

**AIR FRANCE LAUNCHES
DIRECT FLIGHTS BETWEEN
MUSCAT AND PARIS**

Passengers looking to fly to Paris and beyond from Muscat can now travel by Air France, which has launched three direct flights a week between the two cities. **>A3**



**AGRICULTURE MINISTER TO TAKE PART
IN MIDDLE EAST GREEN INITIATIVE**

Delegated by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources left yesterday for Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), to lead the Sultanate's delegation in the launching ceremony of the Middle East Green Initiative (MGI), scheduled to be held on Monday. **>A5**



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Investor residency visa fees have been set at OMR500 for a 10-year visa, and OMR300 for one that lasts five years

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Registration fees for investors given special residency visas has been set at OMR500 for a 10-year visa, and at OMR300 for one that lasts five years.

Furthermore, the cost of renewing these visas – which must be done every three years – is also the same as the registration fee, according to a decision issued by the Royal Oman Police.

Investors can also apply for vi-

sas for their spouses and/or children. The visa cost of investors for 10-year period will be OMR100 and OMR50 for a five-year commitment. These visas can also be renewed for the same price as applying for them.

“For a foreigner who wishes to invest his money in the country and upon his request and according to a certificate issued by the competent authority stating the same, a visa may be granted to his wife and children,” added the ROP

in their decision.

“The visa is valid for a period not exceeding one year, subject to extension for a similar period based on the approval of the competent authority,” added the decision. “The visa entitles its holder to enter and reside in the country for a period not exceeding three months each time.”

The age requirements will not apply to those who obtain residency through either investment or real estate. However, the residency of expatriates who own real estate in an integrated tourist complex will expire if they take any legal action to dispose of the property, or transfer the same.

Accordingly, the residency of their spouse, children and relatives accompanying them shall also be terminated. “Investor visas are granted to foreigners who wish to invest their money in the

country, based on a certificate issued by the competent authority,” added the ROP decision. “The visa must be used within one year from the date of its issuance.”

“Visas are also issued to the spouse of the foreign investor in the Sultanate and their first-degree relatives upon their request and under their responsibility in accordance with the regulations set by the relevant authorities.”

The decision added, “The authorities may convert the visas stipulated in this article to any type of visa followed by residency, if the prerequisite conditions are met, in accordance with the corresponding controls, once the prescribed fee has been paid.”

To boost foreign investment in Oman, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion (MoCIIP) recently launched the new long-stay investor pro-

gramme. The new programme ensures that upon obtaining residency, investors will be provided further incentives and benefits, in keeping with conditions of the residency period.

The programme comes with the aim of facilitating the granting of residency for five to 10 years to investors wishing to invest or reside in Oman. These long-stay visas, which can be renewed, are part of efforts to enhance the investment environment, and take into account security, legal, social and economic aspects of the country.

It also aims to attract and promote qualitative investments that contribute to the growth of the domestic product and support the national economy, the localisation of industries, the transfer of advanced technologies and modern techniques, and the promotion of economic diversification.

ROYAL OMAN POLICE

OMR5 every month fine for delay in getting civil, resident cards

Times News Service

MUSCAT: People who are eligible to apply for civil and resident cards in the Sultanate of Oman, but fail to do so, will be fined OMR5 for every month if they do not have a valid ID card. The Royal Oman Police added that all citizens and expatriates above the age of 10 must apply for and obtain their ID cards.

Civil Status Law

The Royal Oman Police amended the Civil Status Law, with the following: “An identity card and residency card are issued within 30 days from the date a person reaches the age of ten years for Omanis and residents, and from the date of the resident entering the Sultanate if his age is more than ten years.”

To obtain the card, the presence of the person concerned is required, and an exception may be made to issue it without his presence, based on a reasonable request submitted to the General Administration, with the necessary documents attached.

Documentation for civil ID includes the original birth certificate of the applicant, original ID cards of the parents, and a letter from the relevant authorities, should the person in question have been granted Omani nationality. **>A4**

CHARITY

School-going students in areas affected by cyclone Shaheen receive donations

Times News Service

MUSCAT: School-going students in areas affected by cyclone Shaheen have been offered supplies from charity organisation Children First Oman.

As part of efforts to assist schools and students, the association, led by Her Highness Sayyida Mona Al Said, made their third visit to educational institutions in cyclone-affected areas.

Third visit

“This morning saw the third visit of the association in the areas affected by cyclone Shaheen, as well as the despatch of the second batch of school supplies,” said the association in a statement.

“Visits will be made to a number of schools under the leadership of



Her Highness, the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, alongside a number of members.”

The donation of school supplies



and visits to schools are made as part of an initiative called Kulhum Atfaluna (Arabic for ‘all of them are our children’).

While in the north of the coun-

try, visits were also made to some schools in Suwaiq, where members from the association met with school administration and teachers, and interacted with students.

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN

New headquarters of arbitration centre

1 The new headquarters of Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre was inaugurated, in a ceremony held under the auspices of Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Saidi, Minister of Justice and Legal affairs. **>A4**

WORLD

Taliban assure UN of protecting their staff

2 The Taliban have assured to safeguard UN staff working in the country. The assurance was given by Deputy PM Abdul Salaam Hanafi in a meeting with UN secretary-general's special representative Deborah Lyons. **>A6**

MARKET

Inflation rises by 2.46% in Sultanate

3 The inflation rate in the Sultanate of Oman increased by 2.46 per cent in September 2021 compared to September 2020. However, it decreased by 0.06 per cent compared to August 2021, according to official data. **>B1**

NATURAL HERITAGE

50 million-year-old rock formations found in Sultanate

Times News Service

MUSCAT: An area located in Al Dakhiliyah has been found to contain rocky outcrops that were formed about 50 million years ago.

Located south of Wilayat Adam, the area of Al Ghaba is nearly 400 km from Muscat, and is considered a ‘low desert plain’, compared to the surrounding areas, according to Dr Mohammed Al Kindi, the head of the Earth Sciences Consultancy Centre.

Speaking to the Oman News Agency, he said, “These plains contain a group of ancient salt domes whose rocks were deposited in the abyssal or pre-Cambrian eras. The plains also contain various mineral deposits, including gypsum deposits.”

“They are very rich in fossils dating back to different eras, including the pre-Cambrian era, and the rocks of this era contain deposits of very ancient bacteria and algae, which date back to about 540 million years and more, and are among the oldest fossils in the Sultanate,” he went on to say.

Fossils belonging to several va-



rieties of animals – both terrestrial and marine – have been found in this region. Among the other mammals are the fossils of elephants, a primitive form of the giraffe, and predatory animals, dating back to an era called the Miocene, which goes back 17 million years.

Also found were fossils of marine creatures, including fish.

“Table salt is among the most important minerals taken from this area, having been extracted since very ancient periods,” explained Al Kindi.

“The rocks were also used to

make stone tools carved from flint.

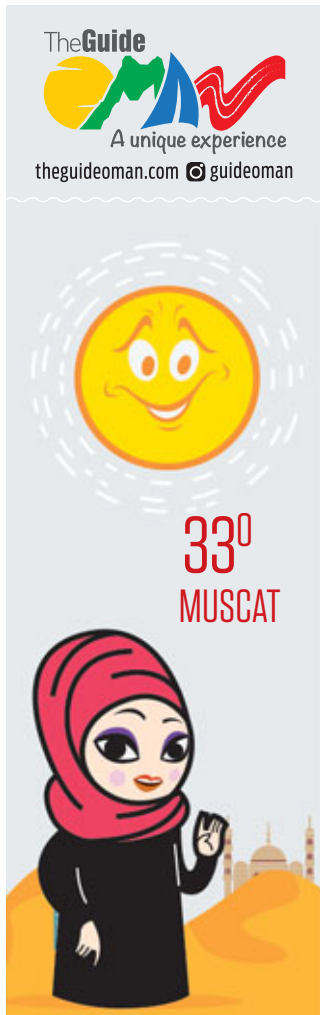
“There is plenty of old evidence of the presence of mines designed to extract salt,” he went on to add.

“Images pertaining to this activity were taken 65 years ago, and are still available to view. They indicate the extraction of table salt



that was then sold in the markets of Nizwa and Ibri.

“This salt was used to make food,” he added. “The area in question is also among the places where there are oilfields to be found, including the ones at Qarn Al Alam.”





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PRICE BAIZAS 200

Post haste!

The Directorate General of Posts is to issue guidelines to the public on mailing letters with the start of the electronic post office at Seeb.

Mahfoodh bin Mohammad bin Salem al Haremy, acting Director General of Posts said at a press conference this week that there are certain types of letters, especially those with added material which are not accepted by the electronic sorting machines.

by Muzaffar Mohammad

In the interest of quick sorting and delivery it is necessary that people in Oman and their relatives in other countries should follow the correct method of mailing.

All those letters which are not up to the specifications of electronic machines will be sorted manually and will be delayed.

The following are not accepted

New office will speed mail - if guidelines are followed

by sorting machines:

- Letters with stamps put in a wrong corner i.e. not on the top right hand corner.
- Letters with additional fixtures like celluloid tape, and pins etc.
- Open letters or half sealed letters.
- Heavy letters or letters lighter than 3 grams.
- Letters filling half of the interior of the envelope meaning that paper is not spread properly inside.
- Letters with bent or torn



Mahfoodh bin Mohammad Salem al Haremy, Acting Director General of Posts.

- Aerogrammes if they are folded.
- Letters carrying cassettes, piece of cloth or any substance other than paper.

Full report and pictures on pages 17, 18 and 19.

Warning for private schools

The Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs has advised owners of private schools not to admit children below the age of five and a half years into class one.

The Directorate of General Education, Badriya Khalifa said this week that the Ministry will take action against private schools which enrol children younger than the age prescribed in the rules.

The minimum age for admission into Class I in Ministry schools is six years while private schools have been allowed to admit children aged five and a half years to that class.

She said the tendency on the part of private schools to admit young children has caused a big problem and education inspectors have been asked to keep a check on schools to stop this practice.

LATEST S.A. arrests

A large force of South African police are carrying out a national security operation in Black townships south of Johannesburg. A Government spokesman said the operation was designed to halt two months of racial violence in which 80 people have died.

The operation began early on Tuesday when around 7,000 soldiers and policemen entered one of the townships, searched thousands of homes and arrested at least 350 people.

In another township, police fired bullets and made five arrests.

Members of the committee in the Philippines investigating the killing of opposition leader Benito Aquino have agreed that the army was involved in the conspiracy to kill him. But they failed to agree on how extensive the conspiracy was and two separate reports are being submitted.

Saudi Arabia's oil minister Sheikh Yamani is visiting Lagos to discuss Nigeria's decision to break ranks with the OPEC countries and cut the price of its oil. Nigeria announced its decision last week after Britain and Norway reduced their oil prices.

Sheikh Yamani will be going to Lagos before Monday's OPEC meeting in Geneva. He said he expected Nigeria to rescind its price reductions.

The United States Embassy in El Salvador has said that a 14-year-old boy has been killed by one of the notorious right-wing death squads, apparently because his father is a prominent trade unionist.

The embassy said the boy was taken by heavily armed men and his body was found hours later by the roadside. Around his neck was a note warning his father to stop his union activities.

Advisor in Jeddah

The advisor of the Emir of Kuwait arrived in Jeddah on Tuesday on his second tour of the AGCC states to deliver a message on the forthcoming summit conference. The Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa bin Salman al Khalifa, earlier on Tuesday received an invitation to attend the summit which is due to be held in Kuwait from November 27 to 29.

The "Times" is producing a special issue to commemorate the 14th National Day. Advertisers are reminded that the last day for accepting advertisements is October 31.

Shop centre to have post office

The Oman Kuwait Centre, the shopping complex in Ruwi will have a post office, said Habib bin Hamdan Abdalla, Director of the Capital Area post offices.

He said a place on the ground floor of the centre has been acquired and is now being furnished.

The new post office is expected to start functioning after the National Day.

The Director said the post office will take the place of the mobile post office now functioning in the parking lot behind the old Oman Plaza.

A decision to move the mobile post office to a new location will be taken later.

Minister home

Minister of Education and Youth Affairs Yahya bin Mahfudh al Manthery returned on Tuesday after leading the Sultanate's delegation to the 39th session of the International Educational Conference which began in Geneva on 16 October.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Manthery said that the session had discussed ways to develop primary education and related technology as well as the whole educational process throughout the world.

The Sultanate's delegation, Mr. Manthery added, had held discussions with Gulf and other Arab delegations aimed at boosting educational relations between Oman and each of these countries.

Oman praised in UN report

Oman has been praised as a clean country in a report released by the United Nations, said Dr. Suleiman bin Jabir Farsi, Public Health Adviser at the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities.

He said Omani cities and towns are cleaner than those in many countries in the Gulf because of a systematic and quick disposal of rubbish.

The main problem confronting public health workers in Oman is the disposal of waste water as there are not enough arrangements for sewage.

The advisor said that except for a sewerage plant at Darseit which covers only few areas of the Capital, there are few other plants. Most of the Capital Area and major towns in the Interior are devoid of sewerage systems.

He said Oman has got rid of the menace of flies because there are no rubbish spots but in the absence of a proper sewerage system mosquitoes are breeding in abundance — specially in

'Fly the flag' instruction

The Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs has sent instruction to all private schools to fly the National Flag on their buildings.

A circular issued by the Directorate of General Education advised managements of private schools to display Oman's flag which should be in accordance with the prescribed specification.

winter.

Dr. Farsi disclosed that studies have been conducted to prepare a master plan for sewerage in the Capital Area and plans for major towns. These plans are expected to be implemented during the third Five Year Plan.

He said these plants will be based on the principle of re-using both liquid and sludge for gardening purposes.

The Council for the Protection of Environment in cooperation with the Ministry of Land Affairs is formulating regulations controlling the re-use of waste water after it has been treated.

He said Oman is committed to the supply of safe drinking water to everybody and enough funds will be allocated in the next Five Year Plan for the purpose.

Technology exhibition

Oman has been invited to the Third Arab Water Technology Exhibition and Conference to be held in Dubai from October 28 to November 1.

Dr. Suleiman bin Jabir Farsi, Public Health Advisor at the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities will represent Oman at the conference which will discuss the latest technology in water and sewage treatment.

About 200 companies from 17 countries are taking part in the exhibition displaying latest equipment

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TRAVEL

Air France launches direct Muscat-Paris flight service



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Passengers looking to fly to Paris and beyond from Muscat can now travel by Air France, which has launched three direct flights a week between the two cities.

Operating on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the launch of the route offers 279 seats across three travel classes: business, premium economy, and economy.

"The new route will serve to link the two capitals Muscat and Paris," said Samer Ahmed Al Nabhani, the chief commercial officer for Oman Airports. "It also will contribute to increasing the number of passengers who travel between both countries for business, tourism and entertainment.

Al Nabhani added, "We are fully prepared to welcome all local and international airlines in synchronizing with the efforts of the teams concerned in marketing our airports as key regional and global hubs while highlighting our

continuous implementation for the highest HSE standards and precautionary measures imposed by the relative entities and ensuring their alignment to create a hassle-free safe travel experience for all users of Oman's airports at this period that are associated with globally-accredited travel protocols and standards."

Picturesque

France is one of the most attractive countries for travellers worldwide, being a destination for all world tourists with more than 80 million a year, making it on the top of the global tourism in terms of tourist volume. This is driven by its charming nature and picturesque coasts, which create unique memories and an amazing tourism experience.

Besides that, France is a key market for Oman's inbound tourism as about 68,000 visitors came from France to Oman in 2019 prior to COVID-19. The newly launched route will unlock for

passengers the opportunities of discovery and enjoyment of various locations and cultures.

The number of inbound tourists to the Sultanate is growing on a yearly basis, at an average rate of five per cent between 2018 and 2023. The number of holidaymakers to the country is expected to climb to 3.5 million tourists, according to the Arabian Travel and Tourism Market report from 2019.

Furthermore, the Paris route offers additional benefits to Oman-based travellers: from the French capital, they can connect to a wide network of airlines across Europe and beyond the Atlantic Ocean and South America. All these flights are run by Air France and its airline partners within the SkyTeam programme.

This route is also aimed at expanding existing flights between Muscat and Paris alongside current operations of SkyTeam alliance affiliated airlines operating in Oman.



ON SOCIAL MEDIA



MOST READ ON FACEBOOK

36,624 REACH

Oman

The factory is specialised in the production of non-metallic pipes made of reinforced polyethylene.



TIMESOFOMAN.COM

First factory to open at China-Oman industrial city in Duqm I



Story on the Sino-Oman industrial city in Duqm

The story on the Sino-Oman industrial city in Duqm reached 36,624 people and had 1,220 engagements on Facebook.



MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

447 VIEWS

An on-ground view of relief, rebuilding after Shaheen in





Story on relief and rebuilding efforts

A story on relief and rebuilding efforts post Shaheen had 447 views and 41 likes on Instagram.



MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

3,900 VIEWS

Full lockdown in Bulgaria if measures do not work in the next 10-15 days





Morning Minute video

The Morning Minute video had 3,900 views and reached 11,900 people on Facebook.



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IN LINE WITH OMAN VISION 2040

New headquarters of arbitration centre opens in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The new headquarters of Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre (OAC) was inaugurated, on Sunday under the auspices of Dr Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Saidi, Minister of Justice and Legal affairs.

The ceremony was attended by Prince Dr Bandar bin Salman bin Mohammed Al Saud, Honorary Chairman of the GCC Commercial Arbitration Centre and Engineer Redha bin Juma Al Saleh, Board Chairman of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI).

“The OAC provides some services related to arbitration, mediation and conciliation to settle domestic and international commercial disputes, in addition to other alternative dispute resolution means agreed upon by the disputing parties,” Al Saleh said.

“The vision of the Centre is to be a trusted choice for settling disputes using alternative means according to the best international standards and practices by embracing the values of integrity, impartiality, independence, governance, transparency, professionalism, speed and efficiency,” he said.



FOR SETTLING DISPUTES: The vision of the Centre is to be a trusted choice for settling disputes using alternative means according to the best international standards and practices by embracing the values of integrity, impartiality, independence, governance, transparency and efficiency. — ONA

“The Centre, which was established by virtue of Royal Decree No. 26/2018, goes in line with Oman Vision 2040 directions. It supports the legislative environment and is considered to be a main pillar for encouraging investments and attracting capital to the

Sultanate of Oman,” he said.

“We hope and strive to turn OAC into a beacon for boosting the trust of investors and business people in the commerce and investment sector in the Sultanate. We expect that the Centre will work hand in hand with other governmental

institutions to attract more investments, as well as domestic, regional and international capital,” he pointed out.

“This in turn will contribute to achieving the desired economic, social and human growth in the Sultanate. Furthermore, it will

support the outstanding legislative and investment environment in the Sultanate,” Al Saleh added.

Independent entity

The Board Chairman of OCCI clarified that the Chamber has strived to establish this administratively and financially independent entity as soon as possible and to provide it with unlimited support to carry out its work and services. Immediately after the Royal Decree was issued, OCCI formed the founding committee of the Centre at the Chamber to complete the establishment of the Centre.

These efforts were culminated with the issuance of the OAC work system by virtue of decision no. 37/2019. After that, the first directors of OAC board were appointed.

Hamad bin Mohamed Al Sharji, Board Chairman of OAC, said: “The Sultanate recognises the importance of arbitration and other alternative means for settling disputes particularly in the field of international trade. OAC attempts to mitigate the burdens suffered by our judicial authorities and seeks to streamline the arbitration procedures in the Sultanate.”

“OAC has achieved a tangible

progress during the past two years by issuing the work system of the Centre. The rules of arbitration, mediation and conciliation were also developed, approved and published, in addition to the regulations and international decisions of OAC,” he added.

“Arbitration is important because it is a factor for attracting foreign investments across borders and continents. It also contributes in boosting the economic system,” Al Sharji explained.

Arbitration also provides the entities that invest in the Sultanate with guarantees that are consistent with their orientations. International organisations have always requested adopting arbitration procedures because they save time and efforts, in addition to protecting capital and investments.

It is worth mentioning that OAC provides the necessary consultations and services for the procedures of settling commercial disputes. It also seeks to spread the culture of resolving trade disputes using alternative means. The Centre issues newsletters, publications and cooperates with relevant local, regional and international arbitration centers, entities and organisations.

EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS

<FROM A1 Applicants need to submit passports

In terms of residence cards, applicants need to submit their passports, as well as a notification confirming application from the authorities. Those who wish to reapply for residence cards will need to provide this documentation at the time of renewal as well.

In all cases, the card is issued with a photograph in the official dress for Omanis, and in an appropriate dress for foreigners, in accordance with the regulations set by the Director General.

Article 21 of the Executive

Regulations states: “The civil ID card is valid for a period of five years, and the residence card for a period of up to three years, from the date of issuance or renewal, and the owner of the card must renew it within 30 days from the date of its expiry.”

The decision noted that the fees for issuing and renewing the identity card are OMR5 for Omanis and expatriates, while the fees for issuing a replacement for lost cards are OMR10 for an Omani citizen and OMR20 for an expatriate.

IN SAUDI ARABIA

Omani artist to hold 10-day exhibition

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omani artist Alia Al Farsi will hold a solo exhibition at the Saudi-based 015 Gallery for 10 days, starting from 25 October.

Unique collection

Alia Al Farsi will display a unique collection of artworks for the first time at the upcoming exhibition, which was initiated by 015 Gallery’s founder, Her Highness Sarah bint Abdullah bin Musaed.

Alia Gallery

Organised by 015 Gallery in collaboration with Alia Gallery, the exhibition

is considered one of many coming projects between the two art galleries that aim at sharing the best art experiences and practices in the GCC and the Arab World.

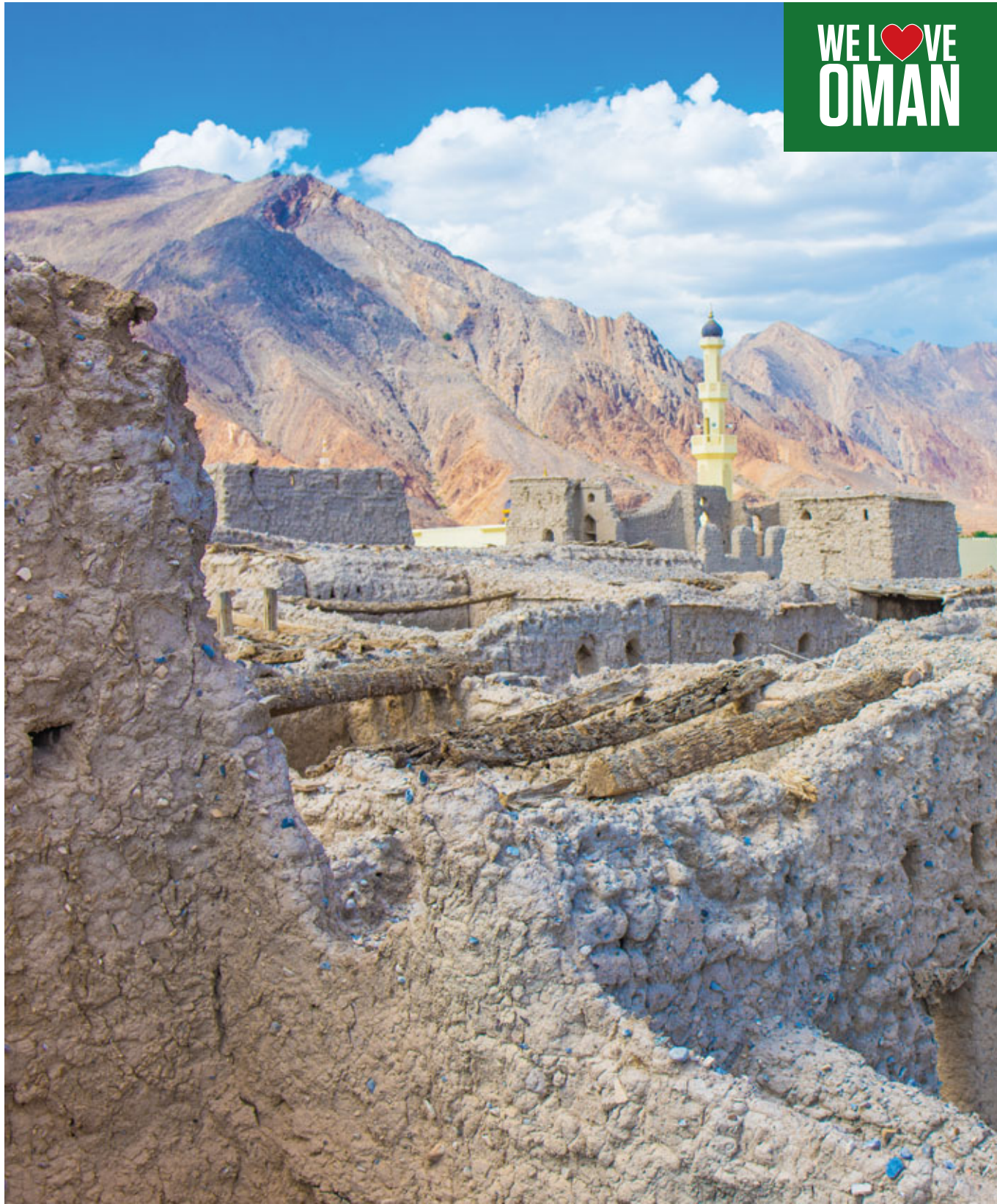
Promoting local artists

This event comes as the Sultanate and Saudi Arabia are accelerating their cooperation and investments in various sectors, as both parties seek to encourage investment in fine arts and promote local artists.

The exhibition will be held under the auspices of His Highness Sayyid Faisal bin Turki Al Said, the Sultanate’s Ambassador to Saudi Arabia.



Alia Al Farsi. — Supplied picture



ANCIENT HOUSES IN IZKI

Izki lies approximately 120 kilometres from Muscat. It borders Samail in the north, Manah and Adam in the south, Nizwa in the west and Mudhaibi in the east. One can find Oman’s oldest historical ruins here. Al Nizar, Sehma and Mokazza are some of the villages here. There are many ancient houses and mosques of archaeological significance. At the foot of Wadi Halfayn, below Nizar village, is Jarnan cave which is an important natural attraction in the wilayat of Izki. Falaj Al Malaki is one

of the oldest falaj systems in the Sultanate.

According to Oman’s Ministry of Tourism, ‘Falaj Al Malaki is considered one of the largest Dawoodi Falaj as it has 17 branches that feed the falaj’. The Izki Fort and the local souq are known for their historical significance. While Wadi Mahram is known for its serenity there are few ancient towers that watch over the village from their hilltop perches.

The wilayat of Izki is known for several traditional industries and crafts especially spinning and weaving.

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DELEGATED BY HM

Agriculture Minister to take part in Middle East Green Initiative

MUSCAT: Delegated by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources left yesterday for Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), to lead the Sultanate's delegation in the launching ceremony of the Middle East Green Initiative (MGI), scheduled to be held on Monday.

The MGI summit will bring together prominent regional and international leaders with the aim of enhancing cooperation and rallying efforts towards implementing the common environmental commitments.

The MGI initiative aims at combating climate change in the Middle East and promoting investment, as well as transferring knowledge to face relevant challenges. -**ONA**



UN CONFERENCE

Meeting on urban development

MUSCAT: Dr Khalfan Said Al Shuaili, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning received in his office here on Sunday Dr Joan Clos, former Secretary General of the United Nations (UN) Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), within the framework of his current visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting reviewed the Sultanate's experience in the fields of housing and the sustainable urban development, as well as exchanging relevant expertise and knowledge.

During his current visit, Dr Clos will give a lecture entitled "Transformation into Attractive Cities for Living" at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU).

The visit aims at enhancing the global communication of Oman in the fields of housing and urban planning, besides exchanging relevant experience. -**ONA**

EMPLOYING OMANIS

Ministry of Labour announces availability of over 300 jobs

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Labour announced the availability of 332 job opportunities in the various companies and establishments of the private sector.

This number included 243 job opportunities for holders of college/university qualification, 18 jobs for holders of post-graduation diploma, 37 jobs for holders of post-secondary education diploma, 4 jobs for holders of vocational diploma and 30 jobs for general education diploma holders.

The initiative provides government subsidy to the wages of such employees at OMR200, provided that the employer shall bear the balance of the agreed upon wage and provided that employment shall be for a term not less than that of the government subsidy of four years.



The initiative is aimed at supporting the private sector and to encourage it to employ Omanis.

Job opportunities

This is the second announcement by the Ministry for the job opportunities offered by the private sector establishments which registered to avail from

GCC military cooperation

MUSCAT: A meeting of the Preparatory Committee of Assistant Chiefs of Staff for Operations and Training was held on Sunday in preparation for the meeting of the Supreme Military Committee of GCC Chiefs of Staff. The two-day meeting sees the participation of Brigadier Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Manthri, Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Planning, other GCC Assistant Chiefs of Staff and Maj. Gen Ahmed Ali Al Ali, GCC Assistant Secretary General for Military Affairs. The meeting discusses a spectrum of topics in the fields of military cooperation between GCC countries. Those topics will be submitted at the upcoming meeting of the Supreme Committee of GCC Chiefs of Staff. -**ONA**

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Oman, Senegal to boost economic ties



MEETING: Dr. Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy received Amadou Hott, Minister of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation of Senegal. -**ONA**

MUSCAT: Dr. Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy received in his office on Sunday Amadou Hott, Minister of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation of Senegal.

The two sides discussed prospects for boosting joint economic cooperation and means of promoting bilateral relations to serve the common interests between the two countries.

On his turn, the Minister of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation of Senegal affirmed his country's interest in supporting joint cooperation between the two sides, which would contribute to enhancing

the economic growth of the two countries, particularly in light of the developments of the global economy.

Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthi, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Diplomatic Affairs received yesterday Amadou Hott, Minister of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation of Senegal, who is currently visiting the Sultanate.

Cooperation opportunities

The meeting reviewed aspects of the bilateral relations. It also explored cooperation opportunities in the fields of economy, investment and trade exchange. -**ONA**

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TENDER NOTICE COMMERCIAL / RECREATION BUILDING (AREEJ) AT HALBAN -BARKA

National Mass Housing Company SAOC invites tenders from competent contractors registered under category **Grade-2 and above**, who are capable of executing the construction of a Commercial/ Recreation Building at AREEJ Complex - Halban.

Those interested in participating may purchase the tender documents from the Company's office located on 3rd floor, Muscat Grand Mall Building, Building No.6, between 8:00am and 3:00pm on working days from Wednesday, 20 October 2021 till 27 October 2021, against a non-refundable tender fee of **RO.300/= per set**.

An unconditional tender bond or certified cheque from a licensed bank in the Sultanate, drawn in favour of National Mass Housing Company, in the sum of 1% of the tender value, valid for a period of 90 days from the date of submission, must accompany the tender, failing which no tender will be accepted.

Sealed tenders addressed to Chairman of the executive Committee shall be delivered to the office of the company, with the above title marked on the cover containing all documents. Exterior of the sealed envelope must not reveal identity of the bidder.

The last date for submission of tenders shall be 12:00pm. on Thursday, 18 November 2021.

National Mass Housing Company is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender received and reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Notice of Invite for Extraordinary General Meeting and Ordinary General Meeting

The Investment Manager of Bank Muscat Oryx Fund (**Fund**) hereby invites the unitholders to an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) to be convened at the Head Office Building of Bank Muscat located at the Airport Heights, Muscat, at **3:00 pm on Wednesday, 10 November 2021**, and in the event the legal quorum for convening the general meetings has not been met, the second EGM and the second OGM shall be held at **3:00 pm on 11 November, 2021** at the same location specified above, to consider and decide on the following agenda:

Firstly: Agenda of the EGM

1. To consider and approve amending article 12 of the Article of Association of the Fund as per the annexure.

Secondly: Agenda of the OGM

1. To elect new members of the Fund Management. Anyone who wishes to nominate himself/herself for the position must complete the prepared election form which can be obtained from Raghad Al Lawati, Secretary of the Fund's Management by way of an email to raghadn@bankmuscat.com. The nomination form must be submitted it to the Secretary of the Fund's Management at least 5 days prior to the OGM date before the end of the business day on Thursday, 4 November 2021. The candidate should observe the conditions required for the membership of the Fund's Management.

In accordance with the Fund's Articles of Association, every unitholder has the right to appoint any other person in writing as his proxy to attend the meeting and vote on his behalf, by way of a proxy card attached to the notice. Any such natural person should attach to the proxy card a copy of: their ID for adults, their passport for minors or those who do not have a civil card or resident card, and resident card or passport for non-Omanis. For corporates, the proxy form shall be signed by one of the authorized signatories and sealed by the company's stamp accompanied with copies of the commercial registration certificate and the specimen signature form. Kindly arrive at the meeting venue at least half an hour before the general meeting.

If you require any further information, please contact Raghad Al Lawati at 24768265 regarding matters pertaining to the Agenda of the EGM and/or OGM.

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WORLD



GREAT SPORTSMAN

Olympic sprinter Alex Quinonez shot dead in Ecuador

QUITO: Ecuadorian sprinter Alex Quinonez was shot dead in the port city of Guayaquil, police announced on Saturday.

The 32-year-old 200 metres world bronze medallist, as well as one other person, were found dead close to midnight local time on Friday, according to local police.

“With great sadness, we confirm the murder of our sportsman Alex Quinonez,” the country’s Sports



Ministry announced on Twitter.

“We have lost a great sportsman, someone who allowed us to dream, who moved us...he was the greatest sprinter this country produced.”

Ecuador’s President Guillermo Lasso offered his condolences to Quinonez’s family.

“We offer our sincerest condolences to his family,” he tweeted. “Those who take the lives of Ecua-

dooreans will not remain unpunished. We will act with force,” he added.

Ecuador’s Olympic Committee said the death of Quinonez “leaves us with profound pain” and that his “legacy will forever stay in our hearts.”

The fatal shooting comes after a 60-day nationwide state emergency came into force in Ecuador on Monday in response to a surge in violent crime. **ANI**



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Taliban assure UN of protecting their employees in Afghanistan

Afghanistan’s Deputy Prime Minister made this assurance during a meeting with UN secretary-general’s special representative to the country

KABUL: The Taliban have assured the United Nations that they would safeguard all UN operations and staff members working in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan’s Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Salaam Hanafi made this assurance during a meeting with UN secretary-general’s special representative to Afghanistan Deborah Lyons in Kabul on Saturday, Ariana News reported. “In a series of meetings



COOPERATION: Taliban spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid said that Hanafi asked for the UN’s cooperation in different sectors and assured Lyons the outfit would ensure the safety of all UN organisations in Afghanistan,

in Kabul today UNAMA head @DeborahLyonsUN discussed #Afghanistan’s deepening economic & humanitarian crisis, as well as human rights concerns, with senior Taliban reps Amir Khan Mut-

taqi & Abdul Salam Hanafi at MFA & Hidaytullah Badri at Finance Min,” United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) tweeted.

In a statement, Taliban spokes-

person Zabiullah Mujahid said that Hanafi asked for the UN’s co-operation in different sectors and assured Lyons the outfit would ensure the safety of all UN organiza-

tions in Afghanistan.

Lyons, on the other hand, briefed Hanafi on her recent visit to the US and said that the UN is committed to providing the people of Afghanistan with humanitarian assistance.

“Our priority is to protect the security and social rights of the Afghan people and (we) will not allow any group to threaten other countries using Afghanistan’s soil,” said Hanafi, as quoted by Ariana News.

The UN mission in Afghanistan further said that there is a need for inclusive governance and protection of the rights of all Afghans, women and men.

“The UN in Afghanistan continues to ramp up delivery of life-saving aid but UN envoy highlighted that all entities must do everything possible to prevent an economic collapse. There is a need for inclusive governance & protection of the rights of all Afghans, women & men,” UNAMA said in another tweet.

Separately, UN Chief Antonio Guterres on Saturday said that Antonio Guterres UN is staying and delivering, and will continue to promote and defend the rights of women and girls.

“In Afghanistan, the @UN is staying and delivering and will continue to promote and defend the rights of women and girls. We will not stop until girls can go back to school, and women can return to their jobs and participate in public life,” the UN chief tweeted. **ANI**

ARRESTED

Colombia captures its most wanted drug lord ‘Otoniel’



BOGOTA: Colombian authorities said on Saturday they captured Dairo Antonio Usuga, the country’s biggest drug trafficker.

Usuga, better known by his alias “Otoniel,” is the alleged leader of the violent Clan Del Golfo cartel, which had control of major cocaine smuggling routes through thick jungles.

Compared to capture of Escobar

Colombia’s President Ivan Duque compared Saturday’s arrest to the fall of Pablo Escobar, the Colombian drug lord killed in a police shootout in 1993.

“This the hardest blow... to drug trafficking this century in our country,” Duque said.

“Alias Otoniel was the most feared drug lord in the world, a murderer of police, soldiers, local activists,” he added.

The arrest was “the biggest penetration of the jungle ever seen in the military history of our

Colombia’s President Ivan Duque compared Saturday’s arrest to the fall of Pablo Escobar, the Colombian drug lord killed in a police shootout in 1993

country,” Duque said.

Duque urged other members of the cartel to turn themselves in or “feel the full weight of the law.”

Usuga stands accused of various crimes, including drug trafficking, murder, extortion, kidnapping, conspiracy and illegal recruiting of minors. He was on the US Drug Enforcement Administration’s most wanted list.

The US State Department had

offered up to \$5 million (€4.29 million) for information leading to his arrest or conviction in 2009. US and British authorities were also informed about the details of the arrest.

Who is ‘Otoniel’ Usuga?

The 50-year-old was born in Necocli and was the seventh of nine children to a rural family. At age 18, he joined a Marxist guerilla group that was later disbanded.

In the 90s, he aligned himself with the Peasant Self-Defenders of Cordoba and Uraba (ACCU), which worked to protect farmers against guerillas, and was also linked to drug trafficking. Some of these paramilitary groups then became the Gulf clan.

Usuga took over the leadership of the clan from his brother, who was killed by the police in 2012.

He evaded arrest for many years. During this operation, about 500 police officers and 22 helicopters were deployed. **ANI**

PERMANENTLY RESETTLE

US administration wants to resettle over 55,000 Afghanistan refugees

WASHINGTON: The Biden administration wants to permanently resettle 55,600 Afghan evacuees from the military bases of the US to permanent houses, reported local media.

Bringing such a large number of Afghans from military bases to permanent houses seems to be the biggest change to the resettlement program since 1980, said Khaama Press. Currently, a large number of Afghans -- who worked on the behalf of US in Af-

ghanistan -- are living in refugee camps established in American military bases.

US President Joe Biden has decided to launch a programme -- that will allow veterans and others with ties to Afghans -- that aims to financially support and resettle Afghans in their cities as they start a new life in the US.

As per the new initiative, a group of five who are over 18 can apply for so-called being spon-

sors of the Afghan family who will financially support Afghan families for 90 days, complete their training, and develop a plan for the family. If the proposal is approved, the group will be responsible for securing housing, supporting refugees accessing benefits that are available to them through the US government, like medical services, and helping to enrol children in school, among other responsibilities, according to Khaama Press. **ANI**

PEACE TALKS

US envoy urges North Korea to talk, stop missile tests

WASHINGTON: The United States on Sunday urged North Korea to stop its “concerning and counterproductive” missile tests, and engage in peace talks.

“Our goal remains the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula,” Sung Kim, the US special representative on North Korea, told reporters.

“That’s why Pyongyang’s recent ballistic missile test, one of several in the past six weeks, is concerning and counterproductive to making progress toward lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula,” he added.

US open to talks

Last week, North Korea tested its newly developed submarine ballistic missile in its fifth round of weapon tests. South Korean officials said the weapon appears to be in early development stages. Missiles fired from submarines are harder to detect in advance.

“We remain ready to meet with the DPRK without preconditions and we have made clear that the United States harbors no hostile intent towards the DPRK,” said Kim, referring to North Korea by its official name, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

The Biden administration has



repeatedly said it is open to talks with North Korea. However, North Korea has slammed the US for its hostile policies, sanctions and regular military drills carried out with South Korea.

North Korean leader Kim Jong

Un has blamed US policies toward the isolated nation, and dismissed Washington’s claims that it does not have hostile intentions. He met three times with former US President Donald Trump, but their talks failed to reach an agreement. **ANI**



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Babar, Rizwan, Shaheen steal show as Pakistan crush India by 10 wickets

Rizwan (79*) and Babar (68*) didn't give any chance to India bowlers to come on top as the two batsmen dominated the proceedings

DUBAI: Mohammad Rizwan and skipper Babar Azam put on a remarkable show on Sunday as Pakistan thrashed India by 10 wickets in their opening game of the ICC T20 World Cup at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Rizwan (79*) and Babar (68*) didn't give any chance to India bowlers to come on top as the two batsmen dominated the proceedings. Pakistan chased down the target of 152 without losing a wicket as India looked clueless in their opening match.

Before this game, Pakistan had failed to beat India in the history of the men's World Cup but the Babar-led side came out with flying colours on Sunday on the back



of some sensational performance after Shaheen Shah Afridi's show with the ball.

Chasing 152, Pakistan got off to a steady start as openers Mohammad Rizwan and Babar Azam took Pakistan to 35 after five overs. The two batsmen looked in great touch and steered the side to 71/0 after the end of 10 overs.

Both Rizwan (79) and Babar (68) not only hit timely boundaries but also made sure they rotate the strike at regular intervals to put pressure on India

possible as it was once again a left-arm pacer who came in to haunt the Indian top order after Mohammad Amir had rocked the lineup in the 2017 Champions Trophy final.

Suryakumar Yadav then joined Kohli in the middle and the hopes were high from them.

Both batters put on a brief 25-run stand for the third wicket, but as soon as the innings started streamlining for India, Hasan Ali dismissed Suryakumar (11), leaving the Men in Blue at 31/3.

Rishabh Pant then came together with Kohli and at the halfway mark, India's score read 60/3.

Pant changed the tempo of India's innings with two sixes in the 12th over bowled by Hasan Ali and the Men in Blue started to gain some momentum.

However, Pant went for a shot too many and he perished off the bowling of Shadab Khan after playing a knock of 39, reducing India to 84/4 in the 13th over.

Kohli brought up his 29th half-century in the 18th over of the innings and he changed his batting gears upon reaching the landmark.

Jadeja departed after scoring 13, and Shaheen once again changed the game as he took the key wicket of skipper Kohli (57).

Brief Scores: India 151/7 (Virat Kohli 57, Rishabh Pant 39; Shaheen Shah Afridi 3-31) vs Pakistan 152/0 (Mohammad Rizwan 79*, Babar Azam 68*; Jasprit Bumrah 0-22). -ANI

T20 WORLD CUP

‘Insane’ that over 1 billion people will watch India-Pakistan match: Warne

DUBAI: Former Australia spinner Shane Warne on Sunday called the estimated viewership of more than 1 billion of T20 World Cup match between arch-rivals India and Pakistan as ‘insane’.

India and Pakistan will square off against each other on Sunday evening in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup and it will be after a gap of two years that these two teams will meet on the cricket pitch, having last played in the 50-over World Cup in 2019.

“Is it true that over 1 billion eyeballs will watch India V Pakistan today at the #ICCT20WorldCup2021? I know cricket is now the 2nd biggest and most popular sport in the world but that seems insane,” tweeted Warne.

In another tweet, the former Australia spinner said: “Ps What is the most eyeballs that have ever watched a singular sporting event globally? Super bowl? Soccer World Cup? 100m sprint at the Olympics or India V Pakistan at a World Cup? Does anyone know - if so please share.” -ANI

SRI LANKA VS BANGLADESH

Asalanka, Rajapaksa shine as Sri Lanka defeat Bangladesh

SHARJAH: Charith Asalanka and Bhanuka Rajapaksa played knocks of 80 and 53 respectively as Sri Lanka defeated Bangladesh by five wickets in the Super 12's Group 1 match at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Chasing 172, Sri Lanka lost the wicket of Kusal Perera (1) in the very first over as he was bowled by Nasum Ahmed. However, Pathum Nissanka and Charith Asalanka counter-attacked and the duo took Sri Lanka's score to 54/1 after the end of the power-play overs. Both batters put on 69 runs for the second over.

Shakib Al Hasan however, changed the game around for Bangladesh in the ninth over as he dismissed Nissanka (24) and Avishka Fernando (0), reducing Sri Lanka to 71/3 with the side still needing 101 runs to win from 68 balls.

Wanindu Hasaranga (6) failed to leave a mark with the bat and Sri Lanka was left struggling at 79/4 in the 10th over of the innings. Asalanka then found the support in the form of Bhanuka Rajapaksa and the duo did not let the asking run-rate creep up too high. Both of them kept on registering boundaries at regular intervals and Sri Lanka needed just 24 runs from the final four overs.

In the end, Sri Lanka registered



a comfortable victory with seven balls to spare.

Earlier, Mohammad Naim and Mushfiqur Rahim played knocks of 62 and 57 to help Bangladesh post a total of 171/4 in the allotted twenty overs. Sent into bat, Bangladesh got off to a steady start as openers Liton Das and Mohammad Naim put on 40 runs for the first wicket, but this stand was cut short by Lahiru Kumara in the sixth over as he sent Das (16) back to the pavilion. Shakib Al Hasan (10) failed to leave a mark with the bat and Bangladesh was reduced to 56/2 in the eighth over.

Mushfiqur Rahim then joined Naim in the middle and the duo frustrated the Sri Lankan bowling attack, registering boundaries at regular intervals. The duo put on 73 runs for the third wicket and it was finally in the 17th over that Chamika Karunaratne was able to send Naim (62) back to the pavilion, reducing Bangladesh to 129/3.

In the final three overs, Bangladesh managed to add 31 more runs to their total, taking it past the 170-run mark. Mushfiqur and Mahmudullah remained unbeaten on 57 and 10. Brief Scores: Bangladesh 171/4 (Mohammad Naim 62, Mushfiqur Rahim 57*; Chamika Karunaratne 1-12); Sri Lanka 172/5 (Charith Asalanka 80*, Bhanuka Rajapaksa 53; Shakib Al Hasan 2-17). -ANI

GROUP A & B



POINTS TABLE

GROUP A				
POS	TEAM	PLD	NRR	PTS
1	ENGLAND	1	+3.970	2
2	SRI LANKA	1	+0.583	2
3	AUSTRALIA	1	+0.253	2
4	SOUTH AFRICA	1	-0.253	0
5	BANGLADESH	1	-0.583	0
6	WEST INDIES	1	-3.970	0

GROUP B				
POS	TEAM	PLD	NRR	PTS
1	PAKISTAN	1	+0.973	2
2	AFGHANISTAN	0	+0.000	0
3	NAMIBIA	0	+0.000	0
4	NEW ZEALAND	0	+0.000	0
5	SCOTLAND	0	+0.000	0
6	INDIA	1	-0.973	0



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Liverpool thrash Man Utd; Real Madrid beat Barca in El Clasico

Liverpool defeated United to move to second place in the standings, just one point away from table-toppers Chelsea

MANCHESTER: Mohamed Salah, Diogo Jota all got on the scoring charts as Liverpool thrashed Manchester United in the Premier League on Sunday here at Old Trafford.

Liverpool defeated United to move to second place in the standings, just one point away from table-toppers Chelsea.

Before halftime, Liverpool registered four goals and they were scored by Naby Keita, Jota and Salah. The Egyptian striker Salah scored a brace in the first half, giving Liverpool a comfortable lead.



Salah then went on to complete his hat-trick in the 50th minute of the game as Liverpool gained a 5-0 lead.

No more goals were scored in the match, and in the end, Liverpool registered a comprehensive 5-0 win.

David Alba and Lucas Vazquez goals' helped Real Madrid defeat Barcelona in the La Liga on Sunday here at the Camp Nou.

Real Madrid defeated Barcelona 2-1 on Sunday to consolidate its position at the top of La Liga standings with 20 points from nine games. Madrid now is level with second-placed Sevilla on points, but is ahead in the standings on the basis of goal difference.

Alba registered a goal for Real Madrid in the 32nd minute of the

game. Madrid doubled its lead through Lucas Vazquez.

Sergio Aguero pegged one goal back for Barcelona, but it was not enough to hand his side the victory.

Real Madrid will next lock horns against Osasuna on Wednesday while Barcelona will square off against Rayo Vallecano on the same day. -ANI

TICKETS GIVEN AWAY



UAE businessman distributes T20 World Cup tickets to blue-collar workers

It has been almost half a decade since the last T20 match was played between India and Pakistan in Eden Gardens (19 March, 2016) which India won by 6 wickets.

And it is the first time ever that T20 World Cup is happening in UAE. India vs Pakistan being the one of the most waited matches given the huge population of expats from these two countries. It is a well-known fact that this match is an iconic one and watched by Indians and Pakistanis, no matter which part of the globe they are located in. Be it a labourer or a billionaire, each and every individual is emotionally invested in this match. No big activity is planned around this time as all the attention is only focused on the match.

The clubs and entertainment areas are packed with people waiting to see the action. So much is the craze/obsession for India-Pakistan that people line up outside the electronic stores to catch the action. Quite a few cricket enthusiasts also fly down from different parts of the world like USA, England, India and Pakistan to the venue to see the game live in the stadium.

It is only the privileged ones who get to see all the action live at the stadium. To witness such a game live however is a distant dream for the blue collar staff who slog through the day to make ends meet. This time around the Vice Chairman of Danube Group also known famously as Mr. Cricket UAE has taken it on himself to fulfill the dreams of these workers by distributing tickets for the India-Pakistan match on 24 th October, 2021, happening at the iconic Dubai Stadium. Transport has also been taken care of these workers to go to the stadium along with food packets for them.

Cricket being considered a religion in both India and Pakistan, it will definitely be a dream come true for these folks to watch their players like Thalaiva Dhoni who

will be the team mentor, Captain Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Bumrah and KL Rahul from India as well as Babar Azam, Shohaib Malik, Mohd. Hafiz, Fakkar Zaman who are like their heroes.

No doubt India- Pakistan is going to be the iconic one this T20 World Cup, Mr. Cricket UAE will also be distributing tickets for Afghanistan - Pakistan Match on 29th October, which is another block buster game keeping in mind the passion of both the countries.

India matches being the most sought after, Anis Sajjan shall be handing out tickets for India's match vs A2 on November 5, for which the opponent will be decided in due course of time. Mr. Sajjan said, "We are also trying to get tickets for the semifinal as well as the final matches and who knows they might see their favourite teams India and Pakistan in the T20 World Cup."

Along with the tickets, the blue collar staff shall also receive their favourite fan jerseys and signature Mr. Cricket UAE jackets and caps. And for those who would not be able to go to the stadium the company has arranged screening at some of their warehouses.

Mr. Anis Sajjan, Vice Chairman, Danube Group, said, "I have been lucky enough to live my passion for cricket all these years and the best way to share my passion is to distribute tickets to the less privileged and bring a smile on their face."

When asked about his plan of watching the historic India-Pakistan game, he mentioned that he was more than happy to watch it at his home, where he has arranged a screening with a group of his friends, who are a mix of Indians and Pakistanis. The key idea for distributing the tickets amongst the blue collar staff is to have them experience the live action of a world cup match which is something they can only dream of.

GT OPEN

Al-Zubair and Soucek recover well to come fifth in Barcelona

Times News Service

BARCELONA: Al-Faisal Al-Zubair and Andy Soucek recovered well from first lap drama to finish the first of two International GT Open races in fifth place in Barcelona on Saturday.

The Lechner Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R crew climbed two places from seventh on the grid to earn more valuable experience and championship points, but a sixth-placed finish for rivals Michele Beretta and Frederick Schandorff sealed the 2021 title for the Vincenzo Sospiri Racing Lamborghini crew.

Al-Zubair was pushed off the track into the gravel on the opening lap of the race and fought back from 12 th to hand the car over to Soucek from seventh place. Soucek then managed to recover another two places to seal a hard-earned fifth.

Martin Kodric and Ethan Simioni claimed victory in the 70-minute race by 0.278 seconds from Jim Pla and Thomas Drouet. Belgium's Baptiste Moulin and Japan's Yuki Nemoto rounded off the podium places in the second of the



VSR Lamborghinis.

Al-Zubair said: "For race one today in Barcelona, I went out for qualifying and we qualified P7. Considering we did not go on the second set of tyres to save it for the race, I think it worked out in the end."

"Unfortunately, I was pushed out into the gravel in turn one and that dropped me down to 12 th place. Then I managed to drive back to seventh before handing the car to Andy. Andy brought

it back in P5, which was a great result considering all the action that happened during the race - pushed out in the gravel in turn one on lap one and getting pushed out midway through my stint. That set a few obstacles for us to pass. Overall it was a good way to end. We will give it our all in the last race on Sunday."

Al-Zubair qualified the Porsche for the first of the weekend's races in chilly but dry track conditions. The Omani was in the top

three through the early minutes and then finished the session in seventh place with a best lap of 1min 44.633sec Frenchman Jim Pla dominated the session in the AKKA ASP Mercedes AMG GT3 and qualified on pole position with a fastest lap of 1min 43.152sec. Schandorff left it relatively late in the session to snatch second place with a 1min 43.448sec and Martin Kodric was third.

Kodric and team-mate Ethan Simioni were the surprise package of first official practice and set the fastest lap of 1min 44.989sec in their 2 Seas Motorsport Mercedes AMG GT3.

Al-Zubair and Soucek ran the Lechner Racing Porsche for 20 laps and a best tour of 1min 45.371sec put them in sixth and just 0.124 seconds behind title rivals, Beretta and Schandorff.

Al-Zubair and Soucek enjoyed a better second practice session and a best lap of 1min 45.221sec placed them third in the results behind the session-winning Beretta and Schandorff and second-placed Loris Spinelli and Florian Scholze in their AKM Motorsport Mercedes.

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FOOTBALL

Chelsea run riot against Norwich

LONDON: Chelsea hammered Norwich City at Stamford Bridge to triumph 7-0 as Mason Mount scored his first Premier League (PL) hat-trick and assisted another goal on Saturday.

Jorginho teed up Mount to open the scoring in the eighth minute.

Chelsea doubled their lead through Callum Hudson-Odoi. They made it three before half-time when Reece James brilliantly dinked the ball in from Mount's pass. Chelsea added a fourth on 57 minutes, Ben Chilwell with his fourth goal in as many matches. Max Aarons deflected Hudson-Odoi's shot into his own net to make it 5-0 before things got worse for Norwich.

The league's bottom side ended the match a man down after Ben Gibson was shown a second yellow card before Chelsea added a sixth through Mount's retaken penalty. -ANI

AEROSPACE SUMMIT

Aviation, aerospace, space and defence leaders from across the planet will meet in-person in Abu Dhabi for the return of the Global Aerospace Summit on May 24 -26, 2022. The theme of the summit, 'Digital Driven Resurgence', will showcase the rapid transformation that has happened across these sectors.

MARKET BUSINESS & FINANCE



WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 3,991.12 points, up 0.16 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.08 per cent at 565.52 points. Bank Muscat was the top gainer, up by 16.67 per cent, while Raysut Cement, down 3.23 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman's inflation rises by 2.46% in September

However, the inflation rate decreased by 0.06 per cent compared to August



MUSCAT: The inflation rate in the Sultanate of Oman increased by 2.46 per cent in September 2021 compared to September 2020.

However, the inflation rate decreased by 0.06 per cent compared to August 2021, according to data from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) on Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The rise of prices in September 2021 compared to the same month of 2020 is attributed to the increase of prices in main groups, such as the transportation group by 8.19 per cent, miscellaneous goods and services by 3.33 per cent, tobacco by 2.98 per cent, recreation and culture by 2.05 per cent, food and

non-alcoholic beverages by 1.87 per cent, furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance by 1.32 per cent, restaurant and hotels by 0.83 per cent, housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group by 0.44 per cent, clothing, footwear, health and education by 0.08 per cent each.

On the other hand, prices of the communication group went down by 0.08 per cent.

According to the NCSI, prices went up in non-alcoholic beverages by 6.61 per cent, fish and seafood by

4.43 per cent, oils and fats by 2.08 per cent, bread and cereals by 1.76 per cent, sugar, jam, honey, and sweets by 1.45 per cent, other foodstuffs by 1.43 per cent, meat by 1.33 per cent, vegetables by 1.16 per cent, milk, cheese and eggs by 0.29 per cent.

In contrast, fruits prices fell by 0.03 per cent in September 2021 compared to September 2020.

CPI fell by 0.06 per cent compared to August 2021. A decline was recorded in the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages by 0.45 per cent, clothing and foot-

wear by 0.38 per cent, restaurants and hotels by 0.14 per cent, miscellaneous goods and services by 0.06 per cent, transportation by 0.05 per cent, recreation and culture by 0.02 per cent.

Meanwhile, the prices of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group increased by 0.33 per cent, furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance by 0.04 per cent. Moreover, the prices of tobacco, health, communication and education groups remained unchanged. -ONA

POLLUTION CONTROL



TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME: The pact was signed by Eng. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Theeb, Deputy Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones and Eng. Wael bin Khalid bin Salmeen, Operation CEO of Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company. - Supplied picture

Agreement signed for environmental protection at Duqm

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) and Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries "OQ8" signed, a technical cooperation programme to exchange expertise and information on environmental protection and pollution control.

The pact was signed by Eng. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Theeb, Deputy Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones and Eng. Wael bin Khalid bin Salmeen, Operation CEO of Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company.

The technical cooperation program stipulates building local capacities in environmental

disciplines, opening communication channels to exchange expertise and scientific information between the two sides in the field of environmental protection and pollution control. It also includes organising awareness programmes and environmental events and holding regular meetings under the name of - the green table - to discuss common environmental issues and find the appropriate solutions to relating challenges.

The pact also stipulates preparing an annual action plan to translate areas of cooperation disciplines into achievements to be implemented and followed up throughout the year by the departments concerned in environmental protection and pollution control on both sides.

INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Over 500 foreign investment firms present in Al Wusta

MUSCAT: At least 500 foreign investment companies have been operating from Al Wusta governorate till the end of September this year, figures show.

Abdoon Mohammed Al Harsoosi, Director of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion in the Governorate of Al Wusta, said

that 560 foreign companies were operating in the governorate by the end of September 2021, with their capital investments totalling OMR1.3 billion.

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Al Harsoosi said that the governorate seeks to benefit from the industrial strategy,

which will propel economic growth through economic diversification, notably by activating converting industries, introducing technology and knowledge, developing smart products and expanding the geographical circulation of converting industries products to cover new regional and international markets.

The industrial strategy keeps pace with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and aims to upgrade the level of technology used in industrialisation, said Al Harsoosi, adding that the number of industrial licenses registered in Al Wusta during the first nine months of 2021 stood at 177. -ONA

SMARTER SOLUTIONS

Mubashir digital outdoor advertising announces its expansion to malls and convenience stores



MUSCAT: Mubashir digital outdoor advertising network is proud to announce its expansion into malls and convenience stores to provide brands with a variety of smarter solutions.

Advertisers would be able to choose from over 120 screens and billboards across the country with smart scheduling. Post-campaign reports generated from the new advertising platforms would have gender and age-based data allowing better campaign analysis.

Khalid Alawad, Business Development Manager said, "We at Mubashir are celebrating a new milestone of reaching more than 2 million impressions per month. We are proud and happy to strike strategic partnerships with private and government sectors by being their TV channel outdoors and making sure we deliver the highest ROI utilising our technology to measure effectiveness and maximise the power and reach of each campaign."

"Our mission as an Omani ad tech company continues to be an essential part of the smart city movement and contributes to the 2040 vision in the best way we can. We look forward to continuing with this great momentum and sharing more exciting news in the near future."



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MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Bank Muscat was the top gainer, up by 16.67 per cent, while Raysut Cement, down 3.23 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 3,991.12 points, up 0.16 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.08 per cent at 565.52 points.

Bank Muscat was the top gainer, up by 16.67 per cent, while Raysut Cement, down 3.23 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Al Maha Marketing was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 293 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR4.1 million, with more than 19 million shares changing hands. Out of 42 traded securities, 59 advanced, 13 declined and 24 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net buyers for OMR147,000 while

Local investors were net sellers for OMR145,000 followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR2,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6,295 points, up 0.12 per cent. Prices of Bank Muscat and Sohar International Bank were up 1.25 per cent and 1.08 per cent respectively. Al Anwar Investment, United Finance, Muscat Finance and Taa-geer Finance were down 2.94 per cent, 1.75 per cent, 1.67 per cent and 1.35 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,154.88 points, down 0.60 per cent. The price of Oman Cement was the only gainer by 0.84 per cent. Services Index down by 0.23 per cent before closing at 1,674.55 points. Oman Education & Training and Al Maha Marketing were up 0.76 per cent and 0.55 per cent respectively. - **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	3,993.40	3,982.76	3,991.12	3,984.69	6.43	0.16
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,296.33	6,283.31	6,295.12	6,283.31	11.80	0.19
Industry Index	6,196.77	6,154.88	6,154.88	6,191.94	-37.06	-0.60
Services Index	1,681.00	1,674.55	1,674.55	1,678.45	-3.90	-0.23
MSX Shariah Index	565.62	564.76	565.53	565.06	0.46	0.08
MSX TR INDEX	4,799.66	4,786.87	4,796.92	4,789.19	7.73	0.16

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
18,961,933	4,144,413	293	22,015,952,652	5	13	24	42

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	373,853	181,386	20	0.478	0.488	0.478	0.486	0.480	0.006	1.250	0.488	0.484	0.488	0.100	1,737,194,749
OM0000003286	SOHAR INT. BANK	11,730,075	1,107,326	61	0.083	0.096	0.083	0.094	0.093	0.001	1.075	0.096	0.095	0.097	0.100	281,065,855
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	33,295	7,974	6	0.240	0.240	0.238	0.240	0.238	0.002	0.840	0.238	0.238	0.240	0.100	79,409,450
OM0000003000	AI MAHA MARKETING	2,070,000	1,515,032	6	0.728	0.732	0.728	0.732	0.728	0.004	0.549	0.732	0.656	0.732	0.100	50,508,000
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	19,000	15,048	2	0.792	0.792	0.792	0.792	0.792	0.000	0.000	0.792	0.772	0.796	0.100	124,740,000
OM0000001535	OMINVEST	500	157	1	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.312	0.312	0.000	0.000	0.314	0.310	0.315	0.100	232,024,967
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDSTR	792	710	1	0.886	0.886	0.886	0.886	0.886	0.000	0.000	0.886	0.808	0.886	0.100	80,371,200
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FIN.	25,000	2,925	1	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.000	0.000	0.117	0.000	0.117	0.100	34,156,415
OM0000002200	AHJI BANK	8,915	981	2	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.110	0.111	0.115	0.100	214,462,321
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	77	29	1	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.000	0.000	0.372	0.000	0.372	0.100	22,767,960
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	950	703	2	0.740	0.740	0.740	0.740	0.740	0.000	0.000	0.740	0.736	0.740	0.100	555,000,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER.	1,000	450	1	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.460	0.460	0.000	0.000	0.450	0.440	0.458	0.100	108,748,690
OM0000003969	COBREDPO	78,900	29,775	6	0.378	0.378	0.376	0.378	0.378	0.000	0.000	0.378	0.378	0.382	0.100	246,056,819
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	200	102	1	0.512	0.512	0.512	0.528	0.528	0.000	0.000	0.512	0.500	0.512	0.100	29,040,000
OM0000006920	VISION INSURANCE	107,029	8,027	4	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.075	0.077	0.100	7,500,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	5,700	2,294	2	0.420	0.420	0.420	0.420	0.422	-0.002	-0.474	0.420	0.412	0.420	0.100	92,400,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST & FIN.	55,774	7,826	11	0.138	0.139	0.135	0.137	0.139	-0.002	-1.439	0.135	0.133	0.135	0.100	32,469,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	14,000	826	3	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.060	-0.001	-1.667	0.059	0.058	0.059	0.100	18,121,633
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	171,071	22,726	9	0.133	0.133	0.132	0.133	0.137	-0.004	-2.920	0.133	0.131	0.134	0.100	11,305,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	290,000	24,830	6	0.100	0.100	0.098	0.099	0.102	-0.003	-2.941	0.098	0.098	0.105	0.100	19,800,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	5,550	2,078	2	0.378	0.378	0.374	0.374	0.386	-0.012	-3.169	0.374	0.372	0.374	0.100	46,711,837
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	180,212	43,273	12	0.246	0.246	0.235	0.240	0.248	-0.008	-3.226	0.235	0.236	0.235	0.100	48,000,000
Total	22	15,131,893	2,974,378	164												
Parallel Market																
OM0000002580	OMAN EDU TRAINING	8,000	2,112	1	0.264	0.264	0.264	0.264	0.262	0.002	0.763	0.264	0.236	0.268	0.100	18,480,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	71,244	13,750	7	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.000	0.000	0.193	0.191	0.195	0.100	313,807,647
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	94,188	8,398	4	0.089	0.090	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.086	0.092	0.100	178,027,838
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	3,150	221	1	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.065	0.070	0.100	8,531,250
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	1,000	57	1	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.057	0.060	0.100	4,200,000
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MKK	100,000	920,000	0	0.920	0.920	0.920	0.920	0.920	0.000	0.000	0.920	0.900	0.920	0.100	87,400,000
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	98,562	12,123	6	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.000	0.000	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.100	368,551,227
OM0000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALIN.	9,000	1,035	2	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.000	0.000	0.115	0.000	0.000	0.100	11,247,248
OM0000004735	SEMECOBPS SALALAH	8,000	864	1	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.083	0.091	0.100	79,229,472
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	1,160,420	113,684	40	0.099	0.099	0.097	0.098	0.098	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.097	0.098	0.100	17,150,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	182,637	9,336	5	0.051	0.052	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.050	0.052	0.100	34,419,259
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	52,976	2,532	7	0.049	0.049	0.047	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.047	0.048	0.100	70,204,870
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	34,000	4,302	5	0.128	0.128	0.126	0.127	0.128	-0.001	-0.781	0.126	0.126	0.126	0.100	4,263,574
OM0000001132	OMAN NAT. ENG.	70,000	6,650	2	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.096	-0.001	-1.042	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.100	12,350,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	620,000	48,340	18	0.078	0.078	0.077	0.078	0.079	-0.001	-1.266	0.078	0.077	0.086	0.100	15,835,943
OM0000002374	TAGEER FINANCE	240,500	17,437	13	0.073	0.074	0.072	0.073	0.074	-0.001	-1.351	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.100	15,512,070
OM0000001400	UNITED FINANCE	25,000	1,400	1	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.057	-0.001	-1.754	0.056	0.056	0.057	0.100	19,552,987
OM0000004833	AL SUWADI POWER	127,042	6,532	9	0.052	0.052	0.051	0.051	0.052	-0.001	-1.923	0.051	0.051	0.052	0.100	36,434,723
Total	18	3,905,719	1,188,972	127												

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STRATEGIC GATHERING

Global Aerospace Summit 2022 to return to Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI: Aviation, aerospace, space and defence leaders from across the planet will meet in person in Abu Dhabi for the return of the Global Aerospace Summit on May 24 -26, 2022.

The theme of the Summit, 'Digital Driven Resurgence', will showcase the rapid transformation that has happened across these sectors over recent years and the role of innovation and technology moving forward. An increasing number of aerospace and defence companies are embracing a range of digital technologies, from AI to robotics, analytics, and automation. The summit will address the impact of digitalisation on efficiency and sustainability across all of the sectors.

The 2022 edition, hosted by Mubadala, will be a strategic gathering of global aerospace industry leaders. It will provide an in-person platform to facilitate successful global trade across international markets. -WAM

MARKET REVIEW

Investment in Saudi Arabia's industrial sector jumps 281%

RIYADH: Despite the headwinds to global economic growth as a result of the pandemic, the real estate market in Saudi Arabia has remained resilient, with all sectors growing rapidly over the last 18 months.

The industrial sector however stands out due to its exceptional expansion, according to the H1 Saudi Arabia Industrial Market Review by global property consultant, Knight Frank.

Faisal Durrani, Partner – Head of Middle East Research, Knight Frank, explained, "The government's transformational vision for the economy is nowhere more visible than in the real estate market, with the industrial market, in particular, emerging as a stand-out performer. Indeed, the 281% jump in industrial sector investments in the last 12 months has delivered a staggering 30,000 new jobs across the Kingdom."

The fast-paced growth in Saudi Arabia's industrial sector has also been supported by initiatives led by MODON.

Apart from developing and managing 36 industrial cities around the Kingdom, spread across more than 200 million sqm of developed land, MODON has started to offer new products and services.

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For Rent - Office, accommodation at Misfah/Saal area. Industrial Office, workshop facilities for Rent in Al Misfah area. Interested parties please Contact 71916590

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Jeep Grand Cherokee, Model 2009, 200K KM, good condition. Price RO 1350 & **Nissan Kicks**, 2019 full Automatic, 4 cylinder, 24.000 Kms driven, Price RO 5,450.
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Contact 91465358

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Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj

Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-
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JOB VACANCIES

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Responsibilities:

- To manage operations and production of the restaurant.
- To liaise with the respective Government/ Statutory Authorities to procure the necessary licenses and documentations.
- To lead the operations and production team to deliver within specific standards and schedules required.
- To manage overall costs including material, equipment, manpower, etc.
- To manage production planning, forecasting, purchasing and stock control.
- To maintain and improve the overall performance of the restaurant on a regular basis including cost analysis and monitoring of processes.
- Provide on-job coaching and guidance to team members, managing their performance to ensure a smooth operation.
- To work along with the Marketing team to develop Marketing Strategies and Promotion plans to successfully market the restaurant in the relevant media platform.
- Manage and supervise the food & beverage staff to ensure maximum utilization of the manpower allocated.
- Ensure strict compliance with all relevant Hygiene and Safety legislation and requirements.
- To maintain close, professional and effective links with all external contractors/suppliers to ensure that they deliver to mutually accepted agreements and highest quality levels.
- To handle responsibilities for the special orders made at the restaurant. It involves all planning associated with each event, right through to delivery.

Educational Qualifications & Experience:

- Post Graduate/Graduate or equivalent qualification.
- Minimum 05 years of experience in a supervisory level at F&B, Catering, Hotels and Hospitality establishments.
- Knowledge of food hygiene and Health and Safety requirements.
- A good understanding of quality assurance, procedures and protocols.
- Excellent communication skills both verbally and written English/ Arabic.

Key Skills Required:

- Excellent co-ordination skills
- Strong presentation and communication skills, verbal and written.
- Effective planning, management and organizing skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills to work with internal teams and external suppliers and customers.
- Must possess neat and pleasant grooming habits.
- Proactive approach to problem solving.
- Change orientated to make business improvements.

If you feel you are right for the position and for any further information, please write us at oman2020marketing@gmail.com

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SPACE MARKETING for Online Directory

Responsibilities:

- Contact potential clients to describe advertising opportunities. This usually takes the form of cold calling over the telephone but may involve face to face contact as well.
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- Research client needs and explain the benefits of buying advertising space, responding to any objections.
- Explain pricing costs to potential clients and negotiate a fee, if necessary.
- Account manage an existing client

to ensure their needs are satisfied and they are happy with the service.

- Work with production teams to ensure that agreed advertisements are carried in the right place and at the right time.
- Track purchases and keep record of sales, contacts and deals.
- Work to maximize sales and meet targets.
- Deliver sales reports to management.

Key Skills: Excellent telephone manner, ability to persuade clients, outgoing, and sociable

Education: Any degree, candidates with marketing background will be preferred.

If you feel you are right for the position and for any further information, please write us at oman2020marketing@gmail.com

Freelancers and Part-timers Required

FREELANCE SALES AGENTS AND PART-TIME TELECALLERS
for a reputed organization

Requirements	Freelance Sales Agents	Part-time Telecallers
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Key Skills	Availability and prompt response, ability to persuade clients, and Excellent telephone manner	Superb interpersonal, research, and record-keeping skills.
Work Location	Work from Home	At Office
Timing	Flexible (target based)	4 hours

If you feel you are right for the position and for any further information, please write us at oman2020marketing@gmail.com

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CONNECT

JOB VACANCIES

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Sales Manager / BDM

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Please send CV to:
hr@sunpowerinternational.com

JOB VACANCIES

1. **Sales or Site Engineer Construction** for Waterproofing works Job Purpose Develop and maintain a company growth. Driving licence must.

2. **Building AMC Maintenance and Marketing Engineer** play a vital role in large facilities like corporations, schools, hospitals, or retail centers. Their responsibilities include carrying out maintenance tasks, preparing spaces for new clients. Driving licence must.

Whatsapp: 97236220

REQUIRED

A reputed construction & fabrication company in Oman is looking for suitable candidates for the following positions.

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2. **CIVIL SUPERVISOR**
3. **QUANTITY SURVEYOR**
4. **PROCUREMENT ENGINEER**
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6. **HR EXECUTIVE**
7. **DRAFTSMAN**

Contact: +968 99845439, +968 97665454
Email: info@queentopaz.com

JOB VACANCIES

SALES EXECUTIVES

Need experienced Sales Executives for a Healthcare Business.

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Send your CV to:
jobmct19@yahoo.com with your photo

URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR SALES COORDINATOR

One of the most reputed ISO Certified Manufacturing Company in the Sultanate of Oman has vacancy for the post of Sales Coordinator. The candidate should be a graduate with excellent skills in Microsoft Office.

• Preferred Age: 25-30 years
• 1-2 years of experience.
• Oman/GCC driving license is must.

Interested candidates may please contact on +968 99443014

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Please contact 99735820

JOB VACANCIES

ENGINEER

Electrical Technician with ITI/ Diploma in Electrical Engg.& minimum 5 years experience in a Process Plant, preferably with some exposure to Instrumentation also. Please send CV to: msindco@gmail.com

MANAGER

Fit-out company in Dubai looking for an **Experienced General Manager**. Email: bijusotc@gmail.com, Contact 99044724

SALES/MARKETING

Marketing & Sales Engineer for Instrument and Equipment in Water and Oil & Gas. Kindly forward your CV to: admin@npcoman.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking For Carpenter and Office Staff. Contact 24709144
Email: atf24704415@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

ENGINEER

Lebanese female, MBA, looking for an executive job, experienced in project coordination, management and logistics, bilingual Arabic, English, D/L. Contact 98103298

Indian Female looking for Office Assistant or Accountant job. 97947214

Indian Female MBA (HR), PGDBM, B.E. 7 yrs. of experience in HR & Administration (5 yrs in Oman) with Omani D/L Looking for suitable placement. Contact 92474376

Indian male graduate Executive Secretary with Stenography/ Oman driving license and 20years experience in Muscat available with NOC for immediate joining. Contact 79256679

Indian female - MBA, 6 yrs of Qatar experience looking for office admin/coordinator vacancy anywhere in Oman. Contact 79574051
Email: vithurj4@gmail.com

Indian male B.Com graduate 2 years experience in admin works, having Oman working visa. Looking for immediate placement. Contact 91492913

Indian male, smart, excellent English, Masters, Arabic speaker, 18years rich Oman experience in EPC, Media, Healthcare, Aviation. NOC. Contact 99283938

Indian national, male, 42 years, MBA in HR & Administration, 18 years of work experience in office administration, secretarial, commercial activities in Muscat, Omani D/L. Currently in India, seeks suitable placement. Contact +968 91360212 (WhatsApp)
Email: sajithnarayanan@yahoo.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian having 10 -15 years of experience in Purchasing/Logistics & commercial filed seeking a suitable position. Having D/L. Contact 98531104

Indian male 44yrs with 20 yrs experience in Warehouse, stores & purchase seeks suitable post. NOC & D/L available. Contact 98676159.
Email: nairviju77@gmail.com

Senior quantity surveyor graduated male (Sri Lanka) 10 years of experience in building and pipeline projects NOC and DL available. Email: nabrisqs@gmail.com Mobile: +968-95324203

Planning Engineer with 5 years' experience working in various projects. PMP certified, proficient with Primavera and fluent in Arabic & English. Looking for a job. Contact 95766755

B.E civil Engineer, 8 years of Oman,experience in building construction,Looking for suitable position, NOC & D/L Available. Contact 79083823.

Electrical Engineer with 2 year experience in T&C Seeking suitable placement Contact 79725479 Email: electricalengineeramal@gmail.com

Indian male 28 year old, diploma in Mech engineering 6 year experience in Oman have valid D/L looking for a suitable job. Mobile with WhatsApp 95645241

Sudanese Mechanical engineer have 5 years experience 1years in MEP and 4 years in factories,maintenance and with D/L. Contact 93521100

Young Indian male having 3 years experience as a site engineer, presently in Oman looking for suitable job. Contact 94130276

Electrical engineer with +10 years of experience in electrical network (MT, LT) and project management. Contact 94446214

Autocad, MEP design / drafting, Elec Engg. Currently in 2 yrs resident visa. Contact 99506977

Graduate Civil Engineer having over 20 years of experience in Oman is looking for immediate placement in contracting/consultancy firm. NOC/Release available. Contact 99446786 or 93251306

6+ years of experience looking for job as Civil Engineer, ready to join. D/L available. Contact 92146076. Email: tauqir.akbar@yahoo.com

LOGISTIC

Indian male 23 yrs, BBA logistics and shipping graduate looking for a suitable placement. Presently in Oman. Contact 78140743
Email: nishad4022@gmail.com

Inventory Coordinator

Indian male 31: Having 8 years experience handling Retail F&B Operations, inventory, purchase, Sales & Accounting with various other skills, NOC available.

Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

FINANCE

Indian Male, Manager Accounts, M.Com with over 20 years of experience in Oman and India, in Accounts, Finance and Software implementation is looking for an immediate opening in senior level post. NOC available.

GSM: 92334161

HR/ADMIN

Female with 13yrs of experience in HR/Admin or Similar field is looking for job opportunities. Available to start immediately.

CONTACT 79285929

IT/ HR / ACCOUNTS

Indian Male MCA 15Yrs Exp in Oman, Seeking a job in IT, HR, Payroll, Accounts or any suitable post. NOC & D/L available.

Contact: 95297497

Chemical Engineer (Omani)

Fresh graduate, bachelor degree from The University of New Mexico (USA)

Contact +96896444740
Email: msr15@live.com

OMANI HR/PRO

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

Contact 97264447

Process Engineer (Omani)

Bachelor degree from German University of technology in Oman, 3 year experience in process and Contract engineering worked with Multiple Water and wastewater companies in Oman in different Sites and STPs.

Contact number: 92115804
Email: Faiza112@outlook.com

ADMINISTRATION

39-year Indian HR professional (MBA-HR) 14 yrs Exp (HR/SAP/Admin) with Oman DL & NOC. Seeking suitable openings in Human Resource & Admin jobs.

Contact: +968-78539053
Email: rkkambat@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

SALES/MARKETING

Experienced and academically qualified senior retail professional available in Oman with more than 20 years experience in multinational brands. Looking for a challenging opening in the top management role. GSM: +968 92629143

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Pakistani Male (5 years experience), M.Phil, Marketing and Sales Expert in the oil & energy industry. Skilled in Lectureship, Research, Business Administration. Contact 91102995
fahadikram96@hotmail.com

Indian female 29, MBA, 5+ yrs' experience in Marketing management, valid Oman D/L. Available for joining. Contact 96384048

Marketing & Business development Manager 32 yrs with good market knowledge & experience of 12 yrs.Gcc D/L, Can Join immediately,, Fluency in English, Hindi, Malayalam & basic Arabic. Contact +968 79975463
nadeemshaikh198925@gmail.com

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* Subject to space availability

JOB WANTED

SALES/MARKETING

10 year Oman Experience in Sales Marketing and Customer relation, looking for any type of suitable Job. Release Letter/NOC and driving Licence available.

Contact 95034204

PURCHASE

Inventory, Purchase, Sales: Indian male 30, having 8 years experience in Retail F&B Operations, Accounting and various other skills, NOC available

Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

ACCOUNTANT

Indian Male Accountant available for instant joining; Having B.com higher grade graduation with 6 years of acquaintance and comprehension on major accounting platforms well versed in Microsoft and profound communication skills. NOC Available.

Contact No: +968-94649272
Email: sherin.am01@gmail.com

FINANCE

M Com - Financial Professional, 17 years of Experience in Oman, Currently working as a finance Manager is looking for suitable placement, available from 10th November 2021.

Mob # 92301318
abdulrasheedlulu@gmail.com

HR / Finance

Indian, Male, Masters degree in HR and Finance with 5+ years of experience in Oman as HR Asst with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.

GSM : +968 93835905
Email : chris_alwin@yahoo.com

PROJECT ENGINEER

Indian male, having 7years of experience in Construction with Masters from England, Currently working as PROJECT ENGINEER in Muscat (family status). D/L available.

Contact 79170769

ENGINEER

B.Tech Mechanical Engineer with 2yrs Exp, Seeking Suitable placement. Presently in Muscat (Visit Visa)

Contact 78375996
Email: vishnutp999@gmail.com

Finance Head

CPA, CMA, CIA with 19 years' experience in Strategic finance, Banking, Financial reporting, Budget, VAT. Looking for Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

Contact 92148608

ADMIN / FINANCE

Indian male, MBA (Finance), having D/L, 22 years exp in finalization in Accounts, Internal auditing, MIS and Admin in various sectors. 15 years exp in Gulf & 13 Years in Oman looking for a suitable SR position.

GSM: 96974637
Email: goutam14b@gmail.com

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PROJECT ENGINEER

Indian male, having 7years of experience in Construction with Masters from England, Currently working as PROJECT ENGINEER in Muscat (family status). D/L available.

Contact 91731694

FINANCE MANAGER

Finance Professional CA/CIMA/ MBA, with 18 years of GCC experience, open to Immediate Managerial Vacancies.

Contact Number # 78556829

GROUP FINANCE MANAGER

with 20 yrs+ experience seeks suitable placement

Contact 92578435
Email: 1974KSD@gmail.com

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Indian Female(MBA Finance) having more than 15 years of experience in Oman in Finance and Accounts seeks suitable senior positions. NOC Available.

Contact # 94953826 / 92824146

ENGINEER (IT)

Indian, Female, B.Tech, with 2+ years of experience in Oman as Coordinator and Marketing with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.

GSM : +968 71198240
Email: jc.clarrinda@gmail.com

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER

MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of Trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas, Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.

Contact 93270023 rajugetme10@yahoo.com

HR & Administration

HR & Administration professional, with Executive Assistant exposure, well experienced with Oman labour law, well versed in office management, new office induction & administration, Indian male, with Valid Oman D/L, NOC available, seeks suitable placements.

Contact 94948676

MEP Supervisor

Indian male, 36years old, diploma graduate having 15+years of Oman experience in MEP supervisor role in an excellent grade construction and trading company with good practical knowledge, have MEDC, CEP, MEDC Electrician license. NOC available, is looking for suitable opening. Oman D/L.

Contact +968 96135973
Email kddhaya2@gmail.com

HSE OFFICER

Indian HSE Officer, diploma in Mechanical Engineering & Diploma in fire and safety engineering. NEBOSH, OSHA AND QA/QC Holder. 5 years Experience in HSE seeks suitable placement.

Contact 7974 3601

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TIPS TO GET OUT OF STICKY SITUATIONS IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS



When it comes to outdoor adventures, you never know what unexpected issues will arise. While you're unlikely to pack a full toolbox, extra shoes or equipment due to space limitations, tape can offer quick fixes in a variety of situations, and is a must-have item to keep with your outdoor gear. But don't just throw any roll into your knapsack, be sure to choose one that meets the needs of any environment. Here are some quick, effective tape tips to keep you safe from sticky situations in the great outdoors.

Mending Ripped Rain Gear or Torn Tents
It's important to ensure you're protected from the elements. The quickest way to maintain comfort in your rain gear or tent is to make certain you're weatherproofed and ready for any change in climate. Mend ripped rain gear or a tear in a tent with a strong repair tape, built to adhere in both wet and dry conditions and formulated to withstand extreme temperatures ranging from -70 to 200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Fast Fix for Fishing and Hiking Poles
Not all adventures take place on land, so being prepared in all areas of wilderness is key. Fishing poles (and hiking poles for that matter) are built to withstand quick shifts in weight and slight bends, but when they splinter, you need to act fast. Opt for strong waterproof tape with holding power when you need it most. They can stick to a variety of surfaces in all weather conditions for a repair you can rely on, even when you're miles away from land.

Boot Basics. Sturdy, reliable footwear is essential for any outdoor activity
If the sole separates from the base of the boot or tears, it can be dangerous for your foot to be exposed to the elements. Carrying messy, tacky glue in your pack is inconvenient and a spill hazard, but using duct tape as a wrapping can provide a fast, efficient and less-mess remedy to get you back up and moving in a pinch. A strong barrier wrapped around the top and sole of your boot will offer the protection you need to finish your

outing. Additionally, it can help protect from bugs, ticks or poisonous plants when hiking. Wrap the tape around the top of your boots to ensure your pant leg and boot have a seamless safety guard for your trek.

Don't Get Stuck in the Mud
There's nothing like splashing around in the mud, but sometimes it's hard to tell how deep or tough a puddle will be to get through. Luckily, with the right tools you don't have to stay stuck in the mud. High-performance duct tape can help you in a wide range of sticky situations. The "World's Strongest Duct Tape," according to the Guinness World Records, is built to hold more than 700 pounds of weight with just one loop of tape. Pull your vehicle, tow your bike or create a lift for your gear with this aggressive, double-thick adhesive cloth tape with a durable, waterproof backing.

Outdoor exploration doesn't have to be stressful. For peace of mind, pack the right gear so you can get to the most important part of your adventure: enjoying yourself! - Statpoint



ROUND-UP

Al Maha launches FueLy, a market first fuel delivery service for car

In keeping with the increasing need for contactless solutions and easy transactions, customers can now download the 'FueLy by Al Maha' App from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store, order fuel and have it delivered to their cars, instead of having to visit a fuel station to fill up

MUSCAT: Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company has announced the launch of FueLy, a new App driven fuel delivery service directly to customers' cars; a market-first innovation in Oman. The app was launched at a recently held press conference, under the auspices of Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufi.

In keeping with the increasing need for contactless solutions and easy transactions, customers can now download the 'FueLy by Al Maha' App from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store, order fuel and have it delivered to their cars, instead of having to visit a fuel station to fill up.

Speaking about FueLy, the CEO of Al Maha Petroleum, Eng. Hamed Al Mahgri commented, "We realised through market research that there is a segment of customers who feel stressed while



driving to and visiting a fuel station. This is exactly what we set out to change just under a year ago. Our FueLy, an App driven on-demand fuel delivery service was the result. Through it, you can now enjoy the convenience of ordering high-quality petrol from Al Maha to be delivered by our team of dedicated, safety trained Omani FueLy Captains directly to your vehicle while you relax at home or office."

The entire process is made simple with the FueLy app. Once downloaded, customers are just a few simple steps away from getting their fuel delivered – enter some basic details, select a delivery time and location and complete the payment online.

Once the order has been placed, the FueLy Captains will ensure the fuel is delivered within the appointed time slot to the location of

the customer's vehicle.

The service is initially being launched in Mawaleh South, Al Mouj, Al Hail North and South, but there are already plans in place to expand coverage to other parts of Muscat city and beyond. That's not all, Al Maha also has plans to offer innovative value-added services as well as to extend FueLy to corporate fleet owners at a later date.

Named in honour of the Arabian

Oryx (al maha), the Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company was established in 1993. The company has since established itself as an integral strategic partner in the development and support of the Sultanate's infrastructure. It continues to maintain a network of service stations throughout Oman, including in some of the most inaccessible parts of the country. Further, as befits its name, Al Maha

has always worked closely with competent authorities to ensure its operations, products, and services are sustainable and cause no harm to the natural environment. Al Maha aims to build on this history of innovation, reliability, and sustainability to identify and deliver products and services that continue to benefit its customers and shareholders to the greatest possible extent.

ACCELERATORS CONFERENCE

Zubair SEC participates in GCC Business Incubators Conference in Bahrain

MUSCAT: Zubair Small Enterprises Centre (Zubair SEC), participated in the fourth GCC Business Incubators and Accelerators Conference held in the Kingdom of Bahrain from October 18-21, organised in-person and virtually.

Zubair SEC was represented by Said Al Sahib, Director of Zubair SEC and Zaima Saif Nasser Al Salami, a Zubair SEC member and founder of Grandma's Mixes. The GCC conference was organised by the Bahrain SMEs Development Society in cooperation with Bahrain's Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism.

Commenting on the participation, President MP Ahmed Sabah Al Saloom Director of Bahrain SMEs Development Society, said, "We are thrilled to witness the participation of the Zubair SEC in the GCC Business Incubators and Accelerators Conference. This is an affirmation of the Centre's continuous endeavour in supporting SMEs in the Sultanate alongside enhancing its expertise by participating in regional conferences."

"The conference for this year highlights the role of governmental sectors, especially those that specialise in industry, commerce and tourism, in promoting the business incubators and accelerators sector. This is made possible by enacting legislation and amending laws to support these industries that play an integral role in the advancement of any country's economic development," he added.

From his side, Said Al Sahib, Director of Zubair SEC, said, "We are proud of the Centre's continued participation for the fourth time in a row at this GCC conference. The event is aimed at developing the sector startups and entrepreneurship through knowledge and experience exchange with participating representatives from the incubator and accelerators sector. We believe that this is an opportunity for us to benefit from the proficiencies of the participat-



ing countries in terms of methods used to manage incubators and business accelerators.

Said Al Sahib, Director of Zubair SEC participated in the discussion panel, highlighting the challenges facing business incubators and accelerators. He shed light on the important role of these Centres for the SME sector and the presence for several such facilities in the Sultanate alongside entrepreneurship centres in some universities and colleges, to incubate students' projects.

"We need legislation and regulatory frameworks that will stimulate the work of incubators to encourage large institutions to adopt such businesses. As far as I am aware, certain official institutions that are interested in developing SMEs are working on organising this aspect and setting legislative policies that will regulate business incubators and accelerators. Without this step, benefiting from the output of incubators will remain stagnant, making it difficult to reach the required level that we aspire to achieve, especially with regard to expanding the SME base to contribute effectively to the economy. A majority of projects that fall under business incubators and accelerators needs advisory services and guidance, in addition, to support in developing projects, products, work plans, financial facilities. This also includes an indication of how they can offer them the market and the necessary training needed to play

an influential role in the economy. At Zubair SEC, we understand the importance of incubation and have therefore implemented a direct support programme that assists several projects each year. Through the programme, we extend our support and guidance and help them 'remotely' solve challenges faced, from the comfort of their workplaces while they carry out their business.

"We are also undergoing a process to establish an incubator and a business accelerator as it encourages the youth to become entrepreneurs since there is a key focus on generating awareness of the importance of business and competition among this segment in our region. We have seen several creative and innovative business ideas, since more information has become accessible to the entrepreneur for research and study, together with guidance and support in the financial and legal aspects. However, incubators provide an array of services to entrepreneurs that encourages them to start their business with the knowledge that there is an institution backing them up and providing requisite support and guidance. Collectively, this will contribute to accelerating business and creating a positive impact on the economy," Said added.

Commenting on the role of the private sector, Said Al Sahib said, "Organisations within both public and private sectors are aware

of the importance in developing regulatory frameworks and procedures for business incubators. On the other hand, large companies in the private sector are keen to extend support towards small businesses within the incubators and business accelerators, due to their qualifications and high factors of success. The support of incubators by the private sector is complementary to the role played by official authorities to ensure that the outputs align with the quality and ambition of private sector organisations. This way, the products and services of these businesses are innovative, competitive and of high quality, ready to develop new markets that complement and enhance the role of the private sector. Some studies indicate that a high percentage of incubators' output projects have achieved sustainability, highlighting its importance".

Zubair SEC hosts prior experience because of its 'Tajseer' program that connects the products and services of the SMEs with the requirements of the large companies. This makes room for collaboration between both parties to provide the required service that helps in achieving common interests.

Concerning solutions to create a promising environment to support business incubators and accelerators, Said Al Sahib stated, "It is the perfect time for our region to create a promising environment to support business incubators and accelerators. As we all know that during the past few years we have experienced low oil prices and economic stagnation that varies from one country to another. Large government projects that were initially supposed to help the market and create job opportunities have decreased, making SMEs a key contributor to the economy. This is because several businesses can be established by SMEs together with the presence of well-informed national manpower that can assist in the establishment of these businesses.

'WIN GOLD' PROMOTION



Oman Oasis picks final draw winners

MUSCAT: Produced and distributed by Oasis Water Company, the nation's leading water brand, Oman Oasis has grown to be a household name in the Sultanate.

With excellent customer service and ongoing special offers, Oman Oasis has earned the loyalty of its customers. Marking the successful completion of yet another exciting promotion, Oman Oasis announced the third and final round of winners of its 'Win Gold' promotion. With the first two draws stirring a lot of excitement amongst customers, the third and final draw was an eagerly anticipated announcement.

With two draws conducted in June and July, the final draw was held on 16 August and witnessed 344 winners. The key prizes included a number of gold bars to be won along with other exciting prizes. The winner of the 100 gm gold bar was Faisal Abbas, who expressed his joy and gratitude to Oman Oasis whereas Hasib Vazhayil Peedika celebrated on winning a 50g gold bar. Ibrahim Al Wardi and Issa Abdulfattah Alatar were the lucky winners who each walked away with a 25g gold bar. Apart from the gold bars, the third and final draw also gave away 4 gm gold coins to 80 winners and OMR10 worth of shopping vouchers to 100 winners,

while 160 more winners received Oman Oasis 24x500ml cartons.

The 'Win Gold' offer which commenced on May 16 ran until 15 August, giving customers ample time to register and win. With a total of 1,061 winners spread through the three draws, Oman Oasis ensured that all its customers had more chances to win from its range of exciting prizes.

With the completion of another successful campaign that attests to the brand's commitment to reward its customers, Oman Oasis will continue to remain dedicated to coming up with more innovative offers for its esteemed customers.

A customer-centric organisation, Oman Oasis has earned its place in the market as the most popular water brand because of its unfaltering commitment to quality and adherence to international standards. Its state-of-the-art production line, efficient distribution and delivery network and strong understanding of its customers' demands have helped the brand expand its reach throughout the country. With over 27 years of experience in the industry, Oman Oasis also holds several international product quality certifications like the IBWA membership, NSF, ABWA, and WQA.

ROUND-UP



BAHWAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP PARTNERS WITH

GLOBAL AUTOMOTIVE COMPANY TVS MOTOR COMPANY



MUSCAT: Bahwan International Group LLC (BIG) has partnered with Indian multinational automotive company TVS Motor Company, a reputed two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer. The signing ceremony was held on Sunday at Bahwan International Group, between Sheikh Ahmed Bahwan (Chairman Bahwan International Group) and Mr Sudarshan Venu (Joint MD – TVS Motor Company) in Muscat, Oman.

As per the tri-party deal arrangement, ARATA International FZC will be the new distributor in Iraq for TVS Motor in the ME region. Based on this partnership, the groups will also explore other avenues of cooperation in Oman and India.

ARATA International FZC, registered in the UAE, is a subsidiary of Bahwan International Group (BIG) -Oman, having a strong presence in the MENA region. TVS Motor ranks amongst the top five two-wheeler companies globally with a presence in over 70 countries across Africa, South East Asia, the Indian Sub-Continent, Latin America and the Middle East.

Bahwan International Group (ARATA International FZC) and their channel partners plan to operate more than 30 dealerships for TVS Motor Company. The dealerships will include state of the art 3S dealership facilities in all the major cities of Iraq with after-sales service, and spare parts support in tier-2 cities to expand the TVS presence in Iraq.

Mr Abdullah Bahwan, Executive Director, Bahwan International Group, said, “We are happy to join hands with a multinational brand like TVS Motor Company. This partnership will be instrumental in bringing a wide range of mobility solutions and will cater to the requirements of a broad range of customer segments in the country. The quality prowess of TVS Motor Company combined with our strong understanding of the market will definitely create an impact in mobility space in Iraq.”

“

We are a reputed two and three-wheeler manufacturer and the flagship company of the USD 8.5 billion TVS Group. We believe in Championing Progress through Mobility. Rooted in our 100-year legacy of Trust, Value, Passion for Customers and Exactness, we take pride in making internationally aspirational products of the highest quality through innovative and sustainable processes.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Sudarshan Venu, Joint Managing Director – TVS Motor Company said, “We are delighted to partner with a reputed group like ‘BIG’, to strengthen our presence in the MENA region. ARATA International FZC, a part of the Bahwan International Group LLC (BIG), comes with rich experience, deep understanding, and vast industry knowledge. Iraq is an important market for us, and ARATA International FZC’s extensive distribution network, along with our shared ethos and values, makes them the ideal strategic partner.



This association with them is a significant step towards further expanding and bolstering TVS Motor Company’s market presence in Iraq.”

TVS Motor Company’s product portfolio available in Iraq include; Two Wheeler- XL100 i-Touch XL100 Comfort, HLX150 series,

TVS Ntorq, TVS Jupiter series, TVS Wego, TVS MAX125 and Three Wheeler-TV S King Deluxe Plus.

About Bahwan International Group

Arata International FZC is the international operations arm of Oman based Bahwan Interna-

tional Group (BIG), , KSA, UAE, Iraq, and Libya with importation and distribution of brands like Nissan, Renault, Infiniti, Suzuki, Iveco, Changan, BAIC, Foton, Construction equipment brands like Case, New Holland and other franchises. With a turnover of 2 Billion USD; the group has 2,500

employees and a sales volume of 40,000 cars and trucks per year in 5 countries. ARATA International FZC, registered in the UAE, is BIG’s subsidiary and official Distributor for Nissan distribution, Sales and Aftersales in Iraq and Libya. For more information, please visit www.sbig.com

About TVS Motor Company

We are a reputed two and three-wheeler manufacturer and the flagship company of the USD 8.5 billion TVS Group. We believe in Championing Progress through Mobility. Rooted in our 100-year legacy of Trust, Value, Passion for Customers and Exactness, we take pride in making internationally aspirational products of the highest quality through innovative and sustainable processes. We endeavour to deliver the most superior customer experience at all our touch points across 70 countries. We are the only two-wheeler company to have received the prestigious Deming Prize. Our products lead in their respective categories in the JD Power IQS and APEAL surveys for the past five years. We have been ranked No. 1 Company in the JD Power Customer Service Satisfaction Survey for consecutive four years. For more information, please visit www.tvsmotor.com.

ROUND-UP

Meethaq celebrates 51st glorious National Day with exclusive offers

Customers will be eligible to receive exciting rewards and gifts as part of this special promotion, which shall continue till the end of December

MUSCAT: In line with its commitment to provide the best products and services to its customers, Meethaq the pioneer of Islamic banking in Oman from Bank Muscat, has begun the countdown to the Sultanate's 51st glorious National Day celebrations with a number of special deals and offers for customers.

Customers will be eligible to receive exciting rewards and gifts as part of this special promotion, which shall continue till the end of December.

All existing and new customers of Meethaq are eligible for a cash incentive of OMR 51 when open-

ing a term deposit of OMR 5,000 or more for 3 years and above. New Meethaq customers can also get a gift voucher of OMR 51 on starting a Hafawa Priority Banking relationship with a deposit of OMR 30,000 during this period. Meethaq Credit cardholders will also get a chance to win OMR 51 every month for three months if they are amongst the 100 highest spenders each month.

Meethaq is also offering an attractive profit rate of only 4.99% to customers who apply for a home, auto and personal financing facilities during the National Day campaign. All new and exist-

ing Meethaq customers availing fresh financing from the bank can benefit from this offer, which is available for Omani nationals working in government institutions as well as semi-government and Tier 1 companies.

Another exciting offer is that Hafawa Private Banking Customers will be given free locker services on booking a locker for a full year, while a massive 75% special discount on annual rentals for safe deposit lockers for the 1st year is available to all customers having an account with Meethaq. Customers can book a locker at any Meethaq branch, which offers safe

deposit locker services.

On the joyous occasion of the 51st Glorious National Day, Meethaq has allocated total prize money worth OMR 51,000 to be given away to 51 lucky winners during the special National Day draw. Eligibility for the draws is based on an average weekly balance of OMR 100, and customers will have more chances of winning if they maintain higher balances in their Hibati savings accounts.

The bank has invited all its customers to take advantage of the opportunity and win exciting cash prizes by increasing their savings in their accounts.

Meethaq, which has the largest network of Islamic banking branches in Oman, has over 40 ATMs and CDMs located across Oman, and also facilitates access to Bank Muscat's network of 740 ATMs and CDMs.

Its Internet banking and Mobile banking app feature a user-friendly interface and facilitates a large number of services, which include utility payments, mobile top-ups, payment of school fees, transfer of funds between own accounts, transfer of funds to third party accounts in Bank Muscat, other bank accounts in Oman as well as international transfers.

CSR INITIATIVE

ahlibank participates in national relief drive through its 'ahli cares' initiative

MUSCAT: Demonstrating its national commitment and corporate social responsibility, ahlibank has announced a series of initiatives to support community efforts to mitigate the effects of the recent Cyclone Shaheen in Oman.

Through its CSR initiative 'ahli-cares', the bank organised a voluntary campaign where more than 100 employees participated to assist in the distribution of necessities to the people in the affected wilayats, and help them clean their houses and surrounding areas.

Said Abdullah Al Hatmi, CEO, ahlibank, expressed his deepest condolences to the families of those affected by the cyclone, asking Allah to provide them with the strength to overcome this tragedy.

"We have witnessed the impact of this calamity and the significant damage it has caused to homes, properties and infrastructure. We deem it part of our social and moral duty to respond to the call for unity and provide support and assistance where needed. I



am glad that we have been able to help in reducing the burden and losses suffered by those affected, and I pray to Allah to protect Oman and its residents from more harm," he added.

Al Hatmi praised the unity, solidarity and cooperation of the residents and citizens of Oman in the face of 'Shaheen' and commended efforts at all levels while stressing the importance of seeing the affected individuals and families rebuild their lives.

ahlibank's participation in the

national relief drive, which has witnessed extensive participation from various institutions and individuals, reflects its moral and social commitment to supporting various humanitarian and countrywide efforts. It also underscores its belief in the importance of instilling a culture of public service and volunteerism, especially in these difficult circumstances.

In addition to moral and humanitarian support, the bank provided financial relief to those affected. Earlier, it announced the

allocation of OMR10 million in interest-free loans to its customers and postponed the payment of personal and home loan instalments for 3 months for affected customers in North and South Al Batinah. It also allocated OMR100,000 in cash donations.

Through this scheme, customers will be able to apply for interest-free loans for one year. They can also postpone their instalments for three months through any ahlibank branch upon submission of the required documents until December 31.

CSR is a critical part of ahlibank's operations and its CSR policy is being strengthened to enable a wider impact on various segments of the society. Through its steadfast commitment towards strengthening its role by supporting national initiatives and significant activities of various charities and grassroots organisations in Oman, the bank is able to fortify its role in the pursuit of social and economic development.

PROMOTION



Mitsubishi ASX now available for EMIs as low as OMR106

MUSCAT: The stylish and versatile Mitsubishi ASX is now available from General Automotive Company (GAC), the official Mitsubishi distributor of Mitsubishi vehicles in Oman, at affordable EMIs starting from as low as OMR106. This price is not only inclusive of VAT but also includes six years unlimited mileage warranty and roadside assistance.

Commenting on the ASX, Aftab Ahmed Khan, the Sales head of Mitsubishi Motors Oman said, "A

class-leading vehicle, the Mitsubishi ASX offers customers a high number of standard features, an incredibly fuel-efficient engine, proven all-wheel-drive system, and advanced technologies, all wrapped in a delightfully affordable package with a low EMI."

The ASX is a popular CUV that features Mitsubishi's Dynamic Shield design and offers an all-new front bumper, hood, and fenders, which provide a bold and rugged look.

FLORAL BOUTIQUE

Flora D'lite plans new markets and offerings for Oman

MUSCAT: Floral boutique Flora D'lite has established strong presence for itself with 2 retail outlets in Muscat and the website www.floradlite.com which provides online order and delivery to the Muscat and Sohar areas.

The website has progressed a long way and offers an unbelievable variety of flowers, chocolates, gifts and cakes that are popular with both people in Oman and those located abroad wishing to send a gift to the country.

Plans are already on for the growth of the much-loved brand within the country and beyond. Flora D'lite has announced that it will soon open a new retail outlet in a new location in Muscat.

The location is in a key area in line with the strategic expansion plan. In addition, new offerings are continuously being added to the website and customer feedback is taken on board to make even further improvements.

Locations are being scouted for the next phase and there is consideration of taking the project beyond the Oman borders.

"It is a very exciting phase for us as a company and we want the high standards and service we aspire to, to be available to a broad reach of customers. The plans for the fu-



ture are to include more markets within Oman and eventually beyond", said a spokesperson for Flora D'lite. "One of the unique selling points of Flora D'lite as a brand is the option of the website for easy inspiration, selection and order. With our retail outlets we can also cater to walk-ins, a range of events and a good level of customisation," he added.

During October www.floradlite.com is offering a flat 10% promo-

tional discount on all orders and 15% off for repeat clients with the code 'OCTFUN'. Additionally in Muscat customers have the alternative to have their gifts delivered to the doorstep or they can order and pick them up from the outlets.

Flora D'lite currently operates 2 outlets in Qurum (next to Fun Zone) and Seeb (Links, Muscat Hills). The outlets supply fresh and artificial flowers, indoor plants, forever flowers and vases.

ATTRACTIVE DESIGN

Switch on extraordinary experiences with Lexus NX

MUSCAT: The Lexus NX with its sleek, sharp and very attractive design, makes more than just a mark where ever it goes.

Designed and engineered to encourage users to make the most of every moment, the NX is a brilliant combination of luxury, contemporary design and enjoyable driving dynamics.

The NX's advanced turbo-charged 238hp, 2.0-litre engine combines fuel efficiency with outstanding power output, generating exhilarating acceleration for sporty driving, together with exceptional fuel economy. It is also available with features offering both driver and passengers comfort and convenience such as a Head-Up Display (HUD), a dual-zone air conditioner, a power-folding 60:40 split rear seat, in addition to a hands-free power backdoor to name a few.

The interior of the NX exudes a sportier nature and a more luxurious feel. There is also a focus on the ease of use, convenience, and comfort of the equipment features, faithful to Lexus' commitment to the principles of Omotenashi (hospitality).

The first thing you are bound to notice is the 10.3-inch multimedia display on the dashboard.



The central analogue clock, with a clearer face and a more pronounced outer ring, adds to the luxurious ambience. 14 speakers Mark Levinson Sound system adds a unique dimension to entertainment on the move with its crystal-clear audio quality.

Nearly all the controls and switches inside the NX, including the drive mode selector, shift knob, and door handles, have a metallic satin finish, enhancing the premium look and feel of the cabin. Even the audio knob and window switches feature a metallic coating.

Reflecting Lexus' utmost commitment to passenger safety, the NX300, comes equipped with a comprehensive suite of active

and passive safety features complemented with the addition of the preventive safety package, Lexus Safety System+, which integrates active safety technologies, such as the Pre-Crash Safety System Adaptive Cruise Control System Lane Departure Alert and Adaptive High Beam. Apart from the Lexus Safety System+, other safety features are also available, including Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Panoramic Back View Monitor and Tyre Pressure Warning System to name a few.

The most athletic NX trim level, the performance-minded F SPORT, is distinguished by its pronounced mesh grille with jet-black plating and exclusive alloy.

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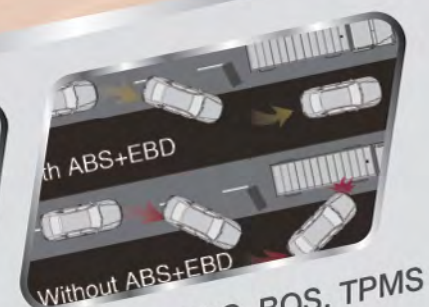
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