thanked the fans for their “incredible support”

LONDON: After being sacked as the head coach of Chelsea, Frank Lampard on Tuesday said it was a privilege for him to manage the club while admitting that he is disappointed “not to have had the time this season to take the club forward”. Chelsea parted ways with Lampard on Monday.

“Chelsea Football Club have today parted company with Head Coach Frank Lampard. This has been a very difficult decision, and not one that the owner and the Board have taken lightly,” the club had said in a statement.

“We are grateful to Frank for what he has achieved in his time as Head Coach of the Club. However, recent results and performances have not met the Club’s expectations, leaving the Club mid-table without any clear path to sustained improvement. There can never be a good time to part ways with a club legend such as Frank, but after lengthy deliberation and consideration it was decided a change is



CHELSEA PARTS WAY WITH LAMPARD: The club is currently at the ninth spot in Premier League 2020-21 standings with 29 points from 19 matches.

needed now to give the Club time to improve performances and results this season,” it had added.

Lampard took to Instagram to share a post in which he also thanked the fans for their “incredible support” and wished for the club’s success.

“It has been a huge privilege and an honour to manage Chelsea, a club that has been a huge part of my life for so long. Firstly, I would like to thank the fans for the incredible support that I have received for the last 18 months. I hope they know what that means

to me. When I took on this role I understood the challenges that lay ahead in a difficult time for the football club,” Lampard wrote.

“I am proud of the achievements that we made, and I am proud of the Academy players that have made their step into the first team and performed so well. They are the future of the club. I am disappointed not to have had the time this season to take the club forward and bring it to the next level. I want to thank Abramovich, the board, players, my coaching team and everyone at the club for their

hard work and dedication, especially in these unprecedented and challenging times. I wish the club and the team every success in the future,” he added.

The club has not yet announced Lampard’s successor. “The Club will be making no further comment until such time as a new Head Coach is appointed,” the club had said.

The club is currently at the ninth spot in Premier League 2020-21 standings with 29 points from 19 matches. The side will next take on Wolves on Wednesday. **ANI**

FOOTBALL



Guardiola insists focus is the key to Manchester City’s winning streak

MANCHESTER: Even as Manchester City is on a roll, manager Pep Guardiola has said that he never asks his players to look too far ahead and wants them to focus on the immediate challenge that faces them.

And the strategy seems to be working really well for the manager as the club is on a remarkable run. Manchester City have secured 10 successive victories in all competitions and are now preparing for the game against West Brom. “Focus and concentration and, believe me, this is the best advice -- focus on the next one. People want predictions of who will be champions, how many points etc,” the club’s official website quoted Guardiola as saying when asked about the secret behind this run.

“Focus on the next game. Now it is not about Sheffield United or Burnley -- it’s about West Brom. That’s the only way. I never say to the players ‘Win five games in a row.’ I say ‘Win the next one and see how many we can win.’ When you have won 10 games in all competitions, focus on the next one. That’s all that matters. After (that) we see what happens. When you start to think ahead, you will lose a lot,” he added.

On the back of a sublime run, Manchester City is currently placed in the second spot on the Premier League standings with 38 points, just two points behind table-toppers Manchester United.

Manchester City will take on West Brom in the Premier League on Wednesday. **ANI**

SA VS PAK

Bowlers bring Proteas back in the game after batsmen falter

KARACHI: Pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada struck twice while Anrich Nortje and Keshav Maharaj picked a wicket each as South Africa fought back after being dismissed for 220 against Pakistan on day one of the first Test on Tuesday.

At stumps, Pakistan score read 33/4 with the hosts still trailing by 187 runs. Azhar Ali and Fawad Alam remained unbeaten on five runs respectively. It was a day of top-class bowling performances as 14 wickets were picked on the opening day -- 10 by the hosts and four by the Proteas. If Pakistan dominated the first two sessions, South Africa came back strongly in the final hour of the play sending four hosts’ batsmen including skipper Babar Azam (7) back to the pavilion.



South Africa batsmen might have disappointed their fans but the bowlers came out firing on all cylinders to snatch whatever advantage Pakistan had gained in the first two sessions.

Imran Butt (9), Abid Ali (4), and skipper Babar all went back to the pavilion for single-digit scores while nightwatchman Shaheen Afridi was dismissed for a duck as Pakistan ended day with the Proteas wearing a smile on their faces.

Opting to bat first, South Africa got off to a bad start as speedster Shaheen Afridi removed Aiden Markram in the fifth over. Debutant Imran Butt took a fine catch in the slips as South Africa lost their first wicket.

A brief 33-run partnership between Rassie van der Dussen and

opener Dean Elgar came to an unfortunate end as a run out in the middle handed Pakistan a second wicket. South Africa went to lunch at 94/2 after losing the wickets of Markram and van der Dussen in the first session.

In the second session, South Africa crumbled in front of Pakistan bowlers as the side lost three quick wickets before tea. Faf du Plessis wasn’t able to convert into a big score after getting a reprieve as Yasir Shah bamboozled former South Africa skipper to reduce Proteas to 108/3.

Meanwhile, opener Elgar completed his half-century and stitched a 25-run stand with skipper Quinton de Kock for the fourth wicket. But debutant Nauman Ali hogged the limelight when he dismissed de Kock and Elgar in

back-to-back overs as South Africa slumped to 136 for 5.

With Pakistan taking control of the game, Yasir Shah struck soon after tea as he bowled Keshav Maharaj for a duck. Wickets kept falling for South Africa and Hasan Ali too joined the party on his return to international cricket.

Hasan dismissed George Linde in the 62nd over to leave South Africa reeling at 194/8. Minutes later Yasir struck -- his third wicket -- sending Anrich Nortje back to the pavilion as South Africa lost nine wickets before putting 200 runs on the board. Shaheen then ended the South Africa innings as he trapped Lungi Ngidi in front of the stumps.

Brief Scores: South Africa 220 (Dean Elgar 58; Yasir Shah 3-54); Pakistan 33/4 (Kagiso Rabada 2-8) **ANI**

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Muscat Cricket Coaching Centre end Under-19 campaign undefeated

MUSCAT: Muscat Cricket Coaching Centre (MCCC) ended their Junior League Under-19 League campaign undefeated after ace all-rounders Sameer Mohammed and Adeel Abbas helped their team to a 7-wicket win against Boshers Sports Centre (BSC) A at OC Turf 2 in Amerat on Saturday.

This was MCCC’s fifth consecutive win in the tournament with a maximum ten points, followed by ISM which has six points from four games and BSC A with four points from three games.

BSC failed to post a fighting total on the board, folding up for a disappointing 154 in 46.3 overs due largely to brilliant bowling by Prathiesh HR and Sameer Mohammed who picked up four wickets each. Arjun Rajesh top-scored for BSC with a solid 41 while Sanin Fahad chipped in with 28.

Knowing the game’s importance, MCCC made a cautious start, reaching 77 for 1 in 24 overs before crossing the line in the 38th over at 156 for 3 thanks to vital knocks from Adeel (42), Aaryan Nishit Punja (40 not out) and Sameer (36 not out).

Brief Scores (Junior League U-19): Boshers Sports Centre A 154 all out in 46.3 overs (Arjun



Haider Hussain Sikora and Aneek Chakravorty of MCCC Yellow Under-19

Rajesh 41 – 4x4, Prathiesh HR 4-23, Sameer Mohammed 4-25, Adeel Abbas 2-36) lost to MCCC 156 for 3 in 37.5 overs (Adeel Abbas 42 – 5x4, Aaryan Nishit Punja 40 – 4x4, Sameer Mohammed 36 – 4x4, 1x6) by 7 wickets.

Atharva Shrikant’s superb 95 and Abhas Ajay’s magnificent all-round show powered Indian School Wadi Kabir (ISWK) to a huge 199-run win over Sri Lankan School Muscat (SLSM) at Muscat Municipality ground 1 on Saturday.

ISWK batted with authority, scoring 307 for 8 in 30 overs thanks to splendid knocks by Atharva, Abhas (74) and Vardhan Sameer (57). Puladith Omidu claimed 4 for 64.

SLSM failed to fight, managing to score only 108 for 9. Devin Wijayananda topscored with 41. Abhas Ajay excelled with the ball too, taking 3 for 21 while Krishhang Srivastava bagged two wickets.

Brief Scores (Junior League U-16): ISWK 307 for 8 in 30 overs (Atharva Shrikant 95 – 12x4, Abhas Ajay 74 – 11x4, Vardhan Sameer 57 – 6x4, Puladith Omidu 4-64, Devin Wijayananda 2-51) beat SLSM 108 for 9 in 30 overs (Devin Wijayananda 41 – 9x4, Abhas Ajay 3-21, Krishhang Srivastava 2-8) by 199 runs.

Brief Scores (Junior League U-13): ISWK 137 for 6 in 20 overs (Nilaksh Vats 84 – 12x4, Patel Dhyan 2-28, Khasbage Amish 2-23) beat ISM 137 for 9 in 20 overs (Pachisia Ojju 72 – 9x4, Kavish Rajeshkumar 2-17) by 40 runs.

Brief Scores (Junior League U-13): MCCC RED 27 all out in 14.3 overs (Shravan Sharat 10 – 2x4, Abhinav Singh 3-1) lost to Boshers Sports Centre A 28 for no loss in 5 overs (Ayman Shaikh 18 – 2x4) by 10 wickets.

OLYMPICS 2021

Florida authorities propose relocating summer Olympics from Tokyo to US



FLORIDA: Florida chief financial officer Jimmy Patronis has sent a letter to International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Thomas Bach proposing to relocate the 2021 Olympic and Paralympic Games from Japan to the United States.

Last week, Japanese news agency Kyodo reported, citing sources, that the government was mulling holding the Tokyo Olympics with few or no spectators due to coronavirus-related considerations. “With media reports of leaders in Japan ‘privately’ concluding that they are too concerned about the pandemic for the 2021 Olympics to take place, there is still time

to deploy a site selection team to Florida to meet with statewide and local officials on holding the Olympics in the Sunshine State,” the letter read, as quoted by local broadcaster WPTV.

Among other reasons, Patronis cited the fact that Florida continued to successfully host sporting competitions throughout the pandemic, including UFC, NBA and NFL matches.

Amid reports on the possible abridgment of the Tokyo Olympics, The Times reported late last week that the Japanese government already decided to cancel the 2021 games altogether and host the 2032 edition instead. **ANI**

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by March 2020 reaching \$55.30, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil declined by 10 cents from the price of Monday, which was \$55.40. - **OMA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSM index closed at 3,677.842 points, down 0.56 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.70 per cent at 529.612 points. Phoenix Power, up 1.96 per cent, was the top gainer while Muscat Finance, down 9.52 per cent, was the top loser.

Pact signed for \$1.2mn ceramic tiles manufacturing facility in Sohar

The finished products will be distributed locally as well as exported to other Gulf Cooperation Council markets

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The partnership between Sohar Port and Freezone and Eagle Ceramics FZC will see the establishment of a ceramic tiles manufacturing unit at Sohar Freezone.

The signing took place at the office of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ), under the patronage of Eng. Ahmed Hassan Alawi Al Dheeb, Deputy Chairman of OPAZ.

The project will see an estimated total capital investment of \$1.2 million and will take up a plot size of 20,000 m2 at Sohar Freezone. The finished products from the facility will be distributed locally as well as exported to regional GCC markets.



PARTNERSHIP: The agreement was signed between Omar Mahmood Al Mahrizi, CEO of Sohar Freezone - DCEO of Sohar Port and Manoj Valamji Panchotiya, partner at Eagle Ceramics FZC. - **Supplied picture**

The agreement was signed between Omar Mahmood Al Mahrizi, CEO of Sohar Freezone - DCEO of Sohar Port and Manoj Valamji Panchotiya, partner at Eagle Ceramics FZC.

Commenting on the upcoming facility, Omar Mahmood Al Mahrizi stated, "We believe that the introduction of the new ceramic manufacturing unit will enhance the offerings of the Freezone, especially with regard to ceramic products. Apart from generating value-added services, the project is in line with our overall objec-

tive to increase the attractiveness of Sohar Freezone to regional and global investors."

"This, in turn, will allow us to boost our contribution to the GDP of the Sultanate and further the development of the logistics sector, alongside the creation of several

job opportunities in the long-run."

Panchotiya added, "We are proud to set up our new facility at Sohar and are keen on being a part of the growing complex."

"We also look forward to the establishment of further downstream projects in the future, to

enhance the offerings at Sohar, alongside other industries. We believe that the ceramics unit will contribute towards the nation's efforts of economic diversification by promoting the export of ceramic products into the region and beyond," he said.

INSURANCE

Insurers becoming more attracted to exchange traded funds

Times News Service

DUBAI: The use of exchange traded funds (ETFs) by insurers has grown both in terms of assets and portfolio applications in recent years, and more plan to increase their allocations in the years to come, according to Invesco.

"Contrary to the view that insurers might not need the benefits traditionally put forward by ETFs and therefore rarely use them in their investment strategies, we have actually observed a rising interest by European insurers over the past few years with plans to increase allocations," says Charles Moussier, EMEA Head of Insurance Solutions at Invesco.

Invesco's view is supported by a recent report by Cerulli Associates, which show that 42 per cent of UK insurers plan to increase the number of ETFs on their platforms over the next three to five years, a figure close to that of other major European countries (46 per cent in Italy, 38 per cent in France, 37 per cent in Germany and 48 per cent in the Netherlands and Belgium). In the US, are port by S&P Global indicates insurance company assets invested in ETFs nearly doubling in the last 5 years.

ETFs often offer more trading flexibility, lower operating costs, and have higher liquidity, making the product attractive to investors. However, insurers invest



very large tickets and therefore already benefit from very low institutional management fees. They also invest over the very long term and do not necessarily need the increased liquidity offered by ETFs. Invesco's analysis looks into other drivers of ETF adoption by insurers.

"An essential element that differentiates insurers from other investors is their emphasis on diversification," explains Moussier. "While they may also be sensitive to the intrinsic advantages of

ETFs, we find that insurers particularly appreciate the variety of the strategies available using ETFs." ETFs enable insurers to rapidly diversify their allocations by testing new strategies or gaining access to asset classes that are less accessible or less liquid in other formats.

Across Europe, low-interest rates mean that insurers are shifting their asset allocations to focus on a higher-yielding fixed income, structured products, and private assets. According to Invesco, as ETFs are often more liquid than the underlying securities, they allow insurers to test their exposure in these classes without taking on long-term commitments. ETFs can also act as an intermediate step for insurers before considering dedicated mandates or funds.

Strategies integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria have become the core for investors, and ETFs play an important role in institutional investors' integration of ESG criteria into their portfolios. ESG funds are over-represented in European ETF inflows and have been gaining market share thanks to positive flows every month since January 2017. For insurers especially, ESG ETFs combine strict compliance with regulatory requirements, with flexibility in asset allocation and the fine-tuning

of their ESG strategy. Another structural reason for the success of ESG ETFs with insurers is linked to the intrinsic qualities of ETFs in terms of transparency, flexibility, and cost. "Adopting ESG is no longer seen by insurers as a constraint, but an opportunity as ESG strategies have demonstrated their ability to reduce risk in turbulent markets," says Moussier. The COVID-19 pandemic and the market volatility it brought has only accentuated the trend towards ESG ETFs.

While other drivers have emerged for ETF investing, liquidity does remain important to insurers, as well as cost and performance. As with most institutional investors, when selecting ETFs, insurers look at the liquidity of the fund Insurers manage liquidity with its plans in mind - units of accounts, horizon funds or retirement plans, to cope with more frequent and larger withdrawals from their customers.

Among insurers in the Middle East, the appetite for ETFs is slowly growing. "We see the use of ETFs amongst Middle East Investors continue to grow across asset classes as investors seek to reduce cost within their portfolios. The flexibility, liquidity and anonymity that ETFs provide are of particular interest for regional insurers," said Alessio Cirillo, Client Director at Invesco EMEA.

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



CBO issues treasury bills worth OMR76mn

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR76 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday. The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 91 days, starting from January 27, 2021, Wednesday until April 28, 2021.

The average accepted price reached 99.803 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.800 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 0.79056 per cent and 0.79056 per cent, 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 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 1 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. - **OMA**

TRANSPORT SYSTEM

Oman initiates implementation of International Road Transport System

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman, represented in Asyad Group, has initiated the implementation of the coveted International Road Transport System (TIR), by registering companies through SINYAR, the guaranteeing association overseeing the registration of transport companies wishing to benefit from the TIR system.

SINYAR, a member of Asyad Group, will oversee the issuance and monitoring of TIR cards, in collaboration and coordination with Royal Oman Police - Directorate of Customs; selecting reliable TIR cardholders and ensuring their continued compliance with the system.

Al Nadabi, Acting CEO of SINYAR, stated that the company will act as guaranteeing association for both local and international companies; train TIR cardholders, manage the implementation of precautionary measures and

monitor the movement of cards. Companies operating in Oman may apply for TIR cards by visiting SINYAR's website: www.sinyar.om and selecting the TIR tab from the available options.

TIR has been facilitating and securing trade and international road transport for over 60 years and is set to align Oman's transport and transit procedures with the measures applied in more than 100 countries around the world. Moreover, it is considered an enabler for facilitating private sector trade, via direct transit to the markets of the Gulf, India and Africa and lays witness to the Sultanate's commitment to boosting trade across its borders.

Al Nadabi further added that the implementation of the TIR system is expected to contribute to enhancing and facilitating the movement of trade and the transit of goods at border crossings, while also simplifying customs procedures



in a manner that promotes imports and exports. He added that the system secures customs duties and taxes and provides a robust guarantee mechanism, reducing trade transaction costs and minimising time spent waiting at

borders, smoothly and seamlessly, without border checks.

Al Nadabi iterated that the system will ensure the safe arrival of freight containers according to best practices, as well as allow the pre-clearance of goods and

the electronic submission of data prior to arrival at crossings. This is in addition to enhancing risk management by linking the system to a global network, optimising time and costs and eliminating the need for evaluating goods or negotiating the value of guarantees.

As such, TIR is a manifestation of the belief in the potent role of transport and trade in achieving prosperity and integration.

Oman had recently conducted a successful trial for transporting the first shipment from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Sultanate through the TIR system, which reduced the journey time between the two countries by 72 per cent. The Sultanate, eyeing to become a global logistics player, is focusing on soft infrastructure. Adoption and rollout of the TIR system may very well play a key role in establishing Oman as one of the most important logistics hubs, regionally and globally. Another

value-added is that the implementation of TIR, combined with other measures, will certainly help reach the goal of more effective GCC trade integration.

The International Road Transport Union had commended Oman's efforts in this regard, as represented in the Royal Oman Police - Directorate of Customs and Asyad Group, announcing on its website that the arrival of the first shipment via the TIR system constituted a turning point in regional trade and a step towards accelerating electronic procedures.

Worth noting is that the implementation of the TIR system comes following Oman's ratification of the Customs Convention on International Transport of Goods. It supports Oman's ambition to become a world-class leader in logistics and highlights its promising capability for conversion into a major trans-shipment hub for East-West trade routes.

MARKET

MSM index ends lower

Phoenix Power, up 1.96 per cent, was the top gainer while Muscat Finance, down 9.52 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,677.842 points, down 0.56 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.70 per cent at 529,612 points. Phoenix Power, up 1.96 per cent, was the top gainer while Muscat Finance, down 9.52 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Al Madina Takaful was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded and also was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 474 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR1.85 million, with more than 9.05 million shares changing hands. Out of 42 traded stocks, 16 advanced, 8 declined and 18 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for OMR196,000 while local investors were net buyers for OMR135,000 followed by GCCC & Arab investors for OMR60,000.

worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 5,552.664 points, down by 0.83 per cent. Al Madina Takaful was up by 1.14 per cent. Muscat Finance, Global Investment, Oman Emirates Holding, Oman Qatar Investment and Al Anwar Holding were down by 9.52 per cent, 7.27 per cent, 4.55 per cent, 3.23 per cent and 2.99 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 4,533.282 points, down 0.97 per cent. Voltamp Energy was up by 1.94 per cent. Galfar Engineering, Oman Cement, Jazeera Steel, Al Anwar Ceramic and Aluminium Product were down by 3.85 per cent, 2.76 per cent, 1.44 per cent, 1.37 per cent and 1.19 per cent respectively.

Services index was down by 0.58 per cent before closing at 1,601.782 points. Phoenix Power, Oman National Engineer and Semcorp Salalah were up by 1.96 per cent, 1.10 per cent, and 1.06 per cent respectively. United Securities

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSM 30 INDEX	3,699.07	3,677.84	3,677.84	3,698.50	-20.66	-0.56
FINANCIAL INDEX	5,595.12	5,552.66	5,552.66	5,598.94	-46.28	-0.83
Services Index	1,607.27	1,601.78	1,601.78	1,611.19	-9.41	-0.58
Industry Index	4,579.82	4,533.28	4,533.28	4,577.58	-44.30	-0.97
MSM Shariah Index	534.49	529.61	529.61	533.33	-3.71	-0.70
MSM TR INDEX	4,221.48	4,197.25	4,197.25	4,220.82	-23.57	-0.56

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....	Sec. Traded
9,056,133	1,183,076	459	20,320,637,773	6	23	12	41

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

[illegible]

REGULAR MARKET

[illegible]

Parallel Market

OM0000000563	PHOENIX POWER	14,134	735.	3	0.053	0.053	0.052	0.052	0.051	0.001	1.961	0.052	0.051	0.055	0.100	76,055.276
OM0000003661	VOLTA/EP ENERGY	16,600	1,743.	1	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.002	1.942	0.105	0.104	0.113	0.100	8,547.289
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	6,400	557	2	0.088	0.088	0.086	0.087	0.086	0.001	1.163	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	10,875.000
OM0000000200	MADINA TAKAFUL	3,974,983	34,228.	117	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.000	0.000	0.098	0.098	0.100	0.100	1,077,538.000
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	16,500	1,518	2	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.081	0.001	1.099	0.082	0.091	0.082	0.100	11,040.000
OM0000004735	SEBICO/SP SALAH	12,658	1,647	2	0.095	0.096	0.095	0.095	0.094	0.001	1.064	0.096	0.092	0.096	0.100	9,068.433
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	38,000	25,872	8	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.084	0.091	0.100	180,180.274
OM0000002028	GULF INT'CHM	12,500	1,363	2	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.100	2,289.000
OM0000002000	AL MAJMA MARKETING	1,500	930	1	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.000	0.000	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.100	41,124.000
OM0000000420	BANK NIZWA	12,008	1,048	6	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.098	0.100	142,500.000
OM0000000493	AL SUWADI POWER	245,000	12,280	7	0.050	0.051	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.050	0.052	0.100	35,720.317
OM0000000620	VISION INSURANCE	3,000	249	1	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.100	8,300.000
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	1,094	106	1	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.093	0.097	0.100	15,088.399
OM0000000245	ENFORCING/GENERATING	2,100	383	1	0.183	0.183	0.183	0.183	0.183	0.000	0.000	0.183	0.176	0.183	0.100	1,658.625
OM0000000710	OMAN REAL ESTATE	5,000	480	1	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.096	0.102	0.100	20,400.000
OM0000000226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	384,503	98,906	13	0.258	0.259	0.256	0.257	0.260	0.003	-1.154	0.256	0.255	0.258	0.100	15,729.489
OM0000000139	ALUMINIUM PROD.	14,470	1,284	3	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.084	-0.001	-1.190	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.100	2,786.430
OM0000000207	AL ANWAL CERAMIC	76,037	21,687	8	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	-0.004	-1.370	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.100	2,630.000
OM0000000280	OMAN ARAB BANK	30,000	5,100	1	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	-0.004	-2.260	0.173	0.165	0.173	0.100	288,807.930
OM0000000679	OMAN QATAR INSUR	35,000	3,184	3	0.093	0.093	0.090	0.090	0.093	0.003	-3.226	0.090	0.089	0.095	0.100	9,000.000
OM0000000681	OMAN EMIRATES HO	1,577	3,231	5	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.044	-0.002	-4.548	0.042	0.042	0.045	0.100	5,118.750
OM0000000321	GALFAR ENGINEER	1,794,033	78,401	60	0.050	0.051	0.049	0.049	0.052	-0.003	-5.659	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.100	14,209.051
OM0000000209	GLORIAN IN V	20,000	1,020	6	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.054	-0.003	-2.777	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.100	11,210.000
OM0000000383	AL KAMEL POWER	18,500	4,988	7	0.275	0.275	0.263	0.269	0.292	-0.023	-7.877	0.263	0.263	0.263	0.100	25,891.250
Total		24	6,977,091	631,381												260

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

Deloitte launches IFRS global virtual series

MUSCAT: Deloitte Middle East recently launched an IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) global virtual series which drew registrations from over 50 countries. The virtual series ran for three days with more than 4,000 registrations from the USA, Middle East, Europe, India, Cyprus, and several other countries.

As a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, a number of IFRS are affected especially standards relating to “financial instruments”, impairment of assets, going-concern assumptions and management assessments of whether a company will be able to continue its operations, among others. To support clients and stakeholders, Deloitte created

the IFRS Master Classes, to provide attendees with practical implementation guidance to be able to properly apply such standards.

"The Deloitte IFRS virtual series was offered to the members of various professional accounting bodies and the public at large," said Maher Khalil, Consulting Partner, COO, Deloitte Middle East.

RADIO ACCESS NETWORKS

Ericsson launches 5G RAN Slicing to spur business growth

MUSCAT: Ericsson has launched a 5G network slicing solution for radio access networks (RAN) that will enable communications service providers to deliver customised 5G services with guaranteed performance.

Now commercially available, Ericsson 5G RAN Slicing allocates radio resources at 1-millisecond scheduling and supports multi-dimensional service differentiation handling across slices. This strengthens end-to-end slicing capabilities for dynamic resource management and orchestration that ensure the high-quality end-user experience required by diverse use cases.

Network slicing supports multiple logical networks for different service types over one common infrastructure. It is a key enabler for unlocking 5G revenue opportunities such as enhanced video, and in-car connectivity, and extended reality. An Ericsson

MULTIPLE LOGICAL NETWORKS: Network slicing supports multiple logical networks for different service types over one common infrastructure. - Supplied picture

report estimates \$712 billion in an addressable consumer market for service providers by 2030.

The addressable market for network slicing alone in the enterprise segment is projected at \$300 billion by 2025 (GSMA

data). As 5G scales up, service providers are looking to maximise returns on their investments by targeting innovative and high-revenue-generating use cases such as cloud gaming, smart factories, and smart healthcare.

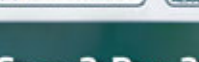
IPARTNERS

Investcorp launches its FinTech investment platform

BAHRAIN: Investcorp, a leading global provider and manager of alternative investment products, announced that it has launched Investcorp iPartners, its new FinTech investment platform that enables its investors to browse, assess and invest in Investcorp's private equity, real estate and other alternative investment offerings online.

Hazem Ben-Gacem, Co-Chief Executive Officer of Investcorp, said, "Investcorp iPartners marks a continuation of the firm's global expansion strategy. While we continue to expand our institutional investor base, Investcorp iPartners will solidify the firm's leading ultra-high-net-worth investor franchise and expand our reach into the sizable, growing and under penetrated private wealth market globally in partnership with distributor banks. iPartners further enhances our high-touch client servicing approach which continues to be a cornerstone of our business model and corporate culture."

Investcorp iPartners was developed in collaboration with iCapital Network, the leading financial technology platform driving.




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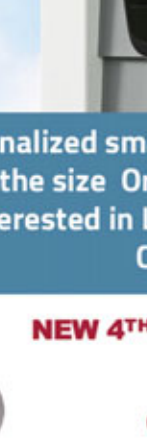
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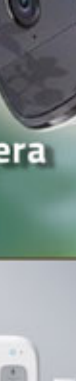
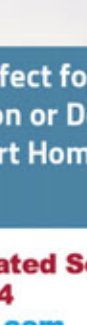


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ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male 18 yrs Oman accounting exp SAP, tally, excel upto finalisation seeks suitable placement, NOC, D/L available. Contact 97887472, 71206125

MBA, 29 Indian, 7 yrs experience in Accounts & procurement with tally, peachtree, SAP FICO & MM software certificates with DL. Contact 968-71220318, 71331413. rizwanthayyalashraf@gmail.com

Indian Male Bcom MBA, 20 years experience in Finance, Tax, Budget, MIS, ERP. Contact 91190552/92243552

Well experienced Accounts Manager looking for suitable placement. Contact 99044724

Indian male with 12 yrs experience in construction companiesaccounts upto finalization.looking for suitable position.NOC & D/L available. Contact 96454187. email srinath.kollam@gmail.com

Accountant having 3 yrs experience trained under CA,knowledge on tally ,peachtree,QB,tax,payroll,arabic typing on visit. Contact 78210435

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

CATERING

Cook seeks job. Contact 79508817

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Autocad Draftsman, 14 Yrs Exp. In Joinery, Gypsum works and all other Interior works. Looking Job. Available in Muscat. Contact 94396829

Autocad draftsman with an experience of 8+ yrs(GCC) in drafting. Looking for an opportunity part/ full time immediate joining.Contact 79828683

ADMIN/HR

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Hr & admin seek placement for Hr/admin executive/assistant - Contact 95425764

Indian male 23 yrs old, Bachelor of Business Administration(BBA) seeking a suitable placement. Contact 79752885

Indian Male 40 yrs old 16 yrs Exp in Business Dev. & Customer Service looking for a job Mob: 96072016

Indian male professional with experience in Secretarial and administration seeking job. Mob 99341481, mhd82ajaz@gmail.com

Indian Male, MBA (HR) & B.E graduate,12 yrs experience in HR Admin & Logistics (incl. 3 yrs of Oman exp.) can join immediately - 79857135 / kvaradhan@hotmail.com

Smart Indian, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman experience including Airport Projects, Hospital/Healthcare, Media. Immediate, NOC. 99283938

Indian Male with 3+ years of experience with valid Oman D/L looking for Administrative, Business Development or Sales/Marketing opportunities. Contact: 91400234. shaheemraf@gmail.com

Indian male graduate 14 years of experiences in Secretarial and office administration seeking a suitable position Mob 99341481, mhd82ajaz@gmail.com

Indian Female 7 years experience Exe. Secretary, Admin Asst, Project Asst, Collection Followup. # 92243552

LOGISTIC

Seeking opportunity in managerial position in logistics, having 4 yrs exp in administering logistice through air, sea, land & documentation within Oman & 6 yrs in India. Contact 98347003 Email jibyjohnd28@gmail.com

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Senior MEP Manager

Indian Male: Btech, having 23 years GCC experience with valid Oman driving licence seeks suitable placement.

Contact GSM: 79880377
Email: jaksona8081@gmail.com

FINANCE / ADMIN

Experienced Female with 8 years experience in accounts & Admin who is also a qualified paralegal in company law looking for a suitable post.

Contact: 96303874

FINANCE

Experienced European National Male with 7 years experience looking for a suitable post in the Accounts/ Finance. NOC available.

Contact: 97711584

Indian female (M.Sc. chemistry), 2 years experience as a quality control officer seeking a suitable opportunity in any chemical industry/food industry /lab assistant.

Contact +968 71548622
cleetadsu7259@gmail.com

Indian male chief accountant 21yrs experience in financial accounting, budgeting and finalisation. Oman D/L familiar with Sap, customised ERP and Tally. On visit

Contact 7807374
Email sajeevsmi2005@gmail.com

Sales Manager

With BA Degree and above 5 years of experience in Oman Market looking for suitable opportunity.

GSM: 71744819
Email: mehdikassen@yahoo.com

Architect/ Interior Designer

36 yrs old, 12 yrs working in Design, Consultancy & project execution. Experience working in commercial, Institutional/Educational, residential construction, Hospitality, Interior design/ fit-out work. Knowledge on CAD/ MS office/ Planning/ Tendering/ Estimation & execution. Ready to join immediately with D/L and NOC available

Contact: 78371040

Facility Manager / Operation (Project-Civil) Manager

B.E. (Civil) with 24 years expertise in Facilities Management, Civil Construction Management, Project Management, Maintenance Management, Construction Site Inspection & Audit, Process & Documentation, Security & Surveillance, Contracts & vendor management, Budgeting & cash flow. Available to join immediately. Omani DL & NOC is available.

Contact: +968-96180303 shiv60769@gmail.com

SR. Manager/GM/VP (Plant)

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

Contact: 79198709

ELECTRICAL MANAGER

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

Contact: 968-94029112
Email: sakthiveljothi@gmail.com

Senior Civil Engineer

Indian Post graduate civil engineer with 37 years of professional experience in Oman in property development and construction management seeks senior management opportunities in similar field.

Contact 96504377
jobsearchzac@gmail.com

MBA, seeking job, 27 yrs experience in capable managerial candidature with rich experience in Business operations, Vendor generalist, Procurement and HR generalist. Can join immediately.

Whatsapp: 7730012111
Mobile: 94268870
Email: mvssmngbr@gmail.com

Omani Mechanical Engineer

Omani, looking for a job, Bachelor in Mechanical Engg from the United States of America, +2 yrs of experience in Oil & Gas. + NEBOSH certification Holder.

Contact: 95070748
Email: siyabi430@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer

Indian Male 29yrs with 7 Plus years of Experience in handling High End Building Construction Projects, Infrastructure, MEP, Interior finish and Landscaping works looking for any suitable job in immediate. Having Knowledge of MS Project & Primavera P6. NOC & Oman D/L Available.

Please contact me on 95051103,
Email: loyannavildsouza@gmail.com

Structural/Civil Engineer

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

Please contact me on +968-93368626
irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com

SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

11+ Yrs of experience (10 Yrs Oman experience)
• On Engineer Visa (Expiry - Feb 2022), Can get release also.
• Experience in Building and Factory projects with Ministry & Private Clients.
Looking for fulltime/part time job. Having Omani DL.

GSM: 94125368 ;
premjitpremanathan@gmail.com

Accountant Indian Male
MBA Finance 2 years experience in india with good knowledge in tally seeks placement.

9539 1786

SENIOR CORPORATE AND RETAIL BANKER

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

Email: DolphinOcean367@gmail.com

Project Engineer

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

Having DL & Current Visa expires in Feb/2021.

Contact # boopathiraja88@gmail.com / 97412105

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)

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

GSM: 78259755

Indian female B Com graduate having 7 years' experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP 9). Seeking suitable placement in Accounts/ Admin.

Contact: 92999419
d.kaiyarla1986@gmail.com

Experience more than 20 years of experience working in: Public Administration, Human Resource, Public Relations, Preparation and Writing of Reports, Coordination and Preparation of Meetings, Business Development, Marketing, Management and Retail Real Estate.

Contact whatsapp: 99477009
Email: abualmutsam@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Male, 41 Years, B.Com + CA Intermediate, having more than 15 Years of experience (13 years in Oman) in the different positions as Accounts Manager, Internal Auditor and statutory auditor. currently working as Accounts Manager, seeking similar Managerial position in finance.

Contact: 99169501

HR Manager

17 years' experience in Finance & HR (10 Yrs), Indian Male, MBA & M.Com. NOC Available.

Contact: 96332608

OMANI HR/PRO

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

Contact 97264447

INDIAN, female, MBA, 4 years experience in Office administration and customer service (Banking & Construction field), knowledge of MS packages, currently on family visa, residing in Ruwi.

Mob: 95073054
Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

Finance Manager / CFO

Indian Chartered Accountant and Cost Accountant with 25 years experience in Finance, MIS, Budget, Strategy, Projects, VAT seeks suitable placement.

Contact: 99884291 / 99741875
VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM

Junior Architect with 3-years Oman experience in designing, proficiency in AutoCAD, Sketchup, Lumion Vray & Photoshop. Has worked in quantity estimations. Looking for suitable placement in Muscat.

Contact 95972625

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

Srilankan Senior Accountant looking for a suitable opportunity. 7 years experience in Oman & capable of handling accounts up to finalization. On hand experience in Tally, Spur, QB etc. Having D/L.

CONTACT: 92821932

PLANNING ENGINEER/MANAGER

Planning Engineer/manager 20 yrs experience in Mechanical, civil, pipeline 7 MEP projects using Primavera with NOC & D/L seeks suitable position.

Contact 92651105
Email rejil_mathai@hotmail.com

General Manager/ Sr. Manager Role,
Indian Professional (BE, MBA, PMP, FIDIC) with 25 years experience into Civil and Infrastructure Constructions and Project Management. NOC available.

Contact 94634053

Finance/Accounts Manager

Indian male (MBA Fin) with 20 yrs working exp as Accounts & Finance Manager (Strategic planning, Procurement, Finance, Accounting, HR Admin, Audit, Tax, VAT) seeking suitable post. Valid Oman DL. NOC available.

Contact No.99705790
email: thoms_mat@yahoo.com

Graduate Civil Engineer

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

Email: contactsyedshams@gmail.com;
GSM: +968 98500235

Senior Software Test Engineer

Indian Female 25yrs, BCA, M.tech, 5+ years experience in Wipro technologies. Key Skills – Web Application testing, Anti money laundering, Agile methodology, Manual Testing, Automation testing, selenium, Java, SQL, Appium and API testing.

Contact: 71792368 / 99295161 / nibesh.cmn@gmail.com

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)

MBA, B.Sc and CA (Intermediate) with 18 years of experience (12th year in Oman) in Retail, FMCG, Leasing and Property management sectors. Immediate joining. DL. NOC is available.

M: 9641 6394 / Mail: scms.acc133@gmail.com

Bsc In Civil Engineering, MBA in Project Management, PMP Certified, having 14 yrs experience (12yrs in Oman) with experience of construction of 4 star hotel, Airports, commercial & residential buildings, factories, Oil stations, is looking for a suitable placement. Having Oman Driving licence with NOC.

Contract: 99721926, tanvircivil@gmail.com

GM / NSM / Head Of Sales

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

Email: sljobseeker72@gmail.com
Contact: 96223114

Indian male, bachelor's degree, Graduate (B.Com, B. Ed) looking for secretary, exec assistant, office administration jobs, 18 years experience, 7 years in Oman.

Call 97015841
Email khalid.bin.umar@gmail.com

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JOB WANTED

DINING

ENGINEER

M/48/Indian Civil engineer, 28 yrs exp, 18 yrs Oman exp with Consultants & Clients seeks opportunities. Contact 92370274

Indian 28/Male Diploma Electrical Engineer, 4.5 yrs. Exp. (2 yrs. (Exp.) in Dubai) as an Electrician. Seek job Contact no 79572738.

8 Years experienced Electrical Sales and Estimation Engineer with valid driving license available to join immediately. Contact: 79696089. Email xjnirmal@gmail.com.

Indian BE Civil engineer 10 yrs experience in Construction, Oil & gas field in Oman having valid D/L. Immediately join. Contact 96455880

BE Civil engineer having 13 years oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact no: 72132426

Landscaping and Irrigation Engineer with 9+yrs total exp, 6 yrs in oman, looking for suitable job. Contact no. 72100025

Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDO, Diwan, Abu Dhabi, group of companies as GM. Contact/ Whatsapp 94174443

A Civil engineer with a valid D/L, 9 years experience in Oman seeks job. Contact 97646908

30 Yrs Male, Steel Fabrication Engineer, 6Yrs in Oman, Mechanical CAD, Shop Drawing, Ph: 97097688.

Project / Site Engineer, Btech Civil, 8+ yrs Gulf Experienced in Major Projects, Oman D/L Ph-99857800.

Indian Female Structural/Civil Engineer having 25 years of experience including 18 Years Gulf Experience, on employment visa is seeking for suitable placement. Ready to join immediately with necessary documents. Contact: 92731684/79858363

Arabic/English speaking Civil engineer, 5 yrs experience in Projects coordination, preparing submittals & engineering software, resident & have valid DL. Contact 95432250

B.Sc in Civil Engineering having 13 years experience in Oman. Hand on experience in Ministry of Health, MOD, ROP and RCA prestigious project. Available in Oman with NOC and Valid DL. Contact 92180869, E-mail: mamuns02@yahoo.com

Looking for a job for the post of Electrical Engineer with Btech and 15 years exp in Oman. NOC and Release available Contact 92254336. Email ameen1667@gmail.com

Indian male having diploma in mech engg & valid Oman DL. have 6 yrs experience in Oman # 95645241

Civil Engineer, Indian female with 3 yrs experience in Oman, 28 yrs old, looking for a suitable job in a construction Company. Oman DL, valid visa. # 99772710, 99256371

B.E Civil Engineer having over all 14 yrs Experience in building & Roads with consultant and contractor. NOC available immediate joining. Contact 94011294. Email: adnanluky@gmail.com

Planning Engineer, Indian 20 yrs experience in using Primavera P6 for oil & gas, water pipeline & building, MEP works scheduling seek suitable senior position with release & Oman DL. # 92651105, 90643701 rejil_mathai@hotmail.com

IT

CRM, ERP & MIS analyst, experience 5 yrs. Contact 71561266

Indian male, B.Sc (Computer science) 6 yrs of Project management (IT) with FMCG domain across global markets, experience in managing end to end project activities. Contact 98781017

MEDICAL

Lady G P. With M O H licence. Full or part-time, for Capital area only. Contact 99470508

MISCELLANEOUS

Plumbing, painting maintenance works. Contact 96191837, 98937266

Driver plumber Electrician, looking for job. Contact 96750080

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

HSE Professional, Indian national, Graduate with 23+ years of experience having GradIOSH and IDipNEBOSH certifications seeking suitable placements. Working in Oman since 2012. Ready to join at short notice. Contact: 92604510, hseoman101@gmail.com

Civil Surveyor, 10 yrs experienced land surveyor. Experience in building, pipeline, Oil & Gas. Contact 99451321

MANAGER

Accounts/Finance Manager well experienced (29 Years), expert in cashflow & Credit management, arranging loans, monthly MIS, budgeting, Internal and external auditing etc. Contact 98803439

Planning Manager (B.Tech-Civil) 17+yrs Exp (Oman-8 yrs) Planning, QS, Budgeting, Costing, Tendering, Claims, ERP. NOC Immediate join. Contact : +96891170802. Email: roven.aravind@yahoo.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Sri Lanka male in Oman seeking a job as procurement, store manager & operation, Degree SCM -ERP, with NOC, Tele 98878815

Sri Lanka male in Oman seeking a job as, procurement, store manager, operation & Administration, Degree, fluent in Supply Chain Management Oracle ERP. Contact 98878815

Indian male 12 years experience in purchase store management and Inventory looking for suitable job with NOC, Oman DL Gsm 97099785. Email rajakmani66@gmail.com

Keralite, 31 yrs purchase assistant, 10 yrs working experience in Oman, valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable jobs. Contact 98615731 Email sanalk73@gmail.com

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Store Incharge, Sales associate, customer service, retail, warehouse logistics and merchandiser with driving license. Contact no. 95042624

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SALES / MARKETING

13 years exp in sales, marketing and distribution management. Indian male, MBA, DL. Contact 78097687

Indian with 16years experience in sales and marketing with valid Oman DL, looking for opportunities Contact 79685337

BM, with 26 yrs FMCG exp, handling large distribution looking for better prospects. Contact 90925520

Indian male with Oman D/L, looking for job in Sales. Having experience in sales in a very well reputed FMCG company in Oman. Contact 90625165, Email id: farookshamas@gmail.com

Business development Executive with vast marketing knowledge 20 yrs experience seeks employment. Whatsapp 95950370

Sales Executive, 14 yrs experience in FMCG/IT/Oilfield supplies with DL, looking for suitable placement. Contact 90174597

6 years experienced Sales officer looking for the suitable job. Valid, Omani driving license available. Contact 98424254

20 yrs experience in Sales & Marketing of Central Air Conditioning & Structural steel etc. Contact 968-95950370

Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in Logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) & Digital Marketing. Valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable placement. 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com.

23 Years Graduate in Marketing looking for job in Sales or Marketing having 03 years sales experience. Contact 9427 1666.

MBA Marketing/HR, 5 years working experience in India. Experience in Sales, Marketing and operations. Contact +96896652549

Sales/office driver, 15 yrs experience with DL & NOC. Muscat Area. Contact 79758863

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ZAG unveils offers on certified used cars

The offer presents customers with the opportunity to purchase a popular SUV or sedan models from the wide range of pre-owned brands approved by Zubair Automotive Group

MUSCAT: Zubair Automotive Group (ZAG) announced the launch of its exceptional offers on a wide range of approved used cars from its various brands. The offer cars include SUVs starting from OMR 2,300, as well as sedans starting from OMR 1,700 and will last for four days, from January 27 to 30. The offer, entitled 'Large Selection, Larger Savings', presents customers with the opportunity to purchase a popular SUV or sedan models from the wide range

of pre-owned brands approved by Zubair Automotive Group. Customers purchasing any of the included models in the offer will also enjoy an array of benefits, such as easy and flexible financing, huge savings, a wide range of brands and models, assured quality, zero mileage vehicles, test-drives, warranty and roadside assistance during the offer period. Zuweina Al Azri, Communications and Group Marketing Manager at Zubair Automotive Group,

said, "Zubair Automotive Group intends to launch its exceptional 4-day offer to present its customers with the opportunity to own a suitable and certified pre-owned car while enjoying an array of exciting benefits and valuable services. With this offer, we look to overcome all the obstacles that were usually associated with the process of buying a pre-owned car by offering flexible financing options that meet the needs of all different segments of our customers. This is in addition to providing a wide range of models from popular brands in the Sultanate. All the vehicles included in this offer have undergone a comprehensive set of strict checks to ensure that they meet the highest quality standards, as well as providing peace of mind ownership and driving experience."

SERVICE WEEK

Mercedes-Benz Oman ensures safety and reliability with Actros Health Check

MUSCAT: Mercedes-Benz Oman is keeping its trucks reliable, safe and economic with a new Actros Health Check offer.

Valid during Service Week, February 7 - 11, at the Mercedes-Benz Service Centre in Muscat, Sohar and Salalah, the Health Check is available at OMR 98 or OMR 105 for the Actros 6-cylinder and 8-cylinder engines respectively. As the 2020 International Truck of the Year, the health check package optimises maintenance for the Actros, offering engine oil and filter change, diagnostic check of electrical systems, multi-point inspection and retightening of lug nuts on two/three axles, and much more.

"Mercedes-Benz Trucks are number one in the region and we've spent decades pioneering in the fields of safety, efficiency and ergonomics to optimise our performance on difficult terrains,"

said Gary Brown, General Manager of Commercial Vehicles at Mercedes-Benz Oman. "It's particularly important to address wear at the right time and the health check package keeps the Actros operating at the level intended by our engineers, reducing downtime and maximising productivity while delivering on a reputation of exemplary trustworthiness."

Meeting growing demands for enhanced efficiency, the Actros Health Check package includes engine oil (mineral oil) and filter change, replacement of diesel filter, vehicle check for oil leaks on major components, check and adjustment of fluid levels, electrical system diagnostics, engine compression test with a diagnostic tool that determines engine condition, multi-point inspection, retightening of lug nuts on two/three axles, and vehicle washing and greasing.

SHIPPING SERVICE

Oman Post Asyad Express launches international delivery service to over 220 destinations

MUSCAT: Connecting customers to all corners of the globe, Oman Post Asyad Express has launched its new international shipping service, Asyad Express International.

Offering door-to-door deliveries worldwide, customers can easily send and track their documents and parcels at competitive prices to over 220 destinations. Available at all 86 Oman Post branches across the Sultanate, as well as pickup collection services for cor-

porate customers, Asyad Express International makes it easier than ever to send shipments abroad, with the confidence of knowing they are in good hands.

Nasser Al Sharji, Acting CEO of Oman Post Asyad Express said, "At Oman Post Asyad Express, we are continually working on enhancing our services to meet our customers' evolving needs. As e-commerce continues to gain momentum, we are supporting our business cus-

tomers, while focusing on small and medium enterprises to scale their businesses, reach to online shoppers beyond the Sultanate and access new markets, with the choice, convenience and control they need to expand their business."

Asyad Express International enables customers to ship packages of up to 25kg, delivering to over 220 destinations between 48-72 hours, and major cities in the GCC in as little as 24 hours.

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HEALTHCARE

Burjeel Hospital aims to become first private facility to offer single-stage cleft lip and palate surgeries

MUSCAT: Leading healthcare and medical services provider - Burjeel Hospital aims to become the Sultanate's first private facility to offer single-stage cleft lip and palate surgery and neonatal cleft lip repair in the year 2021.

Cleft lip and palate are openings in the upper lip, the roof of the mouth (palate) or both. The condition occurs when facial structures that are developing don't close completely in an unborn baby. Cleft lip and palate are among the most common birth defects and most commonly occur as isolated birth defects, but sometimes can be associated with other inherited genetic conditions or syndromes.

Burjeel Hospital will provide multidisciplinary surgery and a full range of treatments of the highest standard, for babies and young adults, through its team of highly experienced craniofacial and cleft-care specialists in 2021. Their medical team will include ENT surgeons, orthodontists, paediatricians, speech therapists, anesthesiologists that will be led by internationally renowned Plastic and Craniofacial Surgeon -Dr. Taimoor Al Bulushi, MD, FRCS, FEBOPRAS, FACS.

"In general, when children have cleft lip and palate, they have problems nursing their mother's milk and this is a problem for the development of the child. Both cleft lip and palate can be corrected with a series of surgeries that restore normal function and achieve a regular appearance with minimal scarring in children as well as young adults. We, at Burjeel Hospital, are pleased to provide the routine opportunity of corrective, safe, and timely surgery to children and young adults

who have endured challenges as a result of being born with a cleft lip, cleft palate, or both, courtesy our multidisciplinary team, led by an able and experienced hand such as Dr Taimoor," said Dr Rohil Raghavan, Regional CEO, VPS Group, Oman.

"The cause of a cleft lip opening is not fully understood, but there are several risk factors," averred Dr Taimoor Al Bulushi. "The older the mother, the higher the risk of cleft lip or cleft palate. In addition, obesity, diabetes, and smoking during pregnancy, all increase the risk of having a baby with a cleft lip and palate."

He also mentioned, "Usually cleft lip and palate surgery is done in multiple stages soon after a child's birth, until 18 months. However, having introduced and mastered single-stage cleft lip, nose and palate surgery in the sultanate, at Burjeel we will be

able to even perform neonatal cleft surgery which is performed immediately after birth, as a significant addition to the hospital's transformative surgeries."

Catering to the growing medical needs of nationals, residents and medical tourists in Oman, Burjeel Hospital ensures it is always at par with the best available clinical expertise and medical technologies from across the world, along with personalised care in a comforting ambience and warm environment.

Conveniently located in Al Khuwair, in the capital city of Muscat in Oman, Burjeel Hospital is a unit of the prestigious VPS group, based in Abu Dhabi. Designed to be a premium healthcare facility, with Burjeel's signature 'art of healing', the Hospital hosts a network of speciality clinics to cater to various healthcare needs.

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



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