



For more details, contact:
Anand Iyer – anand@mmg.om |
+968 99219268
Kalpesh Adhia – kalpesh@mmg.om |
+968 95511335
Muna Al Zadjali – muna@mmg.om |
+968 9399 3334
Neha Shah – neha@mmg.om |
+968 7718 8254

PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....	12:23pm
Asr.....	3:45pm
Maghrib.....	6:17pm
Isha.....	7:27pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:08am

Comprehensive Shipping Services

Express Mail Service

For more information:

1001

Omani-Iranian business forum to boost relations

The two sides discussed the progress made in establishing a joint electronic platform scheduled to be launched in the near future

MUSCAT: The Omani-Iranian Business Council held a video conference on Wednesday during which it discussed means of enhancing cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the meeting, Oman was chaired by Mohammed Abdul Hussein Baqer and while the Iranian side was headed by Jamal Razeqi.

Joint electronic platform
The two sides discussed the progress made in establishing a joint electronic platform scheduled to



be launched in the near future. The platform is envisaged to facilitate commercial operations and provide innovative solutions that contribute to the acceleration of

procedures.

They also considered ways to allocate spaces in Oman for Iranian companies specialised in innovation and knowledge-based businesses.

The meeting looked into ways of enhancing cooperation in pharmaceutical, health and food production sectors, in addition to discussing the possibility of supporting the operation of a direct shipping line between the two countries. -ONA

Oman economic growth rates top inflation average

MUSCAT: The average rate of the Sultanate of Oman's actual inflation from 2021 to the end of 2024 stood at about 1.4 percent.

It rested at a moderate rate and within the 2.8 percent target set for the years of the tenth five-year development plan 2021-2025.

The Omani economy continues to grow at rates exceeding the inflation average. The actual average growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant prices stood at 3.9 percent between 2021 and 2023.

The budget for the current fiscal year (2025) saw the augmentation of the volume of public spending and the consolidation of the clause of contributions and other expenditures.

In the same budget, public spending was estimated at about OMR11.800 billion, compared to OMR11.650 billion in 2024.

The current budget included allocations for the social protection scheme to the tune of about OMR577 million, while a sum of OMR73 million was allocated to subsidise the interests of "development and housing loans", OMR520 million to support the electricity sector, OMR194 million to support the water and wastewater sector and OMR216 million to support petroleum products, food commodities, the transport sector and the waste sector and other sectors.

In terms of the monetary policy of the Sultanate of Oman, with Omani Rial being pegged to US Dollar, the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) has been keen on keeping



pace with the decisions of the US Federal Reserve—in view of bank interest rates. The overall aim is to strike a balance between supply and demand for liquidity and to limit the rise in the inflation rate.

In line with a trend towards monetary easing after the decline in the inflation rate, the CBO cut down the interest rate on repurchase operations for local banks during 2024, thus bringing the interest rate to 5.00 percent by the end of 2024.

The Ministry of Economy explained that the annual inflation data indicates a continued decline in the inflation rate according to the consumer price index in the Sultanate of Oman.

The average of annual inflation stood at about 0.60 percent during the period from January to December 2024, compared to about 0.94 percent during the corresponding period in 2023.

This rate came as a result of the decline in the prices of the main groups that are heaviest in terms

of weight in the inflation index, as the rise in the prices of the food and non-alcoholic beverages group declined to reach 2.8 percent during the indicated period, compared to about 3.2 percent during the same period in 2023, and the prices of the transportation group continued to decline by 2.61 percent during the period from January to December 2024, and it had witnessed a decline of 2.85 percent in the same period in 2023.

The prices of the housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group stabilised, as their increase did not exceed 0.32 percent during the period from January to December 2024.

On the geographical scale, statistics indicate the continued disparity in the inflation rate between the various governorates, during the period from January to December 2024. The highest inflation rate was recorded in Musandam Governorate at 1.32 percent compared to 0.76 percent in the same period in 2023. -ONA

Recall

RECALL CAMPAIGN FOR FUSO TRUCK

Recall Date: 06 March 2025

Brand of Commodity	Year of Production	Number of Affected Commodities
FUSO – FM & FK EURO 3	From 2021 to 2022	43

Recall consequence

Due to the black substance (oxidation) formation on the contact surface of the combination switch, improper electrical conduction is caused.

Recall Action

Replacement of the combination switch/turn lever

To check the serial Numbers of the affected commodities, please visit the website for Recalls & Warnings: <http://recall.pacp.gov.om>

For more information, please call **24 500 500 or 24 500 502** from Sunday to Thursday between **08.00 am to 05.30 pm.**

800 71 222
9275 5522

5-Gallon Oman Oasis

Enjoy 21 coupons for OMR 20

Scan to download the App!

© Oman Oasis Water

CONSTRUCTION WORK

Beautification work in South Al Batinah continues

RUSTAQ: South Al Batinah Governorate continues to implement several development and beautification projects in various wilayats of the governorate in line with the requirements by using the latest technologies in construction work.

Among the projects completed are the beautification of four roundabouts on the Rustaq-Musannah highway.

These completed works have added beauty to the surrounding regions. Beautification and maintenance works have been carried out for a number of gardens and parks in various wilayats of the governorate, including the Al Taybeen neighbourhood garden, Barka Park in the wilayat of Barka, Nakhal Park and Wadi Al Maawil, and the establishment of Dam Garden in the wilayat of Al Awabi. Work is currently underway to complete the Nakhal and Wadi Al Maawil gardens.

In addition to rehabilitating the irrigation system in these sites, there are plans to expand the area of afforestation and green spaces, building high-tech gardens.

There is also a trend towards continuing to implement many future projects in the field of horticulture, landscaping and beautification projects. -ONA

Terms and conditions apply

We made it easy
to get a Credit Card

Minimum salary from OMR 250

No need for salary assignment letter

First year annual fee waived

Apply now

بنك ظفار
BankDhofar

9 health sector projects localised in Khazaen Economic City

The investments in Khazaen Economic City cover specialised pharmaceutical industrial projects like the production of human vaccines, production of medicines and medical supplies

Times News Service

BARKA: Nine local and foreign health sector projects had been localised in the integrated zone in Khazaen Economic City, South Al Batinah Governorate, by the end of 2024. The total investment value of the projects stood at OMR156 million (about \$405 million).

The investments in Khazaen Economic City cover specialised pharmaceutical industrial projects like the production of human vaccines, production of medicines and medical supplies and the establishment of facilities for storing and importing medicines and medical equipment.

Eng Salem bin Sulaiman Al Dhahli, CEO of Khazaen Economic City, said: “The Medicine City in Khazaen is one of the main pillars of the Sultanate of Oman’s strategy to enhance the health sector by attracting local and international investments.”



He pointed out that there are several foreign and local investments that contribute to enhancing the drug security of the Sultanate of Oman and localising the medical industries. Among these projects are the insulin manufacturing project of Biogenmix, the Aviso Pharmaceutical Company project to establish an integrated complex for pharmaceutical in-

dustries, the Opal Biopharmaceutical Company factory, and a factory specialised in the field of dental implants made of titanium. Recently, a contract was signed with Advanced Technologies Company for medical and educational supplies to establish a factory specialised in the manufacture of veterinary vaccines.

He added to the Oman News

Agency that Khazaen Economic City seeks to enhance investments in the health sector by providing an integrated environment for investors in the pharmaceutical industries and medical supplies.

He pointed out that the allocation of an integrated area known as the “City of Medicine” came with the aim of achieving integration in medical and health services, and



attracting local and foreign investments in this vital field.

He explained that new projects will be announced during the current year as the development of the pharmaceutical city in Khazaen continues, including the fields of manufacturing medicines and medical equipment. Some existing projects will also be expanded, such as the Opal Biopharmaceuticals Factory, which has entered its second phase, in addition to new projects that will enhance production capacity in the pharmaceutical sector.

The CEO of Khazaen Economic City stated that new projects will be launched in the health sector, including the expansion of pharmaceutical production facilities and the launch of new projects related to medical supplies and modern technologies in the field of pharmaceutical manufacturing. Specialized logistics facilities will also be added to support the supply chain for the health sector.

It is worth noting that Khazaen Economic City continues to work on attracting more foreign investments in advanced medical industries, with a focus on enhancing drug security efforts in the Sultanate of Oman, to achieve integration between medical education and training and industrial needs, support research and development in the health field, and provide greater opportunities for investors wishing to benefit from the investment facilities provided by the city. **With ONA inputs**

OMAN VISION 2040

Waterfront development is part of Greater Salalah Structural Plan

< FROM A1 The waterfront plans are an integrated part of the Greater Salalah Structural Plan, a structural framework to enhance liveability by resolving spatial, infrastructure and mobility issues, and increase capacity to cater to the growing Wilayat Salalah, projected to hit a population of 674,000 by 2040.

The phased development approach will get underway later this year, with 5,827 residential units due to be delivered in Phase 1. The project is forecast to deliver developer returns of 10.2%.

The project is a key part of the Oman Vision 2040 to achieve a developed, diversified, and sustainable national economy, with fair distribution of development gains and protection of natural resources.

The nation is targeting OMR51bn in tourism investment by 2040, following a successful investment of OMR7.8bn between 2021-23. Oman aims to double tourism’s contribution to GDP to 5% by 2030 and again to 10% by 2040.



ous future for the people of Oman. It serves as an exemplar of how combining tourism and urban development is driving the diversification of Oman’s economy and bringing forward compelling opportunities for the international community. Salalah is a beloved and important city that contributes significantly to our nation.

These plans will help to ensure it can continue to serve our people and economy for many generations to come, while showcasing some of Oman’s greatest strengths to visitors from across the globe.

With works due to begin this year, we look forward to bringing New City Salalah to fruition alongside the Omani people and

leading international partners, investors and developers.”

Romil Sheth, Principal Designer at Sasaki Associates, said: “Salalah is blessed with incredible natural features and a deep history. Lush wadis, local agriculture embedded into the city, an extensive coastline with sandy beaches. To complement these significant assets, the Salalah New City plan adopts forward-looking urban design, place-making and planning practices that challenge status-quo urbanism and reflect an aspirational lifestyle for Dhofaris. The plan will serve as Oman’s living laboratory for urban innovation and a model for sustainable urbanism in the broader region”

شانغريلا ر الجيزة مسقط
SHANGRI-LA
BARR AL JISSAH
MUSCAT

CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF
Togetherness

Exquisite Iftar
Showcasing the rich tapestry of Middle Eastern flavours with entertainment
OMR 29 net per person | Al Tanoor | From Maghrib time until 10:30pm

Private Cabana for Iftar
Perfect for small groups, each cabana accommodates up to 6 guests
OMR 34 net per person | Available daily from Maghrib time

A Serene Suhoor by the Beach
A selection of appetisers, beverages and more at SIO2 Beach Lounge
Minimum spend of OMR 15 net per person | From 8pm to 2am

Iftar To Go by Shangri-La
A selection of traditional Arabic dishes and desserts for 6 people
OMR 98 net per box | A -24hour prior notice is required

Ramadan Corporate Gatherings
Ideal for groups with a selection of buffet and venue options
Iftar from OMR 27 net per person | Suhoor at OMR 18 net per person
Minimum of 30 people | Terms & Conditions apply

Ramadan Hamper
Personalise or gift a pre-filled Ramadan box
Pre-filled Hamper with 10 items at OMR 60 net
Personalised Hamper from OMR 12 net per box
Minimum of 4 and up to 10 items per box
Save %20 on a minimum purchase of 20 Hampers

☎ 79269247 📞 24776565



SURGE IN IFTAR, SUHOOR BOOKINGS AS RAMADAN SPIRIT FILLS THE AIR IN OMAN



Times News Service

The holy month of Ramadan has ushered in a renewed enthusiasm for communal dining, with hotels and restaurants across Oman witnessing an unprecedented surge in bookings for Iftar and Suhoor meals. From luxury resorts to mid-range establishments, the demand for Ramadan dining experiences has exceeded expectations, driven by early reservations and a growing appetite for unique culinary offerings.

The Chedi Muscat has report-

ed a significant increase in bookings, particularly from corporate groups looking to host team Iftars. “Bookings have been even better than usual,” said Karim Bizid, General Manager of The Chedi Muscat. “People have decided to plan even more ahead. In the past two years, we saw very last-minute bookings, but this year, guests are securing their tables well in advance.” A similar trend has been observed at dusicD2 Naseem Resort in Jabal Akhdar, where both room sales and Iftar bookings have surpassed last year’s numbers.

General Manager Jagdeep Thakral attributes this to an increase in corporate travel and the resort’s distinctive Bedouin-themed Ramadan experience. “Our Bedouin concept, combined with live music, has been a major draw this year, attracting guests looking for something beyond the traditional buffet,” he said. Shangri-La Barr Al Jissah, marking 20 years of heartfelt hospitality, has established itself as a central hub for Ramadan festivities. This year, the resort has ele-

vated its offerings with carefully curated Iftar and Suhoor experiences, including lavish buffets and an exclusive Suhoor setup at the SiO2 Beach Lounge, allowing guests to dine under the stars by the sea. “Ramadan at Shangri-La has always been a favourite among Muscat residents. As we celebrate our 20th anniversary, we have introduced unique experiences like the ‘Iftar To Go’ box and special gift hampers for Ramadan and Eid,” said Philippe Kronberg, General Manager of Shangri-La Barr Al Jissah and Shangri-La Al Husn.



Beyond Muscat, cities like Salalah, Sohar, and Sur have also embraced the Ramadan spirit, with restaurants and hotels rolling out special menus and atmospheric dining setups. Several venues have incorporated Arabic music and live performances, enhancing the overall experience and creating a festive ambiance. Social media platforms have also played a key role in amplifying Ramadan offerings. W Muscat has been actively promoting its Iftar experience, highlighting live grills and global flavours in an engaging

Instagram reel. The surge in Iftar and Suhoor bookings reflects a collective eagerness to embrace the spiritual and communal aspects of Ramadan. With hospitality establishments across Oman offering diverse and elevated experiences, this year’s Ramadan is shaping up to be one of the most vibrant in recent memory. Whether through traditional buffets, beachfront Suhoors, or intimate corporate gatherings, the joy of breaking fast together continues to define the essence of the holy month in Oman.

» IFTAR DRINK

Rahma Butt

REFRESHING STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM SHAKE



Cool down this Ramadan with a delightfully creamy Strawberry Ice Cream Shake! Made with fresh strawberries, yogurt, and rich ice cream, this shake is a perfect treat for Iftar.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup strawberries (fresh or frozen)
- 2 tbsp yogurt
- 1/2 liter milk
- Sugar to taste
- 2 cups strawberry ice cream
- Sprinkles for garnish
- Strawberry syrup (for decoration)

Method:

1. In a blender, combine strawberries, yogurt, milk, sugar, and ice cream. Blend until smooth and creamy.
2. Adjust the consistency by adding more milk if you prefer a thinner shake.
3. Decorate the serving glass with strawberry syrup for an elegant touch.
4. Pour the shake into the glass, top with a scoop of strawberry ice cream, and garnish with sprinkles.

This rich and refreshing shake is a must-have indulgence during Ramadan. Serve chilled and enjoy!

» WORDS OF WISDOM



“Say, ‘O My servants who have transgressed against themselves [by sinning], do not despair of the mercy of Allah . Indeed, Allah forgives all sins. Indeed, it is He who is the Forgiving, the Merciful” [Quran 39:53]

Another verse of the Holy Quran that reminds us of the greatness of Allah’s mercy, this is another source of inspiration for those who need the gentle reminder that Allah will always be there for us. Knowing that with sincere repentance, Allah can and inshallah will forgive us, this verse is another reminder of the greatness of Allah’s mercy and compassion.



IN 2024

Ships handled by Shinas Port jump by 41% to 707

SHINAS: Shinas Port in South Al Batinah Governorate, one of the strategic ports in the Sultanate of Oman has seen remarkable growth in 2024.

Statistics revealed an increase in the movement of vessels, goods and livestock, which indicates the vital role of the port in supporting the national economy and enhancement of regional and international trade.

Khater bin Ali Al Maamari, Executive Director of Shinas Port said that the port handled 707 ships last year, registering an increase of 41% compared to 2023.

He further said that the port handled over 100,000 tonnes of goods valued at over OMR11.5 million, which included both import and export of goods.

He revealed that the port received imports of 91,343 tonnes of goods which included building materials at 21,665.98 tonnes, food items (4,083.07 tonnes), gen-



eral goods (4,273.68 tonnes).

Ali Al Maamari further said that livestock and camels (15,815 tonnes) weighing 469 tonnes respectively.

Regarding the export side, he further said that the port saw the shipment of 11,676.12 tonnes of goods. This included building ma-

terials at 461 tonnes, food items at 33 tonnes and 8,643 tonnes of general goods. The export of cattle and camels was 2,133 tonnes.

This exceptional performance reflects the development in the infrastructure and the services offered by the port, he further added. — **ONA**

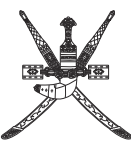
CABLE

HM the Sultan greets President of Ghana

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq has sent a cable of greetings to President John Dramani Mahama of the Republic of Ghana on his country's Independence Anniversary.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments on this occasion, wishing the Republic of Ghana further progress and prosperity.

-ONA



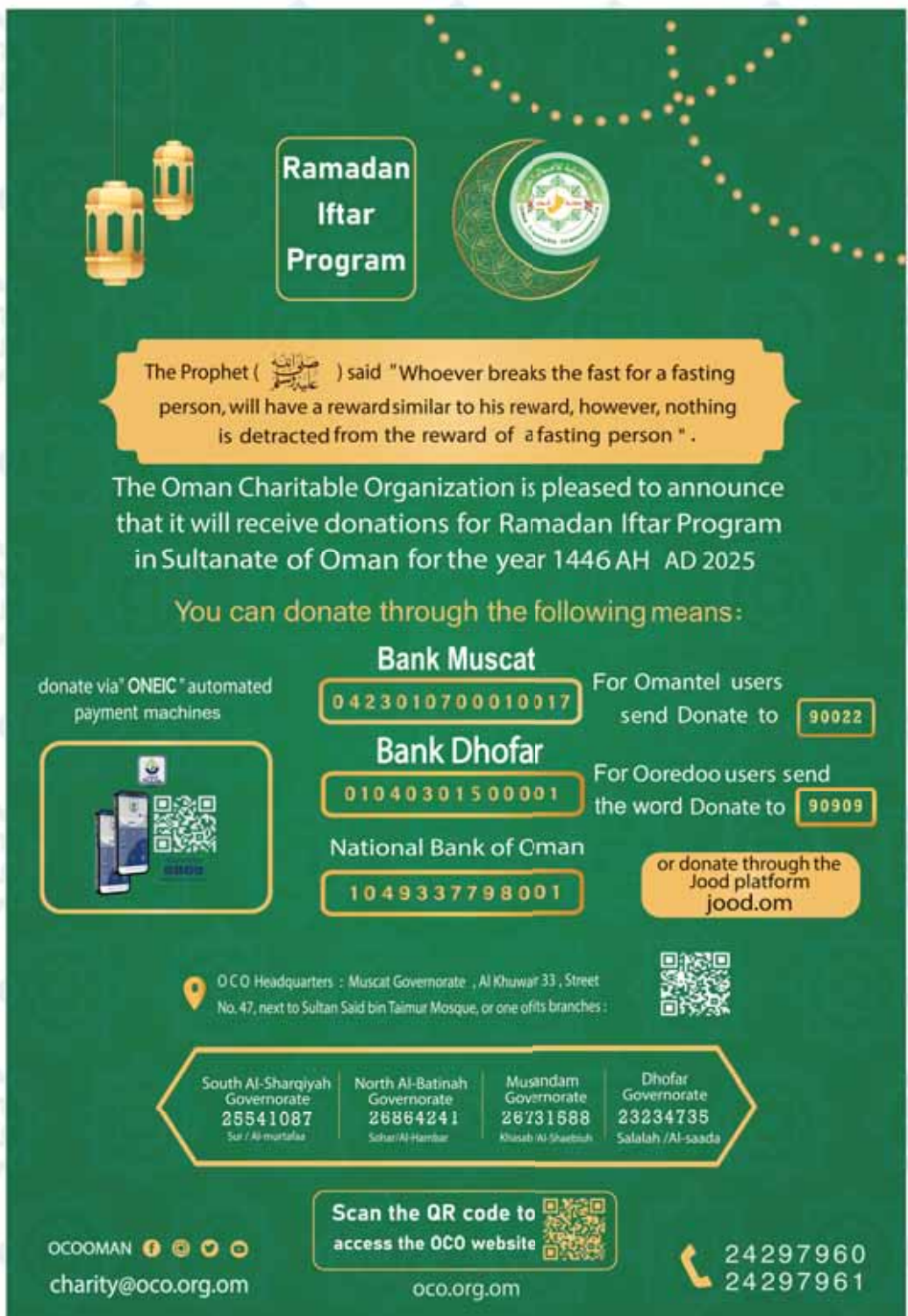
Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Defense invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in the following tender:

Subject	Tender number	Last date for Inquiries	Last date to submit the tender	Tender documnet price
Supply of Computers IT products and services for three years	07/2025	31/03/2025	07/04/2025	1500 OMR
Supply for the provision of Catering and Associated for Michmss Alkhoudh – Salalah- mam for five years	09/2025	07/04/2025	14/04/2025	1500 OMR

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



Ramadan Iftar Program

The Prophet (ﷺ) said "Whoever breaks the fast for a fasting person, will have a reward similar to his reward, however, nothing is detracted from the reward of a fasting person".

The Oman Charitable Organization is pleased to announce that it will receive donations for Ramadan Iftar Program in Sultanate of Oman for the year 1446 AH AD 2025

You can donate through the following means:

donate via "ONEIC" automated payment machines

Bank Muscat
0423010700010017
For Omantel users send Donate to 90022

Bank Dhofar
01040301500001
For Ooredoo users send the word Donate to 90909

National Bank of Oman
1049337798001
or donate through the Jood platform jood.om

OCO Headquarters : Muscat Governorate , Al Khuwar 33 , Street No. 47, next to Sultan Said bin Taimur Mosque, or one of its branches :

South Al-Sharqiyah Governorate
25541087
Sul / Al-murtalla

North Al-Batinah Governorate
28864241
Sul / Al-Hamir

Musandam Governorate
28731588
Khasab / Al-Shaib

Dhofar Governorate
23234735
Salalah / Al-saida

Scan the QR code to access the OCO website

OCOOMAN charity@oco.org.om oco.org.om 24297960 24297961



شركة إسمنت عمان (س.م.ع.)

Oman Cement Company (S.A.O.G)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

Respected Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Oman Cement Company (SAOG), it gives me a great pleasure to present you the Company's performance during the twelve months period ended on 31 st December 2024.

Company has made its efforts to contain the cost of sales and succeed to lower the cost of raw materials consumption, packaging materials consumption, utilizing aged stores inventories to overcome the adverse impact of rise in prices of some major elements of cost, and extensive efforts have been made in this direction in the current year also with better cost management and sustained efforts to improve efficiency and productivity.

The Company continues to be an ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 certified Company. It has also API Spec 10A (American Petroleum Institute) quality monogram certification for manufacturing and sale of Oil Well Cements. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted the Company a license to export Oil well cement, Class G.

1. PRODUCTION

(i) Clinker Production:
The company produced a total quantity of 2,871,532 MT of Clinker during the year as against 2,980,446 MT during the previous year, being lower by 108,914 MT (-3.65%).

(ii) Cement Production:
The company produced 3,311,463 MT of Cement during the year as against 3,309,973 MT produced during the previous year, being higher by 1,490 MT (0.05%).

2. TURNOVER & PROFIT

(i) The Company also achieved sales of 3,302,822 MT of Cement during the year as against 3,307,157 MT sales during the previous year, being lower by 4,335 MT (-0.13%). In terms of value, the Company achieved sales of OMR 67,652 million Cement during the year as against OMR 68,426 million sale during the previous year, being lower by OMR 0,774 million (-1.13%).

(ii) The Company also achieved sales of 27,894 MT of Clinker and in terms of value, sales of OMR 0.423 million during the year in its efforts to diversify the product mix.

(iii) During the year, the Company achieved profit before tax of OMR 13,067 million during the year as against OMR 7,010 million during the previous year, being higher by OMR 6,057 million (86.39%).Reduction in costs of raw materials consumption, packaging materials consumption, utilization of aged stores inventories reversing the slow-moving inventories provisions, lower maintenance expenditures, lower depreciations and lower manpower cost have cumulatively contributed to higher profit before tax during the year.

(iv) The Company has earned profit after tax of OMR 11,121 million during the year as against OMR 6,003 million during the previous year, being higher by OMR 5,118 million (85.27%).

3. INVESTMENTS

The company has continued to place its surplus funds in fixed income instruments including investing in term fixed deposits and call-accounts with commercial banks.

4. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The company has complied fully with the requirements of Corporate Governance. In this regard reference is made to:

(i) Management Discussion and Analysis Report, which gives in detail the company's performance and expansion programs, if any and;

(ii) Corporate Governance Report.

The above two reports demonstrate the company's determination to follow the best management practices.

5. ASSOCIATE COMPANY

Mondi Oman LLC
Company's share of profit after tax in associate company amounting to OMR 236,179 during the period as against OMR 317,743 during the previous year, as reported by the associate company, has been suitably accounted for in the financial statements of the Company.

6 DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION

The Company adopts a balanced policy of dividend to shareholders based on the results achieved taking into consideration the circumstances of the industry and market as well as the investors' expectations after satisfying required reserves to strengthen Company's competitive position in the market and to ensure a consistent dividend payout.

During the year 2024, the Company made special efforts to reward the shareholders and distributed high dividends all time, 120.89% of the paid-up capital out of retained earnings as at 31 December 2023.

The Board of Directors has also recommended 90% of the paid-up capital dividend to be distributed to its shareholders out of retained earnings as at 31 December 2024.

The dividends declared by the Company during last five years are indicated in the table given below:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dividend on paid-up capital	20%	10%	10%	10%	120.89%

7. INTERNAL CONTROL:

The internal control systems of the Company are being assessed regularly for effectiveness.

8. MARKET DEMAND & FUTURE OUTLOOK

Cement market in Oman has continued to witness intense price competition between major suppliers, which include local cement companies as well as cement manufacturers from neighboring countries plus supply chain constraints and geopolitical risks. The company has continued with its dynamic pricing policy and adjusted a responsive pricing to the market.

The company continues to innovate varieties of products including Portland-limestone cement 32.5 (Hareer Cement used solely for plastering) during the year coupled with its high emphasis on differentiation and cost optimization while maintaining highest quality standards. Market demand in next year 2025 is expected to be stable.

9. EXPANSION, MODERNIZATION & UPGRADATION

The Company has undertaken several expansion, modernization and up-gradation projects in order to enhance the efficiencies, production capacities, and reducing reliance on fossil fuel by use of alternative fuel initiatives as summarized below.

(i) The Company's decision to set up a new cement plant at Duqm with a capacity of 5,000 TPD of Clinker is under consideration.

(ii) The company has awarded EPC contract to upgrade capacity by debottlenecking and enhancement of existing Line-3 Cooler from 4,000 to 6,500 TPD at its existing Plant located at Muscat, through which clinker quality and production capacity will increase.

(iii) The company decided to connect the power from the 132kV grid station, Technical Consultant has been appointed, and EPC bids are under evaluation.

(iv) The company decided to install additional semi-automatic truck-loading facility for operational efficiency to increase the truck-loading capacity.

(v) The company has awarded an EPC contract to install a new Silo to store Fly Ash- Oil Well (CWC) cement to meet the market demand.

(vi) The company has successfully installed and commissioned the Fly Ash storage and handling system to produce Fly Ash-Oil Well Cement and to improve on environmental initiatives regarding dust emission reduction.

(vii) The company has awarded the contract for the supply of a shredding machine to shred industrial waste in its endeavours to use alternative fossil fuel replacement in alignment to the 2040 vision of the Sultanate on the decarbonization initiatives.

(viii) The company is, under its alternative fuel initiatives, considering a new Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) – Refused Derived Fuel (RDF) to reduce natural gas consumption towards decarbonization in line with country vision 2040.

10. CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

On its Corporate Social responsibility initiatives, the company continues to recognize its responsibility towards environment, societal and economical stewardship and in this direction, the Board has approved a CSR Policy. The company has been putting its efforts in this direction by demonstrating exceptional care for its communities by taking care of various aspects of resource conservation, energy efficiency and pollution prevention initiatives.

The company has continued to make sustained efforts to improve the work environment to be safe and healthy. The company continues to arrange training for its employees in a major way both within the country as well as abroad to upgrade their knowledge and skill. In addition, several training programs have been organized by the company for its employees in health, safety, and environmental awareness.

It has also taken care of the health of not only its employees but also the majority of their family members through health insurance policy. An employee benevolent fund takes care of assistance to employees in time of need.

The company also has a defined policy for granting donations for social and charitable purposes. Company supports building of new Mosques by way of providing free of charge some cement

11. MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS:

OCC's resilience performance in 2024 underscores strong market positioning, operational excellence and strategic vision. The Company remains to sustainable growth, profitability and value creation for shareholders in the evolving cement industry landscape, where the Company's gross profit margin has positively increased to 21% (9% up from 2023: 12%) and its net profit margin has improved to 16% (7% up from 2023: 9%).

The confidence and encouragement extended to the Board by the Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the shareholders is highly appreciated and the staff and management of the company pray Almighty Allah to continue to guide H.M. Haitham Bin Tariq Bin Taimur, Sultan of Oman, for the common welfare of the country.

Li Yeqing
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Note: The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder who request them in either Arabic or English within 7 days of receipt to the following address:Oman Cement Company SAOG, P.O. Box 560, P.C. 112, Sultanate of Oman

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2024 RO	2023 RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	85,975,440	89,263,605
Right-of-use assets	572,286	619,974
Intangible assets	169,585	235,121
Investment in an associate	1,496,722	1,534,771
Total non-current assets	88,214,033	91,653,471
Current assets		
Investments at fair value through profit or loss	9 89,823	81,948
Bank deposits	-	36,910,132
Inventories	12,750,805	16,166,687
Trade and other receivables	9,661,997	10,226,150
Cash and cash equivalent	32,222,941	17,174,090
Total current assets	54,725,566	80,559,007
TOTAL ASSET	142,939,599	172,212,478
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	33,087,271	33,087,271
Share premium	6,724,145	6,724,145
Legal reserve	11,029,090	11,029,090
Voluntary reserve	16,543,635	16,543,635
Fair value reserve	(692,847)	(692,847)
Retained earnings	56,877,528	85,756,661
Total equity	123,568,822	152,447,955
LIABILITIES		
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	593,242	629,711
Deferred tax liabilities	7,211,731	7,356,884
Employees' end of service benefits	1,068,866	968,384
Total non-current liabilities	8,873,839	8,954,979
Current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	76,766	76,766
Trade and other payables	8,178,527	9,490,680
Current tax liabilities	2,241,645	1,242,098
Total current liabilities	10,496,938	10,809,544
TOTAL LIABILITIES	19,370,777	19,764,523
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	142,939,599	172,212,478
Net assets per share	0.373	0.461

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2024 RO	2023 RO
Revenue	68,075,604	68,426,035
Cost of sales	(53,631,232)	(60,275,683)
Gross profit	14,444,372	8,150,352
General and administrative expenses	(3,672,978)	(4,594,641)
Reversal of allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets	60,613	80,791
Operating profit	10,832,007	3,636,502
Finance income	1,890,404	3,519,361
Finance costs	(32,422)	(712,500)
Other income	140,848	249,292
Share of profit of an associate	236,179	317,743
Profit before tax	13,067,016	7,010,398
Taxation	(1,946,149)	(1,007,777)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	11,120,867	6,002,621
Earnings per share		
Basic and diluted earnings per share (annualized)	0.034	0.018

Jenin, Tulkarm under stifling siege by Israelis

The occupation forces prevent press crews from entering the camp to monitor the destruction and devastation inside it and cover the occupation's practices against its citizens

GAZA: The Israeli occupation aggression on the city of Jenin and its camp entered its 44th consecutive day amid military reinforcements accompanied by a stifling siege, raids on homes and the expulsion of their residents.

The occupation continues to send its military reinforcements to the vicinity of Jenin camp, and its military vehicles continue to be stationed in front of Jenin Governmental Hospital, and tanks are present in areas close to the camp.

The occupation prevents local and international press crews from entering the camp to monitor the destruction and devastation inside it and cover the occupation's practices against its citizens.

on Tuesday, three young men were killed in Jenin Governorate;



Jihad Alawneh, 21, was killed after being shot with live bullets in the thigh in the eastern neighbourhood of Jenin city, while Ayser Al-Saadi was killed after the Israeli forces stormed the Al-Ghoul building, and detained his body after they shot him, and from the town of Silat Al-Shahr. Meanwhile, Ahmed Mufid Al-Kilani was killed after the occupation soldiers shot him near Homesh checkpoint between Jenin and Nablus.

The Israeli occupation forces withdrew from the eastern neighborhood in the city of Jenin after extensive destruction of the infrastructure, streets and power lines.

Additionally, the occupation forces blew up a residential apartment and forced a number of residents to leave their homes.

The occupation soldiers also detained several young men from the neighbourhood before their withdrawal, including the brothers Saber and Islam Al-Jarbou, who were displaced from the camp to the eastern neighborhood.

The director of the Public Relations Department in the Jenin

Municipality, Bashir Matahen, told WAFA that the occupation deliberately destroyed all aspects of life in the Jenin camp.

He added that the municipality crews were able to enter to a distance of only 10 metres from the camp, and that this distance revealed very massive destruction in everything in the camp.

Matahen confirmed that the occupation redraws the camp through the coordination operations, widening the streets and closing a number of them, and all the bulldozing and destruction operations that are taking place in the camp neighbourhoods aim to end it.

Regarding the losses, Matahen said that it is difficult to count accurate numbers of losses due to the ongoing operation and the presence of occupation soldiers who prevent the crews from doing their work, noting that estimates indicate losses in basic services, streets and infrastructure estimated at millions.

So far, the occupation has displaced about 20,000 residents of

Jenin camp who are distributed across about 39 towns and local authorities.

The occupation is working to change the features of the camp through systematic destruction that has affected 120 homes completely and dozens of homes partially.

Aggression on Tulkarm continues

The Israeli occupation forces continued their aggression on the city of Tulkarm and its camp for the 38th day, and on the 25th day, the Nour Shams camp, amid military reinforcements accompanied by a stifling siege, raids on homes and the forced displacement of their residents.

WAFA correspondent said that the occupation forces sent military reinforcements of vehicles and a fuel tanker last night from Nitsani Oz checkpoint west of the city, and were stationed around the Martyr Thabet Thabet Square, Al-Haddadeen Street and the old Al-Karajat Street, and raided the exchange shops in those areas after removing their doors, searching them and tampering with their contents.

She added that the occupation vehicles and bulldozers were present in front of the residential buildings that they seized on Nablus Street linking the "Tulkarm and Nour Shams" camps, while infantry squads were deployed in the main streets leading to the two camps, obstructing the movement of vehicles, stopping them, searching them, checking the identities of their passengers, and subjecting them to interrogation. — WAFA



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

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

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

Trump targets India on import duties

WASHINGTON, DC: US President Donald Trump targeted India's import duties in speech to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday. Trump specifically targetted India's tariffs on automobile imports saying, "India charges us auto tariffs higher than 100%",

While addressing a joint session of the US Congress, Trump said that the reciprocal tax will kick in on April 2. He said that the US has been ripped off for decades by nearly every country on earth and vowed not to "let that happen any longer."

Trump said, " Under the Trump administration, you will pay a tariff and in some cases a rather large one. Other countries have used tariffs against us for decades and now it's our turn to start using them against those other countries. On average the European Union China, Brazil India Mexico and Canada have you heard of them and countless other nations charge us tremendously higher tariffs than we charge them. It's very unfair. India charges us auto tariffs higher than 100 percent."

He also spoke about the tariffs imposed by the European Union, China, Brazil and Mexico and announced that the US will impose tariffs on other nations based on what they do to the US.

"China's average tariff on our



products is twice what we charge them. And South Korea's average tariff is four times higher. Think of that four times higher and we give so much help militarily and in so many other ways to South Korea. But that's what happens, this is happening by friend and foe."

Stressing that the system is "not fair to the US", Trump said, "This system is not fair to the United States and never was. And so on April 2nd, I wanted to make it April 1st, but I didn't want to be accused of April Fool's Day. That's not -- this one day was -- cost us a lot of money. But we're going to do it in April. I'm a very superstitious person. April 2nd, reciprocal tariffs kick in. And whatever they tariff us, other countries, we will tariff them." — ANI

IWATE PREFECTURE

Massive forest fire spreads in Japan

IWATE: A massive wildfire in northeastern Japan has expanded, with over 2,100 hectares burned since last week, putting more homes at risk, Kyodo News reported.

As per Kyodo News on Tuesday, the fire in Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture, has forced residents to evacuate as the fire has spread over a wide area toward the Pacific coast.

Kyodo News reported that Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba

pledged during a parliamentary session to "deploy all firefighting and Self-Defense Forces (SDF) capabilities to prevent people's homes from being impacted."

Battle the blaze

Kyodo News reported that firefighters recruited from across the country and SDF aircraft continued to battle the blaze after managing to prevent the flames from reaching residential areas of Ofu-

nato on Sunday.

As per Kyodo News, the forest fire is the biggest in Japan since the late 1980s, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

Earlier on Sunday, Japan's disaster management agency requested more fire departments across the country to join the battle against a forest fire that has continued to spread in the northeastern prefecture of Iwate. — ANI



JAZEERA STEEL

حديد الجزيرة

INVITATION TO ATTEND ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of Al Jazeera Steel Products Co. SAOG ("Company") are delighted to invite the shareholders of the company to attend the Ordinary Annual General Meeting ("AGM") to be held on **Sunday, 23 March 2025 at 3.00 PM** through Muscat Clearing & Depository website (www.mcd.om). In the event the legal quorum for the meeting is in-sufficient, a second meeting will be held on Thursday, 27 March 2025 at 3.00 PM to consider the following agenda:

- To consider and approve the Board of Directors Report for the financial year ending 31 December 2024.
- To consider and approve the Company's Corporate Governance Report for the financial year ending 31 December 2024.
- To consider and approve the Performance evaluation report of the Board of Directors for the financial year ended 31st December 2024. (Annexure 1)
- To consider and approve the auditor's report on the Company's audited financial statements for the financial year ending on 31 December 2024.
- To consider and approve the proposed cash dividend to the shareholders, as on the date of the meeting, amounting to 43 Baisa for each share for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
- To consider and approve the sitting fees of the Directors and Subcommittees for the past year and determination of the fees for the next financial year. (Annexure 2)
- To consider and approve the remuneration to the directors for the year ending 31 December 2024 amounting to RO 112,100.
- To consider the related party's transactions the Company entered in the financial year ended 31 December 2024. (Annexure 3)
- To consider the amounts allocated and spent for the Company's social responsibilities for the year ended on 31 December 2024. (Annexure 4)
- To consider and approve the proposed allocation of RO 20,000 to fulfil the Company's Corporate Social responsibilities for the year ending on 31 December 2025.
- To appoint the statutory Auditors of the company for the financial year ending 31 December 2025 and fix their fees.

Pursuant to the Company's Articles of Association and procedures issued by Capital Market Authority for holding General Meeting through electronic platform, we would like to draw your attention on the following points:

- A legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the meeting of the General Assembly and vote on his behalf through electronic portal, provided that this natural person has an investor number with the MCD.
- Voting on any of the items on the agenda begins no more than three (3) days before the date of the AGM until the end of the voting process on the day of the meeting. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be cancelled and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the AGM.

If you have any queries you may please contact **Mr. Yousuf Ismail Al Kamali** on telephone **26751763/4/5** Ext: **117**

Chairperson

Auditor

Legal Advisor

SALALAH MILLS COMPANY SAOG				
Salalah-Sultanate of Oman				
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT				
Dear Shareholders, It is my great pleasure to welcome you all on behalf of the Board of Directors of Salalah Mills Co. (SAOG) and present to you the Twenty Eighth Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended on 31st December 2024 for the Parent Company and the Group, along with the Report on Corporate Governance. This year has been marked by significant developments, resilience and continued progress towards sustainable growth. Key Financial Results - Total Revenue: OMR 90 million, reflecting a 39% increase from OMR 64.8 million in 2023. - Net Profit: OMR 1.35 million, compared to OMR 24.4K in 2023, indicating a strong turnaround in profitability. - Total Assets: OMR 105 million, a 31% increase from 2023. - Export Contribution: Represented 53% of total revenue, highlighting our continued strength in international markets. Wheat Subsidy Recognizing the challenges by the wheat milling industry, the Government of Oman extended the wheat subsidy for the third consecutive year with effect from 1 st May 2024 to 30 th April 2025. This initiative played a crucial role in stabilizing cost and ensuring price affordability in the market. Cash Dividend Dear shareholders, in alignment with our dividend policy, the Board of Directors has recommended a cash dividend of 20 Baisa per share for the year 2024 subject to approval at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM). This reflects our commitment to enhancing shareholder value while ensuring financial sustainability. Expansion & Strategic Growth Initiatives Our state-of-the-art industrial bakery plant at Khazzen Economic City is nearing completion. The civil construction and equipment commissioning is completed, trial production is at advance stage, and commercial production to commence in April 2025. This project represents a significant step in our diversification strategy, particularly in the premium frozen bakery segment. Further, our 100% owned subsidiary, Salalah Laboratory's project is also nearing completion of all the equipment of the first stage have been installed. The Laboratory got registered in the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and also completed the audit for ISO 17025 Certification. This facility will play a critical role in supporting the Dhofar region in quality assurance, research, and innovation, ensuring that tested products meet the highest international standards. This investment reflects our commitment to enhancing food safety and product excellence. Equity Issuance & Strategic Partnership with Solaris During the year, your Company issued 12.5 million equity shares at issue price of OMR 1 each, raising OMR 12.5 million through a private placement to ME (O) Solaris Investments Holding Limited registered in UAE, a leading grain supplier primarily from the Black Sea region. This strategic partnership is expected to provide significant benefits in wheat procurement, ensuring greater supply chain stability, cost efficiencies, and long-term sourcing advantages. Strategic Equity Investments & Partnerships As part of our strategic expansion, your company also acquired a 50% stake in Al Rayyan Salalah Co Ltd., a Yemen-based flour mill, by strengthening our regional footprint. This acquisition aligns with our long-term strategy of expanding into high-growth markets, securing supply chains, and enhancing our milling capacity to meet increasing demand in the region. The investment will allow us to leverage synergies, optimize operations, and drive sustained profitability. Internal Regulations The Board of Directors have reviewed the effectiveness of the internal control systems and approved the Audit Committee's action plan and the internal audit plan for the year 2025. The Board of Directors confirms its compliance with the new disclosure regulations issued by the Financial Services Authority (FSA). The Board also confirms that there are no substantial matters affecting the continuity of the company's activity to its knowledge for the coming years. Social Responsibility As a responsible corporate citizen, Salalah Mills Co continues to contribute to social development programs. During 2024, we invested OMR 92 Thousand in various community welfare, educational, and environmental initiatives, reflecting our commitment to corporate social responsibility. Future Outlook Salalah Mills is well positioned for sustainable growth and will continue to focus on diversification into value added food products and enhancing production capabilities to meet increasing market demand. It will continue to explore strategic M&A opportunities to drive scale and synergy. Focus will be on strengthening our digital transformation for operational excellence. Appreciation and Acknowledgement Finally, I would like to thank the Board of Directors, the Executive Management and Employees of the Company for their efforts and contribution to this success. I pray to Allah the Almighty to help us achieve more progress and success in the coming years. And on behalf of the shareholders and Board of Directors, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq for his great support to Omani industries.				
SEPARATE AND CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024				
	Group		Parent company	
	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	34,819,518	30,852,586	34,292,034	30,844,619
Right-of-use assets	3,386,376	3,510,394	3,386,376	3,510,394
Investment in subsidiaries	-	-	55,240	55,240
Investment in an associate	2,496,814	-	2,496,814	-
Loan given to associate	2,457,420	-	2,457,420	-
Due from related parties	-	-	1,033,322	190,469
Total non-current assets	43,160,128	34,362,980	43,721,206	34,600,722
Current assets				
Inventories	20,145,083	16,969,951	20,142,793	16,969,951
Loan given to associate	17,056	-	17,056	-
Trade and other receivables	26,368,647	24,523,081	25,407,110	24,367,322
Investments at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)	-	-	-	-
Investments at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)	389,246	366,276	389,246	366,276
Due from related parties	10,773,143	-	10,773,143	-
Derivative financial instrument	1,421,623	1,058,717	2,583,422	1,207,991
Cash and bank balances	2,227,975	18,779	-	18,779
Total current assets	62,381,985	45,869,322	61,936,695	45,787,269
TOTAL ASSETS	105,542,113	80,232,302	105,657,901	80,387,991
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Capital and reserves				
Share capital	17,496,306	4,996,306	17,496,306	4,996,306
Share premium	3,587,782	3,587,782	3,587,782	3,587,782
Legal reserve	2,227,975	2,089,103	2,227,975	2,089,103
General reserve	2,891,826	2,891,826	2,891,826	2,891,826
Investment fair value reserve	(1,694,293)	-	(1,694,293)	-
Retained earnings	20,099,606	18,887,279	20,294,895	19,045,046
Total capital and reserves	44,609,202	32,452,296	44,804,491	32,610,063
Non-current liabilities				
Lease liabilities	3,241,732	3,232,570	3,241,732	3,232,570
Bank borrowings	17,597,023	17,170,347	17,597,023	17,170,347
Employees' benefit liabilities	697,801	716,996	686,892	716,418
Deferred tax liabilities	949,882	940,963	949,882	940,963
Total non-current liabilities	22,486,438	16,600,876	22,475,529	16,600,298
Current liabilities				
Lease liabilities	174,207	173,026	174,207	173,026
Bank borrowings	32,490,515	27,799,447	32,490,515	27,799,447
Trade and other payables	5,423,223	3,086,716	5,354,631	3,085,216
Due to related parties	127,591	119,941	127,591	119,941
Income tax payable	230,937	-	230,937	-
Total current liabilities	38,446,473	31,179,130	38,377,881	31,177,630
Total liabilities	60,932,911	47,780,006	60,853,410	47,777,928
Total Equity And Liabilities	105,542,113	80,232,302	105,657,901	80,387,991
Net assets per share	0.714	0.650	0.717	0.653
SEPARATE AND CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024				
	Group		Parent company	
	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023
Revenue	90,077,716	64,873,429	83,994,815	64,873,429
Cost of sales	(82,211,597)	(59,577,101)	(76,284,591)	(59,577,101)
Gross profit	7,866,119	5,296,328	7,710,224	5,296,328
Other income	283,397	287,886	262,289	287,819
	8,149,516	5,584,214	7,972,513	5,584,207
Expenses				
General and administrative expenses	(4,947,519)	(3,669,991)	(4,732,994)	(3,512,313)
Selling and distribution expenses	(83,322)	(11,533)	(83,322)	(11,533)
	(5,030,841)	(3,681,524)	(4,816,316)	(3,523,846)
Operating profit for the year	3,118,675	1,902,690	3,156,197	2,060,361
Fair value gains on investments at fair value through profit or loss	22,970	11,698	22,970	11,698
Unrealised fair value gain on derivative financial instrument	18,779	-	18,779	-
Share of profit from investment in an associate	21,320	-	21,320	-
Finance costs	(1,587,747)	(1,842,971)	(1,587,747)	(1,842,875)
Net profit before tax for the year	1,593,997	71,417	1,631,519	229,184
Income tax expense	(242,798)	(47,197)	(242,798)	(47,197)
Net profit after tax for the year	1,351,199	24,220	1,388,721	181,987
Other comprehensive income				
Other comprehensive income that will not be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods	-	-	-	-
Fair value loss on investments at FVOCI	(1,694,293)	-	(1,694,293)	-
Total other comprehensive loss that will not be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods	(1,694,293)	-	(1,694,293)	-
Total comprehensive (loss) / income after tax for the year	(343,094)	24,220	(305,572)	181,987
Net profit attributable to the shareholders of the Parent Company	1,351,199	24,220	-	-
Earnings per share - basic and diluted	0.022	0.0005	0.022	0.004

SPORTS

NZ drub SA to set up title clash with India

Centuries from Ravindra and Williamson powered Kiwis to a 50-run win over Proteas in the Champions Trophy semi-final

LAHORE: New Zealand are into their seventh ICC final and fourth in the ODI format after posting the highest score in Champions Trophy history and beating South Africa by 50 runs in their semi-final in Lahore on Wednesday.

They will play India in Sunday's final in Dubai on the back of a major confidence boost following their commanding win.

Rachin Ravindra (102) scored his fifth ODI hundred - all of them have come in ICC events - Kane Williamson (108) racked up a third successive century against South Africa, and Daryl Mitchell and Glenn Phillips smashed 49 each, off 37 and 27 balls respectively, as New Zealand posted 326 for 6.

Then their captain Mitchell Santner took 3 for 43, his wickets including those of South Africa's captain Temba Bavuma, their consistent No.3 Rassie van der Dussen and their most destructive hitter Heinrich Klaasen, as New Zealand defended their score with aplomb and progressed to the final.

Opting to bat first, the Black Caps produced a batting masterclass, amassing a tournament-record total of 362/6.

Their innings was anchored by a superb 164-run partnership for the second wicket between Ravindra and Williamson, with the duo registering their fifth and 15th ODI centuries, respectively.

Despite both falling soon after reaching three figures, New Zealand capitalised on their strong platform. The final 10 overs saw an onslaught from Daryl Mitchell (49 off 37) and Glenn Phillips (49* off 27), who plundered 110 runs in a



late flourish to take their total beyond South Africa's reach.

Chasing a daunting target on a batting-friendly surface, South Africa started brightly. Skipper Bavuma and Van der Dussen stitched together a promising 105-run stand for the second wicket. However, they were unable to replicate the decisive acceleration shown by Ravindra and Williamson.

New Zealand captain Santner turned the game in his team's favour with a brilliant spell in the middle overs, dismissing Bavuma, Van der Dussen, and the dangerous Heinrich Klaasen in quick succession. With the required run rate spiraling, the Proteas had no choice but to keep attacking, but wickets continued to tumble at regular intervals.

Despite a valiant 67-ball century from David Miller - who reached three figures off the final delivery of the match - South Africa could only manage 312-9, falling well short of their target.

New Zealand's success was built on their tried-and-tested formula of accumulating runs steadily before launching an aggressive final assault.

Ravindra and Williamson dictated proceedings during their 26-over stand, striking the perfect balance between rotation of strike and capitalising on loose deliveries. Ravindra, the elegant left-hander, played fluently, bringing up his first fifty in 47 balls and his second in 46. His brisk scoring allowed Williamson the freedom to settle in before shifting gears. The

veteran batter, who was given a reprieve on 56 when Klaasen spilled a chance behind the stumps, punished South Africa by reaching his century in just 91 balls.

The foundation set by the top order enabled New Zealand's power hitters to tee off in the final 10 overs, ensuring an imposing total. Their bowlers then backed up the effort, restricting a formidable South African batting lineup with disciplined spells and crucial breakthroughs.

Brief scores: New Zealand 362 for 6 (Ravindra 108, Williamson 102, Mitchell 49, Phillips 49*, Ngidi 3-72, Rabada 2-70) beat South Africa 312 for 9 (Miller 100*, van der Dussen 69, Bavuma 56, Santner 3-43, Phillips 2-27, Henry 2-43) by 50 runs. - Agencies

‘The pitch tells me how the cricket needs to be played’



DUBAI: Star batter Virat Kohli once again proved why he is regarded as the greatest chaser in ODI history, orchestrating India's passage to the Champions Trophy final with a measured 84 against Australia on Tuesday.

On a tricky Dubai pitch, Kohli's ability to absorb pressure and rotate strike ensured India successfully chased down 265, securing their spot in Sunday's title clash.

"This game is all about pressure, especially big games like semis and finals," Kohli said after picking up the Player-of-the-Match award. "If you go deep into the innings with enough wickets in hand, the opposition usually gives in, and the game becomes easier. It's very important to control your impulses while the game is going on."

Walking in at 30/1 in the fifth over, Kohli built crucial partnerships - 91 with Shreyas Iyer, 44 with Axar Patel, and 47 with KL Rahul - to keep India in control.

His knock featured just five fours and no sixes, yet 56 of his runs came through singles, a testament to his game awareness and strike rotation. "It was pretty similar to the game against Pakistan. The pitch dictated that partnerships were the most important thing," he explained. "The conditions tell me how cricket needs to be played, and I just switch on and play accordingly."

Kohli's ability to read match situations and his relentless hunger for calculated runs make him a phenomenon in ODI chases. His career average in run-chases stands at 64.50, significantly ahead of his contemporaries.

More impressively, when India

wins a chase, Kohli's average soars to a staggering 89.50. Among his record 51 ODI centuries, 28 have come while chasing - a feat unmatched by any other player.

Australia's Steve Smith, a longtime rival and a batting great in his own right, was full of admiration. "He's arguably the best chaser the game has seen," Smith said after the match. Given the numbers, 'arguably' is hardly necessary.

Kohli's efficiency in rotating strike remains unparalleled. He has scored the most singles in ODI history, and against Australia, he maintained a dot-ball percentage of just 33%, significantly lower than Kane Williamson's 57.5% in a similar chase against India days earlier.

His biggest test came against Adam Zampa, who had dismissed him five times previously in ODIs.

Kohli played Zampa's deliveries with calculated precision, milking singles and punishing only the shorter balls. Though Zampa eventually got his wicket in the 43rd over, Kohli had done enough to steer India within touching distance of victory, leaving the final flourish to KL Rahul and Hardik Pandya.

In the end the only surprise was that he did not reach three figures.

"When you don't think of milestones, they just happen along the way to victory," Kohli said. "For me, it's about taking pride in winning for the team. If I get to a hundred, great; if not, nights like these, when the dressing room is happy, are what matter the most." - Agencies

ANNOUNCEMENT

Aussie great Smith retires from ODIs



DUBAI: Steven Smith has announced his retirement from One-Day International (ODI) cricket, a day after Australia's semi-final loss to India in the Champions Trophy on Tuesday.

The 35-year-old will continue to be available for Test and T20I selection, with a focus on contributing to Australia's future success in those formats.

Smith made his decision public immediately after the match in Dubai, informing his teammates that he had played his final ODI.

Despite captaining Australia in the tournament during Pat Cummins' absence, Smith will not feature in the 2027 ODI World Cup.

"It has been a great ride and I have loved every minute of it," Smith said in a statement. "Winning two World Cups was a great highlight along with the many fantastic teammates who shared the journey. Now is a great opportunity for people to start preparing for the 2027 World Cup, so it feels like the right time to move on."

Smith's ODI career spans 16 years and includes 170 matches, 12 centuries, and a remarkable 5,800 runs at an average of 43.28. His highest score of 164 came against New Zealand in 2016. He played pivotal roles in Australia's 2015 and 2023 World Cup victo-

ries, including scoring the winning boundary in the 2015 final against New Zealand at the MCG.

Notably, Smith was Australia's ODI Player of the Year in both 2015 and 2021, and his leadership saw the team to many memorable moments. He captained Australia in 64 ODIs, ranking him among the country's top leaders, though he was the only one not to lead in a World Cup.

Chair of selectors George Bailey praised Smith's outstanding career. "Steve's record as a batter across 170 games is exemplary. His contributions to Australia's two World Cup victories cement his legacy as one of the great Australian ODI players."

While Smith is stepping away from ODIs, he remains committed to Test cricket, with a particular focus on the World Test Championship final, upcoming series against the West Indies, and the Ashes in England. He has expressed excitement for continuing to contribute at the highest level in the longer format of the game.

Looking to the future, Smith has already committed to playing for Welsh Fire in the Hundred, and his ODI retirement will open doors for more opportunities in franchise cricket as he nears the end of his illustrious career. - Agencies

OMAN CRICKET



Renaissance CT crowned champions of inaugural OC Two-Day Tournament

MUSCAT: Renaissance Cricket Team (CT) etched their name in history by winning the inaugural Oman Cricket (OC) Two-Day Tournament, securing their first-ever Premier Division title with a commanding display recently.

Renaissance emerged as deserving champions, claiming the top spot with 22 points from four victories and two ties.

Muscat CT finished as runners-up with 14 points, while Majees CT and IAS CT also participated in the highly competitive tournament.

The event, designed to test endurance and strategic depth, marked a significant step in Oman's domestic cricket evolution, with a prize fund of OMR

1,000 introduced for the first time.

The OC Two-Day Tournament provided a crucial platform for Oman's top-flight cricketers, enabling them to adapt to the longer format and refine their skills.

Renaissance's consistency throughout the tournament set them apart, with their players executing under pressure across multiple sessions as they demonstrated resilience, tactical acumen, and skill.

Renaissance captain Sufyan Mehmood was delighted with the title victory. He said: "Winning the first-ever OC Two-Day Tournament and our maiden Premier Division title makes this achievement even more special. Credit

goes to the team for executing their skills across every session of play. We are grateful to our management for their unwavering support and to Oman Cricket for organising another successful event that reflects the sport's growth in the country."

Steven Thomas, CEO of Renaissance Group and Chef de Mission of Renaissance team, lauded the team's achievement. He said: "I am thrilled that our Renaissance team has won the inaugural Two-Day tournament. It was another fantastic event organised by Oman Cricket, and we congratulate all the teams, players, officials, support staff, and organisers involved. Our boys are

worthy champions, and I am incredibly proud of them."

Duleep Mendis, Chief Development Officer of Oman Cricket, highlighted the tournament's impact on player's development. He said: "The inaugural OC Two-Day Tournament has played a vital role in strengthening Oman's domestic cricket structure. By encouraging players to develop patience, game awareness, and adaptability, this format contributes to better performances in the 50-over game, which remains a key focus for Oman Cricket."

"We are committed to providing competitive platforms that elevate the standard of cricket in the country."

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by May 2025 reaching \$71.40, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by \$1.08 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$70.32. - **ONA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,410.83 points, down by 0.01% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.02% at 403.00 points. Muscat Desalination, up 7.94%, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 6.25%, was the top loser.

FSA approves share allocation for Asyad

Approved allocation results show allocation at 100% for the category of large and small individual investors

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Financial Services Authority (FSA) announced the approval of allocation of the shares of Asyad (ASCO) based on the categories stated in the prospectus.

The offering was covered 1.4 times at a total value of OMR177 million. The share prices is 123 baisas and value of the offered shares OMR127 million.

Approved allocation results show allocation at 100% for the category of large and small individual investors. Local and foreign institutions were allocated shares by the selling shareholder in consultation with the joint global coordinator as



per the terms and conditions stated in the prospectus.

Asyad is a subsidiary of Asyad Group SAOC one of the companies of the Oman Investment Authority (OIA). The offering is manifestation of OIA's policy of divesting certain government assets in line with Oman Vision

2040 that aims to attracting national and foreign investments as well as being part of diversification and expansion of investor base. The offering will allow investors an opportunity to invest in one of most prominent companies in Oman in marine transportation.

It is worth noting that FSA is keen, when considering allocation of shares, to take into account investors segments to expand the base of participation in public offerings to enhance the role of the capital market as a source of effective funding in the national economy.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Asyad Express collaborates with Evri to enhance ASOS delivery across GCC

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Asyad Express, part of Asyad Group, announced offering express delivery service of ASOS retail shipments across the GCC as part of a strategic partnership with Evri, the UK's largest dedicated e-commerce delivery company. This service aims to facilitate the delivery of ASOS products, a top UK online fashion retailer targeting style-savvy young adults.

This partnership offers a range of key features, including fast and safe transport of goods from the UK to Oman, then to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar. This is complemented by Asyad Express's efficient and effective

management of shipments, utilizing its unique in-house customs clearance capabilities.

As a result, the service ensures delivery within 1-3 business days across the GCC, offering customers a dependable, swift, and secure option, complete with real-time tracking for added reassurance.

This collaboration represents a significant stride in Asyad Express's ongoing efforts to enhance e-commerce and cross-border trade logistics. By combining the strengths of Evri and its partnership with Oman Air, Asyad Express provides a seamless and efficient logistics solution that bridges customers in the GCC with the UK's latest fashion trends.

COLLABORATION

Oman Air partners with TUI for new digital holiday packages



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air has entered an exciting new partnership with TUI, one of the world's leading tourism groups, operating worldwide, to offer customers a seamless way to book holiday packages alongside their flights.

The collaboration introduces a new digital platform integrated directly with the airline's booking engine, empowering travellers with access to a diverse array of holiday experiences across Oman Air's network in just a few clicks. The partnership was unveiled during ITB Berlin, one of the world's leading travel trade shows.

Launching for the summer holiday season, guests will be able to conveniently book holiday

packages to over 22 destinations spanning Oman, Europe, the Far East, GCC, Africa and more, via the newly developed digital booking platform. The seamless online journey will combine flights, hotels, car hire, ground transport, tours, experiences, and more, combined into dynamic packages or as standalone bookings.

"We are thrilled to partner with TUI to offer our guests an entirely new way to plan and experience their travels. Designed for those who seek the reassurance of a complete package holiday, our platform will offer unparalleled convenience, quality and affordability, along with the security and bonding requirements specific to each destination," said Michael Rutter, Chief Commercial

Officer at Oman Air.

"Not only will we offer all-new travel experiences for our guests from Oman, but we will also simplify inbound tourism into Oman, encouraging more international travellers to visit. The partnership also marks a major milestone in our ongoing efforts to enhance digitalisation and deliver seamless, end-to-end travel experiences for our guests."

David Schelp, CEO TUI Markets + Airline, added, "We are excited to work with Oman Air as a new partner for our platform. This collaboration will offer a unique possibility for travellers to experience the wonderful country of Oman as well as other destinations around the world, backed by the exceptional service of Oman Air.

MCKINSEY REPORT

India poised to become the global chemicals supply hub

NEW DELHI: India could potentially emerge as a global supply hub for chemicals, having demonstrated strong cost competitiveness and market attractiveness over the last five years, said a report by McKinsey & Company released in association with the Indian Chemical Council.

The report highlights India's major contribution of 16 speciality chemical sub-segments, including flavours, fragrances, food, and nutrition-based chemicals in the chemical supply.

It says that despite dropped industry margins and the impact of macroeconomic pressures, revenue growth remains encouraging.

Going further, the report added, "Strong macroeconomic fundamentals, abundant talent, and India's low-cost manufacturing advantage position the industry for future growth."

"Despite increased competition, moderating industry demand, and geopolitical uncertainties, Indian chemicals companies have substantial long-term value creation potential," the report added.

The industry seems positioned as a relatively resilient, high-growth market, garnering global demand, the report added.

According to the report, the chemical industry's revenues grew at a CAGR (compound annual growth rate) of about 10.5 percent between fiscal years 2018 and 2024, compared to India's GDP growth of around 9 percent during



the same period, which shows the potential of the sector.

The food and nutrition section has performed well, with strong revenue and EBITDA growth driven by rising consumer demand in the past five to six years for premium and organic food ingredients.

Paints and coatings, flavours and fragrances, amines, adhesives, and sealants grew rapidly due to product diversification and geographical expansion, although margin growth was limited.

The paints and coatings segment benefited from industrial coatings (around 30 percent of total segment revenue), supported by robust growth in consumer durables, automobiles, and allied industries.

Meanwhile, the amines industry faced volatility in raw material prices (alcohols, ammonia, and

acetic acid), impacting profitability.

Conversely, segments such as agrochemicals, plastic additives, surfactants, inorganics, dyes and pigments, and lubricants and fuel additives have struggled with weak revenue and EBITDA performance.

As per the report, India's household consumption nearly doubled over the last decade to \$2.14 trillion in fiscal year 2024. The country is expected to emerge as the world's third-largest consumer market by 2026.41 Domestic demand for various chemicals end-segments including cosmetics, automobiles, packaged food, and consumer durables, is of global scale and relevance. India's consumer durables industry is expected to grow to \$60 billion by 2030, making it the world's fourth-largest industry by 2027, the report added. - **ANI**

OMAN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

OIA and GCC BDI join hands to elevate governance standards

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The GCC Board Directors Institute (GCC BDI) announced its strategic partnership with the Oman Investment Authority (OIA), marking a crucial step toward enhancing governance standards across the Gulf region. This collaboration underscores a unified commitment to excellence in governance and leadership, risk management and regulatory compliance, as well as board effectiveness.

As a strategic partner of the GCC Board Directors Institute (GCC BDI), the Oman Investment Authority (OIA) has appointed His Highness Sayyid Jaland Jaifar Al Said, Chief of the Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Directorate, to represent OIA at GCC BDI's Board of Governors meetings.

In this capacity, His Highness will play an active role in guiding GCC BDI's strategic direction and mission, aimed at strengthening board member competencies, fostering a robust network of influential board members, and promoting the dissemination of best practices in corporate governance across the region.

Muhammad Al Shoorgi, Chairman of GCC BDI, added: "Oman Investment Authority's commitment to this partnership demonstrates a shared vision for driving governance standards. Together, we will foster a culture of excellence that not only enhances our respective



organisations but also contributes significantly to the economic development of the region."

His Highness Sayyid Jaland Jaifar Al Said, Chief of the Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Directorate at OIA, expressed his enthusiasm for this collaboration: "Joining GCC BDI as a strategic partner aligns seamlessly with our mission at OIA to further enhance corporate governance, foster leadership development, and ensure our entities are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the evolving business landscape. This collaboration presents a valuable opportunity to leverage our collective expertise in ultimately building a robust governance framework in the region. "

As part of this partnership,

GCC BDI recently delivered the tailored 'OIA Board Development Certification' to OIA, aiming to equip board members with the essential skills and knowledge required for excellence in governance. The programme engaged 56 participants in both practical and theoretical learning experiences, shaping forward-thinking leaders pivotal to reinforcing the national economic framework.

Supported by a prestigious consortium of regional corporations and professional services firms, including First Abu Dhabi Bank, National Bank of Bahrain, SABIC, Saudi Aramco, Allen & Overy, Heidrick & Struggles, McKinsey & Company, and PwC, the GCC BDI is at the forefront of enhancing governance standards in the Gulf region.

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Muscat Desalination, up 7.94%, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 6.25%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,410.83 points, down by 0.01% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.02% at 403.00 points. Muscat Desalination, up 7.94%, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 6.25%, was the top loser. Shares of Voltamp Energy were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 490 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 2.77 million, with more than 9.35 million shares changing hands. Out of 42 traded securities, 14 advanced, 12 declined, and 16 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for RO 1106K while domestic investors were net buyers for RO 801K, followed by foreign investors for RO 305K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,714.50 points, down 0.07%. Prices of Al Anwar Investment, Oman United

Insurance were up by 2.94%, 0.41% respectively. Prices of Al Madina Investments, Sohar International Bank, Oman Arab Bank, Ominvest were down by 2.13%, 0.76%, 0.70%, 0.60% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,814.73 points, up 0.24%. Prices of Voltamp Energy, A'Saffa Foods, Al Maha Ceramics, Oman Cement were up by 2.31%, 1.32%, 0.81%, 0.81% respectively. Prices of Oman Fisheries, Galfar Engineering, Al Anwar Ceramics, Oman Flour Mills were down by 6.25%, 1.30%, 0.80%, 0.23% respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.36% before closing at 1,622.76 points. Prices of Muscat Desalination, Al Suwadi Power, Al Batinah Power, National Gas, Oman Telecom were up by 7.94%, 1.56%, 1.52%, 1.32%, 1.00% respectively. Prices of Sharqiyah Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, Ooredoo, Musandam Power were down by 1.45%, 0.77%, 0.51%, 0.37% respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,417.36	4,404.54	4,410.83	4,411.43	-0.59	-0.01
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,724.63	7,700.30	7,714.50	7,720.19	-5.69	-0.07
Industry Index	5,827.09	5,793.08	5,814.73	5,800.71	14.02	0.24
Services Index	1,622.76	1,613.64	1,622.76	1,616.97	5.79	0.36
MSX Shariah Index	403.00	400.21	403.00	402.93	0.07	0.02
MSX TR INDEX	6,188.67	6,170.71	6,179.52	6,180.36	-0.83	-0.01
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,775.98	8,748.33	8,764.47	8,770.93	-6.47	-0.07
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,723.07	6,683.84	6,708.82	6,692.65	16.17	0.24
SERVICES TR IDX	1,946.12	1,935.18	1,946.12	1,939.18	6.94	0.36
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	9,354,143	Turnover	2,766,896	Trades	490	Market Cap	27,243,852,107	Up	14	Down	12	Equal	16	Sec. Traded	42
--------	-----------	----------	-----------	--------	-----	------------	----------------	----	----	------	----	-------	----	-------------	----

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF BD	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PREV VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	422,071	27,020	16	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.065	0.064	0.001	1.563	0.065	0.064	0.068	0.100	46,436,412
OM0000004925	ALBATHINAH POWER	2,780	184	3	0.067	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.066	0.001	1.515	0.067	0.065	0.067	0.100	45,217,458
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	4,000	1,540	1	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.380	0.005	1.316	0.385	0.350	0.385	0.100	46,200,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	202,573	162,577	39	0.802	0.812	0.800	0.808	0.800	0.008	1.000	0.808	0.801	0.808	0.100	606,000,000
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	348,754	86,092	37	0.247	0.248	0.246	0.247	0.245	0.002	0.816	0.247	0.246	0.247	0.100	190,239,400
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	1,504	746	7	0.494	0.499	0.494	0.499	0.495	0.004	0.808	0.499	0.494	0.500	0.100	165,105,482
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	15,000	3,621	4	0.241	0.244	0.241	0.244	0.243	0.001	0.412	0.244	0.241	0.244	0.100	24,400,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	60,230	24,094	13	0.400	0.405	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.405	0.405	0.405	0.100	49,959,184
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,430,302	368,712	34	0.257	0.259	0.257	0.258	0.258	0.000	0.000	0.258	0.256	0.258	0.100	1,936,650,442
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	7,700	685	2	0.089	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.000	0.000	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.100	17,800,000
OM0000003234	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	3,167	1,091	2	0.345	0.345	0.344	0.344	0.344	0.000	0.000	0.344	0.344	0.345	0.100	81,325,040
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	89,100	7,730	16	0.088	0.090	0.086	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.088	0.089	0.100	88,911,476
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	170	46	1	0.268	0.268	0.268	0.268	0.269	-0.001	-0.372	0.268	0.268	0.269	0.100	18,864,520
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	79,771	15,645	17	0.197	0.197	0.195	0.196	0.197	-0.001	-0.508	0.195	0.195	0.196	0.100	127,585,069
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	75,600	25,075	9	0.333	0.333	0.330	0.332	0.334	-0.002	-0.599	0.332	0.332	0.333	0.100	221,897,321
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	1,777,185	231,034	41	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.131	-0.001	-0.763	0.130	0.129	0.132	0.100	860,242,015
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	390,165	50,673	63	0.130	0.130	0.129	0.129	0.130	-0.001	-0.769	0.130	0.128	0.130	0.100	558,650,486
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	9,000	1,123	5	0.125	0.125	0.124	0.124	0.125	-0.001	-0.800	0.124	0.120	0.125	0.100	27,280,000
Total	18	4,918,972	1,007,688	310												
Parallel Market																
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	3,000	204	1	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.063	0.005	7.937	0.068	0.062	0.068	0.100	10,577,427
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	50,066	3,507	5	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.068	0.002	2.941	0.070	0.070	0.073	0.100	20,237,215
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	2,011,683	1,156,718	5	0.575	0.575	0.575	0.575	0.562	0.013	2.313	0.575	0.575	0.580	0.100	46,806,581
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	33,100	2,534	5	0.078	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.076	0.001	1.316	0.077	0.077	0.079	0.100	6,545,000
OM0000003000	AI MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	8,537	8,793	1	1.030	1.030	1.030	1.030	1.030	0.000	0.980	1.030	1.030	1.120	0.100	71,070,000
OM0000005005	AL MAHA CERAMICS	27,330	9,414	8	0.124	0.125	0.115	0.125	0.124	0.001	0.806	0.125	0.123	0.125	0.100	4,675,000
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	940,697	301,948	49	0.320	0.322	0.319	0.321	0.320	0.001	0.313	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.100	101,025,680,000
OM0000001509	DHOFAH INTERNATIONAL DEV. & INV. HO	26,897	6,327	6	0.225	0.240	0.225	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.225	0.240	0.100	98,219,116
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	10,005	1,255	3	0.125	0.130	0.125	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.120	0.130	0.100	2,291,076
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	109,986	37,888	18	0.344	0.345	0.344	0.345	0.345	0.000	0.000	0.345	0.344	0.345	0.100	68,874,282
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	31,307	3,119	7	0.099	0.100	0.099	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.099	0.100	0.100	229,695,303
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	54,169	3,250	6	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.055	0.063	0.100	87,756,088
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	15,006	1,155	3	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.100	39,164,610
OM0000009908	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	499,680	50,968	24	0.102	0.103	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.102	0.101	0.104	0.040	352,868,067
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	5,114	2,220	5	0.434	0.435	0.434	0.434	0.435	-0.001	-0.230	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.100	68,355,000
OM0000003280	OMAN ARAB BANK	3,232	456	1	0.141	0.141	0.141	0.141	0.142	-0.001	-0.704	0.141	0.140	0.142	0.100	235,386,810
OM0000003831	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	261,892	19,882	10	0.078	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.077	-0.001	-1.299	0.078	0.078	0.079	0.100	15,428,970
OM0000004469	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	20,630	2,820	4	0.137	0.137	0.136	0.136	0.138	-0.002	-1.448	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.100	13,301,094
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	2,400	110	1	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.047	-0.001	-2.128	0.046	0.044	0.047	0.100	3,910,000
Total	19	4,114,641	1,606,568	162												

OIL PRICES

Oil falls amid concerns over global demand slowdown

SINGAPORE: Oil prices fell for a third session yesterday as plans by major producers to raise output in April combined with concerns US tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China will slow economic and fuel demand growth hammered investor sentiment.

Brent futures eased 15 cents lower to \$70.89 a barrel. In the

previous session, the contract fell to as low as \$69.75, its lowest since 11 September 2024, and settled at their lowest since that day as well.

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell 40 cents a barrel, or 0.6%, at \$67.86 after settling at its lowest since December. Prices fell to as low as \$66.77 in the pre-

vious session, the lowest since 18 November 2024.

The Trump administration said it was ending a license that the US has granted to US oil producer Chevron since 2022 to operate in Venezuela and export its oil.

Investors now await government data on US stockpiles, due later yesterday.

Gold prices fall

Gold declined, pressured by a firmer US dollar and Treasury yields, while markets continued to track possible impacts of US President Donald Trump's fresh tariffs.

Spot gold fell 0.2% to \$2,912.09 an ounce after rising nearly 1% yesterday, while US gold futures firmed 0.1% to \$2,922.70. -ONA

Elevate Your Business and Events with Us!

The New 4th Dimension LLC
Po Box 86, Postal code 115
Sultanate of Oman

+968 92839679 +968 99321290

'EVERY LIKE ADDS LIGHT'

Sohar International and Sohar Islamic transform digital engagement into acts of giving with social media campaign

MUSCAT: Combining the power of digital engagement with social responsibility, Sohar International and Sohar Islamic have been actively driving impact through their Ramadan campaign, "Every Like Adds Light," since the start of the holy month.

This initiative transforms online interactions into tangible contributions, with every 'like' on the bank's dedicated Instagram posts converting into a 100 baisa donation—directly supporting charity organizations in implementing sustainable development programs. By merging innovation with generosity, Sohar International and Sohar Islamic continue to empower communities, reinforcing the spirit of giving that defines Ramadan.

Commenting on the initiative, Mazin Mahmood Al Raisi, Chief Marketing Officer at Sohar International, stated: "This campaign captures the true spirit of Ramadan—a time of generosity, unity, and meaningful impact. It also reinforces our role as a responsible institution committed to fostering a society where opportunities and progress are within everyone's reach. At Sohar International, we believe that sustainable change begins with empowerment, equipping individuals and communities with the right resources to thrive."

"Through this initiative, we are transforming digital interactions into real acts of kindness, inviting everyone to be part of a collective effort that drives positive change. Our commitment to compassion and innovation remains unwavering as we continue championing initiatives that make a lasting difference across the communities we serve."

Sohar International's commitment to social responsibility goes beyond traditional philanthropy, embracing innovative initiatives that empower the community to drive meaningful change. By integrating digital engagement with real-world impact, the bank reaffirms its role as a financial institution that balances economic progress with social well-being. This initiative exemplifies its unique approach — where innovation aligns with purpose — ensuring that its efforts create lasting value for individuals and communities alike.

The charity organizations selected for this campaign are distinguished by their focus on capacity building and skill development. Ensuring nationwide impact, Sohar International and Sohar Islamic have carefully selected associations from across Oman, reflecting its commitment to fostering inclusive and widespread community development. The Al Noor Association for the Blind, Sohar, is launching a specialized training program that empowers visually impaired individuals with advanced expertise in artificial intelligence, strategic planning, SME management, and professional conduct—enhancing their employability and independence.

Further reinforcing its commitment to empowering emerging female leaders, the bank is supporting the Omani Women Association – Al Kamil Wal Wafi in introducing "Khatawat"—a transformative initiative designed to cultivate leadership and innovation among young women in the Al Sharqiyah Region, equipping them to drive meaningful change in their communities.

Coinciding with the holy month of Ramadan, the #SoharAlAtaa convoy provided essential cooking equipment and food supplies to families in the Dhofar Governorate, specifically in the Wilayat of Sadah and Dalkut.

This initiative was made possible through the efforts of Sohar International and Sohar Islamic employees, in collaboration with community representatives and local charity teams in both Wilayat. The bank has initiated several CSR initiatives over the past year, resulting in its recognition with the 'Exemplary CSR Leadership' award at the Oman CSR Summit and Awards 2024. This accolade underscores its unwavering dedication to social responsibility, reinforcing its proactive



ADVERTISE WITH US,
FIND THE RIGHT **CANDIDATES**
FOR YOUR COMPANY

CONNECT

PRINT EDITION

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
THURSDAY, MARCH 06, 2025

PLACE YOUR ADVT HERE

Email to classifieds @ timesofoman.com



RENT

CARGO

VACANCY

RENT OR SALE?

PLACE YOUR ADVT HERE

Email: classifieds@timesofoman.com

REEFER / ISO DRY CONTAINER SALES, MODIFICATIONS & RENTALS

OFFICE, WORKSHOPS, PLANT ROOMS, TRAINING FACILITIES, TOILETS, ACCOMODATION & ANY CUSTOM BUILT CONTAINER

CONTAINER SOLUTIONS LLC
Po Box 522, Pc 322, Falaj Al Qabail, Sohar Free Zone, Oman
Tel: +968 9358 5556, +968 99508921, +968 26942610
FAX: 26942611, Email: sales@containersolutions.com
www.containersolutions.com



For High Impact Professional

WEBSITES

GULFCYBERTECH

E-Solutions

Tel: 99818819 Email: 24130929 info@gulfcybertech.com
www.gulfcybertech.com

Oman Web Award Winner

Designing & Maintenance
E-Commerce Solns.
Domain & Hosting
Mobile Applications
Email Ads & Promotions

WJ Towell Group Company



Quality car rentals at competitive prices.

- Fleet of 2,000 vehicles
- Choose from a wide range of brands & models
- PDO, OXY and BP spec vehicles available
- Attractive rates for short-term & long-term lease

Muscat **9679 0594**
9679 0684

Sohar **9731 6218**
Salalah **9429 9325**

www.orbit-oman.com



JOB VACANCY

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Experienced **CHEF/COOK** (Arabic & Indian Dishes) for a reputed family in Muscat.

Contact: 99735820

URGENTLY REQUIRED

A reputed Company in Oman seeking Qualified Candidates for the following positions:

- Manager QS**
 - Graduate in Civil/Mechanical
 - 10 – 15 years of experience in the Quantity Surveying (especially for waterline projects) & at least 5 years Managerial experience in Oman/GCC.
- Operations Manager**
 - Graduate, Project Management Professional with 15-20 years of experience in infrastructural (water/sewer network) projects in Oman/GCC.

Other requirements:

- Strong leadership, high integrity and good attitude
- Oman Driving License
- Ability to surface, negotiate and liaison any project related concerns and issues with clients and consultants.
- Ready to join immediately.

Send CVs to: +968 76376312

FINANCE

Indian, MBA, Finance with 20 yrs experience in business with complete knowledge in Finance, VAT, Credit Control, Admin, HR, Warehouse with SAP knowledge & D/L.

Contact: 78031718

EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

Qualified and Highly Professional 25, F. Tunisian, Masters in Project Management and Entrepreneurship with 2 years Experience in MNC as Corporate Events Coordinator. Additional experience in administration, content creation and social media management. Fluent in Arabic, French, English. Seeking suitable position.

Contact: +968 76498724,
Email: tibiimarwa2@gmail.com

LOGISTIC

Seeking job as a **STORE MANAGER** (retail) **FASHION & FMCG.**

Experienced in store operations, inventory management and business growth at Raymond Lifestyle. Ready to contribute skills to a dynamic team.

Contact: +968 7967560
WA +91 8055514441

OMANI HSE ENGINEER

Approved Omani HSE Engineer 7+ yrs (Approved, PTW holder, OPAL valid license, IOSH, NEBOSH IGC & other required courses).

Contact: +968 79975864

ENGINEER

Indian QHSE Engineer, 5 yrs Oman experience, NEBOSH IGC, IRCA lead auditor (ISO 9001/14001), ASNT Level 2 certified. Seeking suitable position.

Phone: +968 78177146
Email: jithinkaitapola@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Indian, **BE Civil Engineer** with 10 years experience (8 years in Oman & 2 years in India) in commercial and residential project with valid oman D/L. Currently available in Oman with local NOC / Release.

Contact: +968 7900 6803
Email: thirumurugan9360@gmail.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED

PROJECT MANAGER
BE Mechanical Engineering, 10-8 years experience in piping & cross country pipeline in Gulf.

Estimation Engineer
BE Mechanical Engineering, 10-8 years experience in proposal and bid preparation.

Interested candidate can send their CVs at:

pipemasteroman@gmail.com

RENT

High Quality Warehouse
Available for Rent in Rumays

- 500 sq m
- 600 sq m
- 1000 sq m
- 1800 sq m
- 3000 sq m



For inquiries, please contact:
97836957 / 99365547

SALE

Beauty parlour for sale in Azaiba.
Contact: 93792799

REQUIRED URGENTLY

LEADING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN OMAN
MOE EXPERIENCE CANDIATES FOR THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

- CIVIL QS** (BE CIVIL expat) 3-5 exp. to be based in HO
- CIVIL PROJECT LEAD ENGINEER** (BE Civil expat) 7-10 exp.
- CIVIL PROJECT PLANNING/QS ENGINEER** (BE Civil) 4-7 exp.
- CIVIL PROJECT SITE ENGINEER** (BE/DIP Civil expat) 3-5 exp.
- CIVIL PROJECT SITE FOREMAN/SUPERVISOR** (Diploma expat) 3-5 exp.
- CIVIL PROJECT LAND SURVEYOR/SITE ENGINEER** (BE Civil) 3-5 exp.
- CIVIL SITE STORE/ADMIN** 3-4 exp.

Please send in your CV's to Email: dak.hr@dakoman.com or WhatsApp: +968 94041266 / +968 96636121

REQUIRED URGENTLY

LEADING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN OMAN
MOE EXPERIENCE SUB-CONTRACTORS FOR THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

- CIVIL STRUCTURE SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- CIVIL FINISHING SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- SOLAR SYSTEM SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- LABORATORY CHEMISTRY SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- MECHANICAL STEEL SHED SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- PLAYFEILD GROUND SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- SCHOOL-CLASS ROOM FURNITURE SUPPLY CONTRACTOR**
- MEP SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- HVAC SUB-CONTRACTOR**
- ELV SUB-CONTRACTOR**

Please Contact Us on Call or WhatsApp:
+968 79313357 / +968 94041266

SERVICE

PEST CONTROL

Al-Basheq Grey Trad. & Cont. LLC

100% Professional & Competitive rate!!!

Anti Termite, Cockroaches, Bed Bugs, Ants, Rodent, On monthly, yearly or one time service.
All We use quality products which approved by oman ministry.
Harmless & Odourless
CALL US: 91 45 22 33
Email: albasheqgrey@gmail.com

Cleaning service & pest control.
Contact 99493549

Pest control,
Contact: 92326955
Gulfa international LLC.

Services of Carpet Shampoo,
marble & tile polishing,
pest control & Anti-termite
treatment, General cleaning
painting, Plumbing, Electrical,
shifting.
Glow Services Trading LLC
Contact: 24810137, 99450130

Civil maintenance, gypsum,
painting, carpentry, plumbing,
glass partition, office fitout.
Contact: 94160282

NRI

7 cents of residential plot
Edappally, Container road, 10
minutes from Lulu for sale.
Contact: 99381561



CARGO AND LOGISTIC

PROMOTE YOUR SERVICE WITH US

Send email to classified@timesofoman.com or Call: 24 72 66 66 (Ext: 815 / 462 / 354)

Email: dailyguide@timesofoman.com
classifieds@timesofoman.com
Tel: 24726666
Ext: 815 / 462 / 354

CONNECT

JOB VACANCY		JOB WANTED			
ENGINEER	ACCOUNTS/FINANCE	ADMINISTRATION	ENGINEER	ENGINEER	MEDICAL
Urgently required BE Mechanical Engineer specialized in air conditioning, Send CV to: mm (@theimcworldwide.com	Asst. Manager, Sr. executive operations Indian male, MBA finance, 21+yrs experience. Leading a large team of service operations. Urgently seeking placements. Contact: 93451519 Email: anirudhadat@gmail.com	Dynamic and well-experienced professional: 5 yrs of Dubai and 4.5 yrs of Muscat experience in operations management, business excellence or key account management looking for new challenges. Contact: 96766702, Email: ilyas3299@gmail.com	17+ years experienced PMV Manager with a strong track record in workshop management, inventory management and team leadership seeking suitable position in Oman. Contact: 79106919, Email: rinualex1984@gmail.com	Indian, male, Diploma Civil site engineer with 27 yrs experience in Oman looking for a job. Contact: 99423274, Email: mmthomasvarghese@gmail.com	Clinical pathologist with Oman license looking for suitable job. Contact: 90158005
MANAGER	Indian, male, accountant with total 13 yrs GCC experience job seeking. Contact: 76406757	Indian, male, 29 yrs old, have 6 yrs experience in Coordinator, have valid D/L looking for suitable job. Contact: 95645241	Sales engineer, Mechanical engineer, 7 yrs of relevant experience. Proficient in using computer application, MS Office, target achiever and work under pressure. Immediate join. Contact: 76342410, Email: tafsai09@gmail.com	Civil engineer supervisor, 14 yrs experience civil & tower project with D/L & own visa. Contact: 78002980	Veterinary doctor having BVSC & AH degree from India with 5 yrs experience in animal health, poultry and meat production processing. Seeking a suitable position. Contact: 76409087, Email: dramitchauhan0@gmail.com
MISCELLENOEUS	Indian Female, BSc Mathematics , DIFA, Tally, MS Office, Data entry, 4 years plus experience in customer relationship.seeking a suitable position. Currently available in Muscat. Contact: +968 78696265 Email: livyakx@gmail.com	Indian (M), Oman experience in projects, corporate communications, CEO office. WhatsApp: +968 97457945.	Total 15 yrs experience, 8 yrs in Muscat as project engineer,cordinator Seeking an opportunity in Oman with valid Oman D/L. Presently in Oman. Contract: 92358734, Email: rezaullah.786@gmail.com	Mechanical engineer with over 4 yrs experience in sales and operations having Oman D/L with MSc in Engineering management from UK available to join immediately. Contact: 96111283, Email: dobin.mathew@gmail.com.	Procurement/ PURCHASE
Walk in interview on 08.03.2025 from 09:00 am to 02:00 pm for electrician and plumber (building maintenance only) with 3 yrs experience. Contact: 91302874	Finance manager with 15 yrs of experience in oil & gas multinational company looking for suitable placement. Contact: 95230609	Indian male MBA(HR) & B tech (Comp) with nearly 10 yrs of over all experience seeks job. Contact: +968 94168194, +91 9745020204, Email: gokulgopalan91@hotmail.com	Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvl@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225	B-Tech Civil Engineer with total 16yrs GCC experience include 11 yrs Oman experience, project manager job seeking. Contact: 97733497	Keralite, purchase assistant, store keeper 10 yrs working experience in Oman with valid Oman D/L(light) Looking for suitable job. Contact: 98615731, Email: sanalk73@gmail.com
MECHANICAL/ TECHNICAL	Experienced accounts, finance professional with 20+ yrs of experience in Oman and an MBA specialization in finance seeking a suitable opportunity. Holds a valid Oman D/L. Contact: 92916746	Architect, Interior designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com	Indian, male with 10 yrs. Experience in Oman, have 3 yrs Electrical diploma, General maintenance, valid Oman D/L. Contact: 93220672	BE Project engineer 12-13 yrs experience. Contact: 93850875, Email: abdulcivilco2015@gmail.com	Purchase officer, incharge with 7 yrs of GCC experience seeks placement . Contact: +968 9954 8041
Urgently required AC Technician required minimum 3-5yrs experience Send CV to: mm (@theimcworldwide.com	Sri Lankan Senior accountant, having Bachelor's Degree. 7+ yrs of experience. Expertise in finalization, audit, budgeting, MIS, VAT, income tax. Contact : 97092478	Graduate Architect with valid Oman D/L. Proficient in various Design software. Looking for Architect, interior designer roles. Contact: 93249129, Email: psmenez2015@gmail.com	Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com	LOGISTIC	Procurement engineer, Sudanese, 10yrs experience in Oman,MEP, firefighting, projects, D/L. Contact: 79027138 .
SALES/MARKETING	B.Com graduate with 7 yrs experience as an accountant,also experienced in store operations & document controlling. knowledge in tally, MS excel. MS office, VAT, tax filling & other finance operations. Contact: +968 76411551, WA+91 8547107262	Driver	Civil Engineer with 18 yrs of comprehensive experience in quantity surveying, commercial management and administration on Oman visa.Available for immediate joining. Contact: 94006748, Email: deepak190374@gmail.com	Indian, male, having 19 yrs of experience in manufacturing & FMCG operations management 15 yrs in Oman market , looking for opportunity to join immediate. Contact: 77431223, Email: dev4ducati@gmail.com	SALES/MARKETING
Urgently required showroom sales vacancy for construction tools.Tally experience is must, good communication skill. Email: srik7786@icloud.com	Indian graduate having 2 yrs experience in accounts & sales department. Contact: 7642 0699, Email: saqibahmed0319@gmail.com	Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801	Indian, male, Mechanical engineer with 1yr experience in HVAC engineering, looking for a suitable job. Contact: 76342333 Email: mohdyaz750@gmail.com	MANAGER	Indian, MBA, 20yrs of experience in Sales(FMCG/Retail) with D/L. Seeks suitable placement. Contact: 95548480
Urgently required outdoor sales person for power tools & machines. Relevant industry experience with D/L is must. Email: srik7786@icloud.com.	Sr. Accountant, accountant, 16 yrs of experience in Oman. Accounts up to finalisation and auditing. Contact: 94001764.	Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920	BE Civil site, project engineer (Keralite) having 12 years of experience in Oman looking for a suitable position as a site engineer (part time/full-time) in any reputed companies. having valid Oman D/L. Contact: 91281006, 78385414	Finance manager with 15 yrs of experience in oil & gas multinational company looking for suitable placement. Contact: 95230609	Looking for saleman job, 10 yrs experience in building materials,tiles & sanitary. Contact: 76396606
JOB WANTED	Indian, female, (MBA finance) having more than 15 yrs of experience in Oman in finance & accounts seeks suitable senior position. Contact: 94953826, 92824146	Junior accountant, Indian, male B.com graduate 2yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable job. Contact: 78047716	Chemistry teacher with 7 yrs experience of teaching IGCSE chemistry (Pakistani). Currently in Oman. Contact: +968 78684306	Civil Engineer with expertise in Software such as revit, autocad,naviswork, sketchup and having experience in site supervision is looking for job in Oman. Contact: +968 78441832, Email: shamilabdulla664@gmail.com	Indian male, Sales executive (MBA in Marketing) with 10 yrs of experience in FMCG & automobile with strong communication skills, holding valid Oman. D/L. Contact: 92350798
ACCOUNTS/FINANCE	Indian (male), 20 yrs Oman exp, knowledge of finalisation of accounts, VAT, TAX, LCLTR, & ERP Oracle. Contact: 92383882	Highly skilled Chief accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: +968 79888153	Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/ +968 94117967, Email: induchandran01@gmail.com	BE Project Engineer, 12 -13 yrs. experience. Contact: 93850875, Email: abdulcivilco2015@gmail.com	Indian male MBA graduated specialized with Marketing & HR (fresher). Looking for suitable positions . Currently in Muscat Oman. Contact: +968 71084371, Email: ccrashid9@gmail.com
Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs Valid D/L. Contact: 78624277	Indian male, having 2.5 yrs of experience in Accounts, finance, admin looking for job. Contact: +968 79414996, Email: sajadzn29@gmail.com				
Sr. Accountant, 16 yrs of experience in Oman. Accounts up to finalisation and auditing. Contact 91469060.	Indian male with 4+ yrs exp. in Oman, worked as Accounts & admin executive Bachelor Degree in Management (BBA) with valid D/L, ready to join immediately. Contact: 93536020, Email: naseemt24@gmail.com				



PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

RENT OR SALE?

Send email to [classifieds@ timesofoman.com](mailto:classifieds@timesofoman.com)



BRAIN PERCEIVES UNEXPECTED **PAIN** MORE STRONGLY: STUDY

Pain perception can vary greatly. Sometimes, we feel pain more intensely than expected due to an injury or physical ailment but may feel less intense pain in other similar instances

Researchers used visual threat manipulation and thermal stimulation in the virtual reality environment to investigate how the brain perceives pain. They found that the brain perceives pain more strongly when the perceived pain is out of alignment with reality. In particular, pain was amplified when unexpected events occurred.

Pain perception can vary greatly. Sometimes, we feel pain more intensely than expected due to an injury or physical ailment but may feel less intense pain in other similar instances. This variability indicates that our perception of pain is highly dependent on our expectations and uncertainty.

In this study, the mechanism underlying the perception of pain was investigated.

Two hypotheses have been proposed to explain how the brain perceives pain. One is the Estimate Hypothesis, where the brain estimates the intensity of pain based on predictions.

The other is the Surprise Hypothesis, where the brain perceives pain as the difference between pre-

diction and reality, otherwise known as the prediction error.

In the experiment, healthy participants received painful thermal stimuli and reported feeling pain intensity while observing painful or non-painful visual stimuli in virtual reality.

The researchers found that the participants strongly perceived pain when the prediction error was large

The study further confirmed that pain was amplified when unexpected events occurred. People with chronic pain often experience vague pain-related fears and anxieties.

Possibly, this uncertain gap between expectation and reality further increases the perceived intensity of pain. Therefore, reducing the gap between pain expectation and reality or “surprise” is important in reducing pain.

This study has resulted in a better understanding of pain perception. It would help to facilitate the development of new treatments that would enhance recovery from chronic pain and trauma. -ANI

SPORTS

‘All to play for’ as Real Madrid hold narrow edge over Atletico

Brahim Diaz’s individual brilliance gave Los Blancos 2-1 win at home in Champions League derby on Tuesday

MADRID: Brahim Diaz delivered a moment of individual brilliance to fire Real Madrid to a hard-fought 2-1 victory over city rivals Atletico in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 showdown at the Santiago Bernabéu on Tuesday night.

Rodrygo set the tone early for the hosts, netting in just the fourth minute after a dazzling solo run. The Brazilian burst past Javi Galan, cut inside with ease, and curled a stunning finish past Jan Oblak to send the home crowd into raptures.

Atletico, however, responded in style through the in-form Julian Alvarez. The Argentine, enjoying a stellar debut season in Madrid, bamboozled Eduardo Camavinga



with a sharp turn before whipping a curling effort beyond Thibaut Courtois and in off the post in the 32nd minute. It was Alvarez’s seventh goal in nine Champions League appearances this campaign, underlining his importance to Diego Simeone’s side.

With the tie delicately poised, Diaz produced the defining moment of the match 10 minutes into the second half.

The 25-year-old, deputising for the suspended Jude Bellingham,

weaved his way past Jose Gimenez with sublime footwork before driving a low shot into the far corner, restoring Real’s lead in spectacular fashion.

‘Not over yet,’ warns Atletico’s Gallagher

Atletico midfielder Conor Gallagher remained optimistic despite the defeat, insisting the tie is far from settled.

“Real Madrid are a top team, and I think we competed well,” Gal-



lagher told TNT Sports.

“We would’ve liked a better result, but it’s all to play for in the next leg. We feel we can beat any team, and with our fans behind us, we’ll be looking forward to it.”

Real Madrid, who have won their last five Champions League knockout ties against Atletico, had a golden chance to widen their lead late on. However, a misplaced pass from Kylian Mbappé denied Vinicius Jr what would have been a simple tap-in.

Ancelotti praises Rodrygo’s influence

Despite Diaz stealing the headlines, manager Carlo Ancelotti was full of praise for Rodrygo’s impact.

“For us, Rodrygo is not underrated,” the Real Madrid boss said. “He has helped us win the Champions League before, and he continues to play a crucial role.”

Madrid will take their slender advantage into the return leg at the Riyadh Air Metropolitan on

March 12, where the tie remains finely balanced. With Jude Bellingham set to return, Real will aim to finish the job and secure a place in the quarterfinals, where Arsenal are likely to await following their 7-1 demolition of PSV Eindhoven.

Atletico, however, will be determined to turn the tables in front of their home crowd. With the tie finely poised, another chapter in this storied Madrid rivalry awaits. - Agencies

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE LAST 16: FIRST LEG

Rampant Arsenal fire seven to crush PSV

EINDHOVEN: Arsenal put on a breathtaking attacking display to dismantle PSV Eindhoven 7-1 in their Champions League last-16 first-leg clash on Tuesday, all but sealing their place in the quarterfinals with a record-breaking away performance.

The Gunners, who had struggled for goals in recent weeks, found their rhythm in spectacular fashion, netting three times in the first half before adding four more after the break to record their biggest-ever away win in the competition’s knockout stages.

Jurrien Timber opened the scoring in the 18th minute, finishing a well-worked move before 17-year-old Ethan Nwaneri doubled the lead three minutes later, expertly converting Myles Lewis-Skelly’s cutback.

PSV had brief hope when Noa Lang converted a penalty after Thomas Partey’s foul on Luuk de Jong, but Arsenal responded with relentless dominance.

Mikel Merino capitalised on a defensive mix-up to make it 3-1 before halftime, and Martin Odegaard ensured there would be no PSV comeback with a close-range finish early in the second half.

Substitute Riccardo Calafiori then teed up Leandro Trossard for a deft chip over Walter Benítez, before Odegaard added his second with a brilliant solo effort. Calafiori rounded off the rout late on to cap a night of Arsenal brilliance.

Arsenal’s seven-goal haul was the most ever scored away from home in a Champions League



knockout match, underlining their return to form.

The victory marked their biggest win since a 7-3 triumph over

Newcastle in the Premier League 13 years ago.

Mikel Arteta, while delighted, remained measured: “For sure, it’s

something special, but we have bigger objectives.

“The most important thing is we are in a strong position to progress, but there’s still a job to do in London.”

Nwaneri proves his worth

Teen sensation Nwaneri showcased why Arteta has placed his trust in him in Bukayo Saka’s absence, scoring his eighth goal of the season.

The England youngster became only the third English player to start a Champions League knockout game before turning 18, following in the footsteps of Jude Bellingham and Phil Foden.

“He’s fearless,” said Declan Rice. “We’ve taken him under our wing, but even if Saka was fit, Ethan would still be playing because he’s that good.”

Arteta echoed the praise: “He doesn’t need pushing. He’s showing his quality every time he plays. Now, it’s about consistency.”

With their place in the last eight all but secured, Arsenal can begin preparing for a likely showdown with either 15-time champions Real Madrid or their city rivals Atletico. Carlo Ancelotti’s side hold a 2-1 advantage ahead of their return leg.

“This win gives us confidence and belief,” said captain Odegaard. “We’re enjoying our football again, and we know we can go far in this competition.”

Arsenal will host PSV in the second leg next week, but after a night of free-flowing dominance in Eindhoven, the job appears all but done. - Agencies

TWO LATE GOALS STUN HOSTS

Late strikes give Villa advantage vs Brugge



BRUSSELS: Aston Villa took a giant step towards the Champions League quarter-finals with a 3-1 victory over Club Brugge in Belgium on Tuesday, courtesy of two late goals that stunned the hosts.

Leon Bailey got Villa off to a dream start, marking his return to Belgium with a goal inside three minutes. The former Genk winger latched onto Tyrone Mings’ knockdown and struck a sublime half-volley past Simon Mignolet, silencing the home crowd.

However, Brugge responded swiftly. Just ten minutes later, Maxim de Cuyper finished clinically after a flowing move, drawing the Belgian side level and setting the stage for an intense contest.

Villa had their moments, with Marcus Rashford going close and Emiliano Martinez making a couple of key saves, but the breakthrough came in the 82nd minute when Brugge’s Brandon Mechele inadvertently turned Morgan Rogers’ cross into his own net under pressure.

The visitors then put the game beyond reach six minutes later. Matty Cash won a penalty after being brought down by Christos Tzolis, and Marco Asensio, a three-time Champions League winner with Real Madrid, stepped up to coolly convert, securing a crucial two-goal advantage for Unai Emery’s men.

“This was a huge performance from us,” said Emery. “Brugge are a tough side, and we had to stay patient. We controlled the second half well, and the late goals were the reward for our persistence.”

Bailey, who relished his goal in familiar surroundings, added: “It felt amazing to score here. We knew how important an early goal would be, and to come away with a 3-1 win puts us in a great position.”

Club Brugge captain Hans Vanaken admitted frustration but remained hopeful. “We had our chances, but they were more clinical. It’s not over yet - we believe we can still turn this around.” - Agencies

SECOND-HALF EQUALISER

Haraldsson secures Lille crucial draw against Borussia Dortmund

DORTMUND: Hakon Haraldsson’s second-half strike earned Lille a well-fought 1-1 draw against Borussia Dortmund in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie on Tuesday, keeping their quarter-final hopes very much alive.

Karim Adeyemi had put Dortmund ahead in the first half with a stunning volley, but Lille responded with a much-improved performance after the break, culminating in Haraldsson’s crucial equaliser. The French side will now look to finish the job in the return leg at Stade Pierre-Mauroy on March 12.

The match began at a measured pace, but the home side found their breakthrough in the 22nd minute. Julian Ryerson’s corner was partially cleared by Lille’s Alessandro Ribeiro, but the ball fell perfectly for Adeyemi, who struck a sublime half-volley from the edge of the box into the bottom corner, leaving



goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier with no chance.

Dortmund, last season’s runners-up, nearly doubled their lead before halftime when Pascal Gross turned in from close range, but the goal was ruled out for offside. Lille, strugg-

ling to impose themselves, had few opportunities in the first period, with their best chance coming when Thomas Meunier fired into the side-netting following a slick exchange with Haraldsson.

The visitors, however, came out



for the second half with renewed purpose. Their persistence paid off in the 68th minute when Jonathan David threaded a precise through ball to Haraldsson, who kept his composure to poke the ball past Gregor Kobel while off-balance.

Lille manager Bruno Genesio praised his team’s resilience: “The first half wasn’t good enough, but the reaction in the second was excellent. We showed we can compete at this level, and that goal was a huge moment for us.”

Lille eye history

Lille have never reached the Champions League quarter-finals, but this result puts them in a strong position. Having beaten Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid in the league phase, they know they can rise to the occasion against Europe’s elite.

Jonathan David, who set up the equaliser, was delighted with the team’s response. “We knew we had to step up after the break. Dortmund are a top side, but we stayed focused and got our reward.”

Lille remain unbeaten at home in this season’s competition, scoring 11 goals in four matches against heavyweight opponents like Real Madrid and Juventus. With that formidable record, they will approach the return leg with confidence, knowing a win on home soil will see them make club history. - Agencies

IN PICTURES



Binche Carnival held in Belgium
People wearing costumes of "Gille" attend the Binche Carnival, a UNESCO World Heritage event, in Binche, Belgium. *xinhua*



18th Annual Coastal Dance Festival held in Canada
Dancers perform an indigenous dance at the 18th Annual Coastal Dance Festival, held at the Museum of Anthropology in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. *xinhua*



Venice Carnival in Italy
Revellers pose for photos on the closing day of the Venice Carnival in Venice, Italy. *xinhua*



Rekha and Shabana attend the special screening of 'Dabba Cartel'
Actresses Rekha and Shabana Azmi attend the special screening of the upcoming Netflix series 'Dabba Cartel' in Mumbai. *ANI Photo*



Cote d'Ivoire launches first national job fair
Job seekers view corporate information at the first National Job and Recruitment Fair in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The fair kicked off in the economic capital, Abidjan, to provide practical employment solutions for young people. *xinhua*



Final of 2025 "Miss Tunisia" beauty pageant
This picture shows a performance at the 2025 "Miss Tunisia" beauty pageant in Tunis, Tunisia. *xinhua*

ROUND-UP

Omran’s ‘Layali Al Irfan Festival’ to celebrate spirit of Ramadan

Visitors can look forward to an atmosphere infused with warmth, hospitality, and a strong sense of community, making it a truly memorable celebration of the holy month



MUSCAT: Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran Group) officially inaugurated ‘Layali Al Irfan Festival’ at the Boulevard of the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre (OCEC), offering a complete Ramadan experience for families and friends in an exciting atmosphere that reflects the spirit of connection. The festival features cultural experiences, artistic performances, entertainment activities, and a market supporting entrepreneurs.

This event underscores the group’s commitment to delivering exceptional tourism experiences that captivate visitors while actively supporting initiatives that enrich local content and empower entrepreneurs and SMEs. As part of the accompanying programs of Layali Al Irfan, managed by OCEC, the event will take place from March 2 to March 29, offering an immersive and culturally enriching Ramadan experience. Visitors can look forward to an atmosphere infused with warmth, hospitality, and a strong sense of community, making it a truly memorable celebration of the holy month.

Designed to revive the authentic



atmosphere of Ramadan, ‘Layali Al Irfan Festival’ presents live cultural and artistic performances, and an eclectic selection of food outlets blending local flavors with international influences. The event also features family-friendly entertainment, exciting prize draws,

a vibrant bazaar, a dedicated children’s play area, a sports zone, an interactive gaming section, and live performances.

Commenting on the occasion, Sultan Sulaiman Al Khudoori, Assets Manager - Experiences at Omran Group, stated: “‘Layali Al Irfan’

is a dynamic and engaging experience that beautifully reflects Omani hospitality, seamlessly blending cultural authenticity with a diverse range of activities for families and friends. Through this initiative, we aim to offer a holistic Ramadan experience that allows visitors to embrace

the spirit of the holy month while also creating an exclusive platform for local entrepreneurs. We invite everyone to join us and immerse themselves in the charm of these Ramadan nights, where tradition meets modernity.”

As part of Omran Group’s com-

mitment to developing unique tourism experiences across its various destinations, ‘Layali Al Irfan’ also reinforces efforts to support and enhance local content. The event features 55 dedicated outlets for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and local entrepreneurs, providing them with an opportunity to showcase their products and services. To maximize participation and value creation, vendors will rotate on a weekly basis, ensuring a dynamic marketplace and broader exposure for a larger number of businesses.

The ‘Layali Al Irfan Festival’ is part of the ‘Layali Al Irfan’ campaign, transforming the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre into a vibrant destination for Ramadan 2025. Before heading to the festival, visitors will be able to enjoy an outdoor iftar in the serene Karam Tent, nestled within the venue’s Exhibition Garden and surrounded by nature, with prices starting at 10 OMR. The event is open to the public free of charge throughout the holy month of Ramadan, welcoming visitors daily from 8:00 PM to 12 midnight. Layali Al Irfan iftars will be available from 5:30 pm until 9:00 pm daily, from March 2 until 22 – bookings required.

SHOP AND DRIVE



KM Trading – Al Safa Group announces Ramadan campaign with exciting prizes

MUSCAT: KM Trading – Al Safa Group is offering customers a rewarding shopping experience during Ramadan in Muscat, with the opportunity to win valuable prizes.

As part of the “Shop and Drive” campaign, seven Hyundai vehicles will be awarded to lucky participants. The campaign commenced on March 23 and will run until April 7, as announced by company representatives.

During the promotion period, every customer who spends OMR10 at KM Trading Ruwi, Salalah, KM Hypermarket Al Khuwair, Saham, Al Safa Amerat, Dank, or Al Safa Mall Mabela can participate in the draw by sub-

mitting the coupon they receive. Three Hyundai Tucson and four Hyundai Accent vehicles will be given as prizes. The grand draw will be held on, April 17, at 7 PM.

Management representatives stated that preparations have been completed at all outlets to enhance the customer experience and make shopping easy and enjoyable during Ramadan. Necessary steps have been taken to provide the best products at affordable prices. A wide assortment of essential items, including fresh products, beverages, frozen foods, and other groceries, has been prepared at each outlet, according to a press release from the management.

CHANCE TO WIN ALL-NEW CHERY ARRIZO 5

Chery launches exclusive Ramadan campaign with exciting rewards

MUSCAT: This Ramadan, Chery Oman invites customers to embark on a journey of blessings with an exciting opportunity to own their dream Chery vehicle and stand a chance to win an all-new Chery Arrizo 5 (STD) sedan.

The campaign offers an array of benefits that enhance the joy of driving, including up to 5 years/60,000 km service, 1-year comprehensive insurance, 1-year registration, assured fuel card gifts and an unparalleled 10-year/1,000,000 km engine warranty (not applicable on Arrizo 5). This exclusive campaign is valid until April 17, 2025. (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & Conditions apply. Customers can visit any Chery showroom for exact details.)

Speaking about the campaign, a representative from New World Autos, the distributor for Chery in Oman stated, “Chery’s innovative and feature-packed line-up has been making waves in Oman and this Ramadan, we are excited to make ownership even more rewarding. Our special offers not only make it easier to drive home a Chery but also ensure peace of mind for years to come. The ex-



ceptional 10-year/1,000,000 km engine warranty highlights a commitment to durability and trust, making Chery the perfect companion for memorable journeys. We are confident that our customers will enjoy a truly satisfying ownership experience.”

Chery Arrizo 8 is available starting from RO 8175. This premium sedan redefines elegance and performance. It boasts a 1.6L turbocharged engine paired to a 7-speed dual-clutch transmission (DCT). Designed with cutting-edge technology and advanced safety features, the Arrizo 8 offers a seamless driving experience, making it an excellent choice for those who seek sophistication and comfort.

Chery Arrizo 6 PRO is starting from RO 5500. This dynamic sedan that blends power with efficiency is equipped with a 1.5L turbocharged engine and a CVT transmission, ensuring a smooth and responsive drive. With its modern design and innovative features, the Arrizo 6 PRO caters to those who desire style and performance in one package.

Chery All-New Arrizo 5 is available starting from RO 4275. It is a stylish and practical sedan. This new entrant in the Chery range in Oman is built for urban explorers. Powered by a 1.5L engine and paired with a CVT transmission, this sedan offers a fuel-efficient and comfortable ride, making it a

great choice for everyday driving.

Chery Tiggo 7 is available starting from RO 6600. This SUV seamlessly blends versatility and power. The Chery Tiggo 7 is designed for adventure and features a 1.5L turbocharged engine and a CVT transmission. It delivers both efficiency and agility, making it the ideal SUV for families and thrill-seekers alike.

Chery Tiggo 8 is available starting from RO 10,300. It is perfect for those who seek space and sophistication. This remarkable SUV is powered by a 1.6L turbocharged engine with a 7-speed DCT. With its premium interiors, intelligent technology and powerful performance, the Tiggo 8 ensures every journey is a luxurious experience.

oman
OASIS

sifr

SODIUM FREE DRINKING WATER

The healthy choice



Call Toll-Free 800 71 222 or GSM 9275 5522

 OmanOasis  OmanOasisOfficial  OmanOasisWater www.omanoasis.com



C.R. No.: 1365452

كاسابيللا
casabella

رَمَضَانُ كَرِيمٌ
Ramadan
Kareem

Ramadan Super Sale
تخفيضات رمضان الكبرى

من
From

30%

من حتى
up to

70%

Validity from: Feb 13th to March 30th 2025

يسري العرض من تاريخ 13 فبراير حتى 30 مارس 2025



WIN BIG THIS RAMADAN

WIN A MAZDA EVERY WEEK
Raffle

4 WEEKS, 4 MAZDA 6



BUY NOW

INCREASE YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

RAFFLE DATES | 16TH, 23RD MARCH & 6TH, 17TH APRIL 2025



MAZDA 6

2.0L/2.5L

STARTING PRICE

RO **7,966**



MAZDA CX-60

2.5L/3.3L TURBO MHEV

STARTING PRICE

RO **12,999**



MAZDA CX-90

3.3L TURBO MHEV

STARTING PRICE

RO **15,999**



MAZDA CX-5

2.5L

STARTING PRICE

RO **8,955**

***FREE 4 YEARS**
UNLIMITED KMS SERVICE

#AAA ROADSIDE
ASSISTANCE FOR
3 YEARS



92888005

www.mazdaoman.com



Towell Auto Centre LLC
YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER

SCAN TO
CHAT



SCAN TO
KNOW MORE



Visit the showroom and view it to believe it.

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

The offer is valid on all models from 24th February to 15th April, 2025. The prices mentioned are for base mode variants of CX-60 2.5L, Mazda 6 2L and base model variants of all other models & VAT extra. * Free service is linjaz service package and applicable to all variants of MY 2024 Mazda6 2.5, CX-5, CX-60 & CX-90. #AAA roadside assistance is valid for the first 3 years from the date of retail purchase. Raffle draw is applicable for all customers purchase any Mazda model during this offer period from any of the authorized Mazda showrooms after completing the invoicing and registration formalities. Total of 4 raffle draws will be held and each winner will receive a Mazda 6 2.0L as the raffle gift. 1st Raffle on 16th March 2025, 2nd raffle on 23rd March 2025, 3rd raffle on 6th April 2025 and 4th raffle on 17th April 2025. The vehicles shown are for illustrative purposes only and specifications are subject to change without notice. Offer valid only for private vehicles and not applicable to fleet, Ministry, taxi, rental, or commercial car purchases.



Let's Come Together This Ramadan!

Join us at the **Biggest Ramdan Festival** in Muscat!
OCEC Boulevard, March 2 to March 29, 8 PM - 12 AM

+968 9 44 77 111

layalialirfan.om

layalialirfan

Free Entrance • Bazaar • Exciting Gifts • Food Vendors
Fun Games • Kids' Zone • Live Entertainment • Sports Activities

