

Meanwhile, the Lithuania government granted Sayyid Badr the Commander's Cross of the Order for Merits to Lithuania, in appreciation for his efforts in boosting cooperation relations between the two countries. The order was handed over to Sayyid Badr by President Nausėda. Sayyid Badr expressed his thanks for being honoured with the high-ranking Lithuanian order, looking forward to work with his Lithuania counterpart in advancing the cooperation relations and partnership in many fields. The meeting was attended by Khalid Hashel Al Muselhi, Head of the Minister's Office Department, Boleta Senkiene, Honorary Consul of the Sultanate of Oman in Lithuania and some officials from both sides. — **UNA**



1 The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism has inaugurated a gallery for exhibiting meteorites at the Museum of the Frankincense Land in the Governorate of Dhofar. **>A2**

2 Ghana confirmed its first two cases of the highly infectious Marburg virus disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a statement. **>A6**

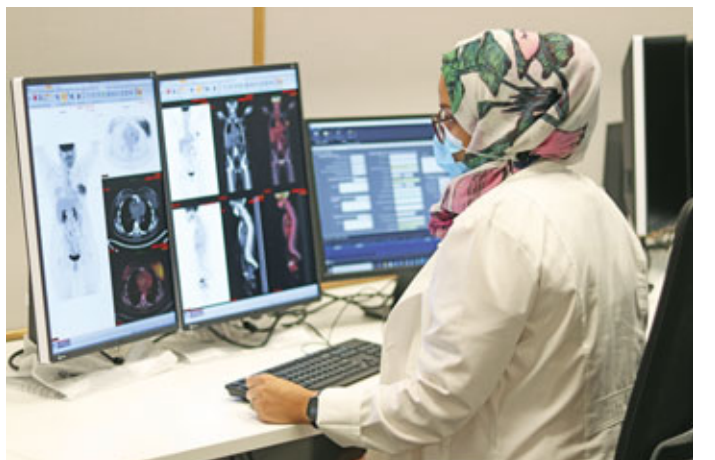
3 Oman's LNG exports in the first six months of 2022 rose by 8 per cent to 5.9 million tonnes compared to 5.5 million tonnes during the same period of 2021. **>B1**



“These deaths and grave injuries are all unnecessary. People need to use common sense during heavy rains that cause flooding in the wadis. **>A5**



treating cancer tumours.	services.
Since its opening in July 2021	Since the start of operations



On the preventive side, the centre's genome section offered genetic counselling services to 468 patients (September 2021- June 2022). The Counsellor briefs the patients about the results of diagnosis, which is conducted through the use of modern devices that register genome count

The radiotherapy department launched new radiotherapy services for breast cancer called Partial Breast Irradiation And (Hypo-SIB), which contributes to shortening the duration of treatment and lowering the treatment cost. **➤A5**

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34°
MUSCAT

Surrounded by a carpet of green cover, Ain Razat is one of the most important sources of spring water in Dhofar region. The water from this source, as well as several smaller springs, flow into a long pool on the northern side of the car park at the foot of the mountain. Water flows along *afalaj* (water-course) throughout the year, although flow is highest during the Khareef season.



Times News Service

A higher Rial can mean bigger remittance volumes for expatriates. **>Full story A3**



OMAN



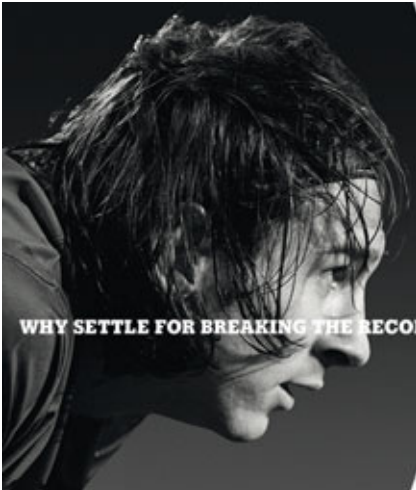
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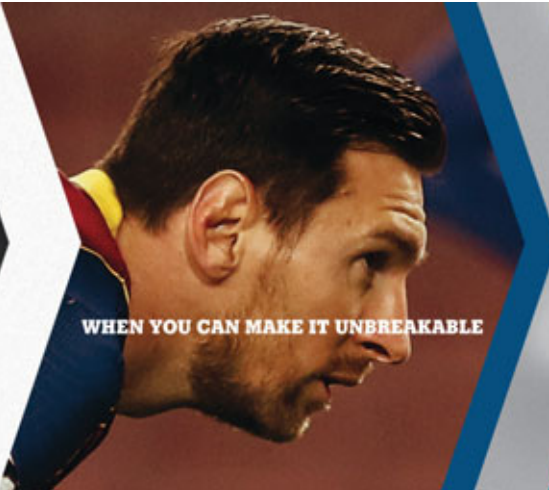


Dhuhr.....	12:18pm
Asr.....	3:39pm
Maghrib.....	7:00pm
Isha.....	8:20pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:07am

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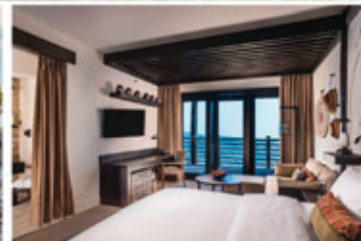
- Daily à la carte breakfast for two at Juniper Restaurant.
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- Play Alla and adventure activities, based on a weekly schedule.



ملاذ مميز في ألبلا الجبل الأخضر لفضاء إقامة رائعة وسط الجمال الخلاب والهواء النقي حيث تكون مفارقة 10 درجة أبعد على غنية داركم.

سواء زرقاء صافية، مناظر مشمسة، وجبان شاسعة، وهدوء جمال الحجر السادر، والتجديد من الأنشطة النضرية للاستمتاع بالموسم كما يجب.

- إلتذاذ برمي من فالية مختارة لشخصين في مطعم جونيپر
- يومنا الشروق والتأمل، بناء على جدول أسبوعي
- موج ألبلا وأنشطة المغامرة، بناء على جدول أسبوعي



WORLD OF OMAN

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Heritage Ministry dedicates gallery to meteorites in Dhofar

SALALAH: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism has opened a gallery for exhibiting meteorites at the Museum of the Frankincense Land in the Governorate of Dhofar.

The exhibition, which runs until 18 September 2022, is the first one-of-its-kind in the Sultanate.

It is being organised by the ministry as a means to highlight the importance of meteorites as a sustainable, diversified and renewable asset that can be invested to enhance heritage and tourism resources in various governorates of Oman.

The exhibition showcases a number of unique meteorites of special scholarly value, including the lunar meteorite (a rare meteorite found in 2002), the Martian meteorite and the Iron Meteorite.

The gallery also exhibits devices for the detection of meteorites in the Sultanate of Oman. With these, the ministry has been able to spot meteorites, the moment they enter Oman's atmosphere, and determine their geographical location. The opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Azzan Qasim Al Busaidi, Tourism Undersecretary, and attended by Khalid Salim Al Ghassani, Adviser at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, and Khalid Abdullah Al Abri, Director General of Heritage and Tourism in the Governorate of Dhofar, among other officials.

The chief guest launched a booklet titled "Meteorites in Oman", which is a manual aimed to familiarise readers about meteorites found in Oman and efforts undertaken by the authorities concerned to protect them by applying standard practices in the domain. -ONA

Discussion on VAT, Corporate Income Tax in Musandam

KHASAB: The Tax Authority organised a seminar in the Governorate of Musandam to familiarise members of the public about the Corporate Income Tax (CIT) and the Value Added Tax (VAT). Held in cooperation with Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) branch in Musandam, the seminar outlines the legal framework of the VAT and explains conceptions and provisions related to its application, as well as the CIS rates and subsidies.

The seminar is a link in a series of workshops held by the Tax Authority in different governorates of the Sultanate of Oman to raise awareness and inculcate tax culture in society. -ONA

Al Mouj invests in New Golf Website pitching the award-winning Club higher on the global stage

MUSCAT: A user-friendly new website has been launched by Al Mouj Golf Muscat showcasing the club's award-winning attributes, helping to position both it and Oman on the global stage as a world-class golfing, leisure and tourism destination.

The digitally sophisticated site alamoujgolf.com incorporates stunning photography of the course, Al Mouj Muscat and the Oman coastline, alongside useful and intuitive interactive features that make playing, dining and visiting the club simple and straight forward.

Al Mouj Golf was the Sultanate's first PGA course, is consistently placed in the top two courses in the Middle East and is also ranked in the Top 100 courses in the world. Since opening in 2011, the Greg Norman designed par-72 has hosted the Oman Open on three occasions, earning itself a reputation as an exemplary ocean-front championship course and winning accolades for its positive impact on the natural environment.

The new site has been launched at a time when the club is building on its successes through a number of physical upgrades and develop-



ments including a new club house that, over the next two years, will elevate both the playing experience and its international status further.

For now, in addition to providing a comprehensive overview plus news, up-to-date menus and information on alternative leisure pursuits, the site is enhancing the day-to-day experiences of members and visitors alike. Useful on-line features include booking a tee time, becoming a member and reserving a table at the restaurant. It is also possible to have real-time conversations with club management on WhatsApp, all of which combine to make connecting with

the club easier.

A unique feature is a bird's eye view style plan which gives golfers who are yet to experience the course a realistic viewpoint as, in addition to images and descriptions alongside each hole, there are pro tips on how best to approach them.

“Al Mouj Golf's interactive and informative new site is a digitally advanced showcase for the award-winning club

also is helping to promote the Sultanate as a golf destination with global appeal.

“What Al Mouj Golf has achieved in 10 years has been exemplary both from a golfing perspective and the wider environmental, community and economic benefits it has brought to our country particularly the sports tourism sector.”

“As well as our new site being a fitting showcase, it is a superb demonstration of how through digital solutions excellence, Al Mouj Muscat is lifting the customer experience even further. It really is a celebration of modern Oman at its finest.”

Al Mouj Golf is Oman's first links style course offering amateurs and professionals a challenging, yet rewarding game of golf. Along a two-kilometre stretch of pristine coastline, flanking the Indian Ocean and with the stunning Hajjar mountain range in the background, the lush green course is accented with bunkers, water hazards and natural dunes.

For more information on Al Mouj Golf visit www.alamoujgolf.com and for Al Mouj Muscat, please visit: www.alamouj.com.



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1 OMR = 207.897 INR Jul 19, 2022, 07:01 UTC

Date	Price (INR)
Mar 2022	~198.500
Apr 2022	~199.000
May 2022	~199.500
Jun 2022	~200.000
Jul 2022	207.897

He also said: "We expect this to go up in the first week of August when everybody gets their salary."

Experts, however, said that it may fall further and may cross USD 81 in the next few weeks. "This means there are chances

"Asian shares are subdued Tuesday after Apple Inc's plans to slow hiring highlighted concerns that aggressive monetary tightening to tackle inflation threatens an economic downturn," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

CABLE

His Majesty also prayed to Allah the Almighty to rest the deceased souls in peace in paradise and to grant their families fortitude to bear the loss, wishing the injured speedy recovery. -ONA

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IN DHOFAR

Delegation visits OQ Group and Raysut Industrial Estate

SALALAH: The media delegation comprising reporters from international news agencies, currently touring the Sultanate of Oman, visited Raysut Industrial Estate (Madaayn) and OQ Group sites in the Governorate of Dhofar.

The delegation listened to a briefing by Salim Ali Zaabanut, Acting Director General of Raysut Industrial Estate, about Madaayn and the services that the industrial hub offers to investors.

Zaabanut said that any investor from any part of the world can finalize business procedures online without being physically present at the premises of the industrial city. He added that all electronic services are made available via Masar centres operating from different industrial cities.

Then, the media delegation also visited Dhofar Fisheries Industries where they were briefed by the company's General Manager Hamid Ali Al Nahdi, who explained that the unit provides the local market with high quality canned tuna and sardines. He added that the company exports to 17 countries, amid rising demand for Omani products which, he explained, abide by international standards and enjoy credibility, locally and abroad.

Later, the press agencies team visited OQ Group's unit for liquefied petroleum gas and methanol, Governorate of Dhofar. Eng. Ihsan Al Jandal, CEO of OQ operations in Salalah, briefed the reporters about the activities of the group.

OQ unit serves as a new hub in Dhofar Governorate, said Eng. Ihsan, noting that the liquefied petroleum gas project assumes special significance and enhances the Sultanate of Oman's status as a sustainable source of energy in the global market. — OMA



RULES FLOUTED

<FROM A1> Warnings issued

"They need to watch out the speed of the water currents that dig deep and create trenches in the ground. In such instances, water travels up to 26 km per hour and water can rise up to seven meter high. That can drown the strongest swimmer," Philip concluded.

The Public Authority for Civil Defence and Ambulance (PACDA) has issued numerous warnings to the public against venturing out in areas affected by heavy rains. The Royal Oman Police (ROP) has also warned that people are liable to prison terms if they risk their lives while crossing or swimming in the wadis.

Not only Omanis and local residents lost their lives in the latest flooding. An Indian tourist based in Dubai died while trying to save his son and daughter in Rostaq. His two children too drowned leaving his wife to cope with the loss of her family members.



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GENETIC COUNSELLING SERVICE

<FROM A1> Advanced endoscopy unit

The surgical department and the advanced endoscopy unit were also provided with the latest equipment to enable the surgical team to perform complex, high-precision operations, including laparoscopic operations. The surgical team performed esophagectomy surgery laparoscopically fully for the first time in Oman.

The advanced endoscopy unit uses the double balloon endoscopy for first time in Sultanate, which is one of the most important procedures for examining and performing non-surgical interventions for the small intestine, and helps diagnose and treat intestinal bleeding, small intestine tumours, small intestine ulcers and sclerosis of the lining of the small intestine. The unit has performed 720 different types of endoscopy procedures since its commissioning in November 2021 until July 2022.

Since October 2021, the laboratory has started for the first time in the Sultanate Comprehensive Genomic Profiling of tumour tissue, which identifies the patient's genetic mutations that cause the growth of cancerous cells and determines the most appropriate treatment for the case in a record time.

The genetic guide interprets the results of tests conducted in laboratories with new generation genome technologies, such as quantitative genome detection, nuclear sequencing and qualitative detection, to identify genetic changes that cause cancer. — OMA

15th Death Anniversary

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Ministry of Social Development



Tender Announcement

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

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-refundable)
98/2022	General maintenance work for al-wafa center for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities in the wilayat of nizwa	Companies specialized in building contracting and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the second degree	Monday 8-8-2022 02:00 PM	Sunday 28-8-2022 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Wednesday 20/7/2022

❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.

❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402200)

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

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Tender Announcement
(HOE2022/LAB/T/02)
July 13, 2022

Tender Invitation

The House of Expertise for Integrated Projects & Trading would like to invite Experienced, Excellent and First Grade Contractors for the construction of STUDENTS LABORATORIES AND WORKSHOPS BUILDING at Al-Koudh with a full built-up area around 5,420.0 SQM. The selected bidder will be appointed as the main contractor for the project.

The following are the tender purchase details:

Tender No.	Tender Name	Deadline for last day Tender Documents Purchase	Site visit date/time	Deadline for Tender Documents Submission	Tender Fee
HOE2022/LAB/T/02	STUDENTS LABORATORIES AND WORKSHOPS BUILDING	Wednesday July 27, 2022	Wednesday August 10, 2022 at 10 am	Wednesday August 31, 2022 Not later than 12 pm	200 OMR

• Interested bidders are to submit an official "Expression of Interest" letter and C.R to the following email addresses, indicating their willingness to participate in the said tender:

To: hammada@squ.edu.om

Cc: rashid@sapsoman.edu.om

• Interested bidders shall transfer the tender fee to the following bank account and must attach the fee transfer receipt with the EOI letter; NO CASH will be accepted:

• **MEETHAQ Islamic Banking** -Bank Account Number: 0614-50020449-000-1

HOUSE EXPERTISE AND INTEGRATED TRD PROJ

• Full Tender Documents will be issued to the interested bidders in a CD to be collected from the reception office at Sarh Al Jaameah Private School at Al-Koudh. The bidder must present the original tender fee receipt in order to receive the CD of the Full Tender Documents.

• Interested bidders will be requested to sign an NDA before receiving the CD of the Full Tender Documents.

Ghana declares first outbreak of deadly Marburg virus disease

The patients had shown symptoms including diarrhoea, fever, nausea, and vomiting

ACCRA: Ghana has officially confirmed two cases of the Marburg virus, a highly infectious disease similar to Ebola.

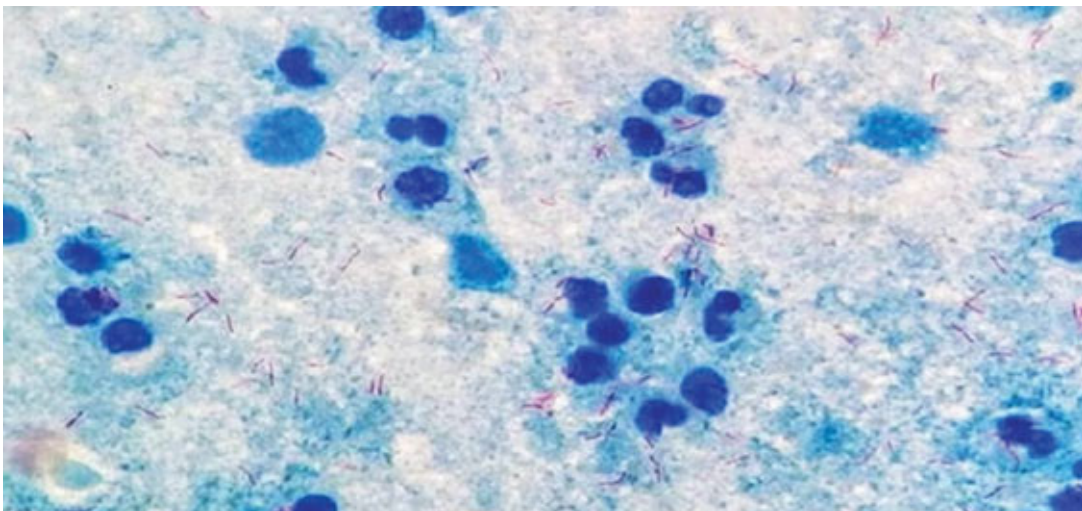
Ghana confirmed its first two cases of the highly infectious Marburg virus disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Sunday in a statement.

The announcement comes after two unrelated patients from the southern Ashanti region of Ghana, both of whom later died, tested positive for the virus, reported CNN.

The patients had shown symptoms including diarrhoea, fever, nausea, and vomiting, WHO said, adding that more than 90 contacts are being monitored.

Marburg virus disease is a highly virulent disease that causes haemorrhagic fever, with a fatality ratio of up to 88 per cent. It is in the same family as the virus that causes the Ebola virus disease, according to WHO.

"Illness begins abruptly, with high fever, severe headache, and malaise," it stated.



The virus is transmitted to humans from fruit bats and can then be spread human to human through direct contact with the bodily fluids of infected people or surfaces and materials contaminated with these fluids, WHO explained.

The global health body said containment measures were being put in place and that more resources would be deployed in response to the outbreak in Ghana, reported CNN.

WHO also warned that "without immediate and decisive action, Marburg can easily get out of hand."

There are no approved vaccines or antiviral treatments for the Marburg virus. However, a patient's chances of survival can be improved with care including oral or intravenous rehydration and treatment of specific symptoms, WHO said.

The Ghana Health Service has

urged the Ghanaian public to avoid mines and caves occupied by fruit bats and to thoroughly cook all meat products before consumption, to help reduce the risk of spreading the virus. Fruit bats are natural hosts of the Marburg virus, the health service said.

Two large outbreaks that occurred simultaneously in Marburg and Frankfurt in Germany, and in Belgrade, Serbia, in 1967, led to the initial recognition of the disease, WHO reported.

The Ghana outbreak is only the second in West Africa after Guinea detected the virus last year. The patient in the Guinea outbreak also died from the virus. No further cases were confirmed by Guinean health authorities, reported CNN.

In other parts of Africa, previous outbreaks have been reported in Uganda, Kenya, Angola, South Af-

rica and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Angola outbreak in 2005 was the deadliest with more than 200 people killed.

According to WHO, countries at higher risk of a resurgence of the virus have been contacted "and they are on alert."

Human infection with Marburg virus disease initially results from prolonged exposure to mines or caves inhabited by Rousettus bat colonies.

Once an individual is infected with the virus, Marburg can spread through human-to-human transmission via direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with the blood, secretions, organs or other bodily fluids of infected people, and with surfaces and materials (e.g. bedding, clothing) contaminated with these fluids. **ANI**



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SEIZED

Malaysia seizes illegal animal parts worth \$18 million

KUALA LUMPUR: Authorities in Malaysia have seized an estimated \$18 million (€17.7 million) worth of African elephant tusks, pangolin scales and other illegal animal parts that were part of a single shipment.

The haul included 6,000 kilograms (13,227 pounds) of elephant tusks, 100 kilograms of pangolin scales, 25 kilograms of rhino horns and a further 300 kilograms of animal skulls, bones and horns.

Malaysian customs director-general Zazuli Johan announced on Monday that the seizure of the elephant tusks in particular was the biggest in the country's history. The haul was discovered on July 10, hidden among timber in a shipping container that had arrived from Africa and contained. Johan added that Malaysia was not the planned final destination for the smuggled animal parts.

Kanitha Krishnasamy, the Southeast Asia director at wildlife trade monitoring group Traffic, called the Malaysian bust a



"significant seizure."

"This medley of threatened species in a single seizure is concerning, and it certainly verifies the suspicion that criminals continue to use Malaysian ports to move contraband wildlife," she told the AFP news agency.

Malaysia is one of several Southeast Asian countries identified by conservationists as a hub from which wildlife and animal parts are illegally trafficked to other Asian countries, namely China.

There have been no arrests over the seizure. Investigations into the importer and shipping agent are ongoing. **DW**

DEFORESTATION

Amazon deforestation up 20% last year, says report

BRASILIA: Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon increased by more than 20% last year, according to a report released on Monday by environmental thinktank Mapbiomas.

The Brazil-based organisation made up of universities, NGOs and tech companies said there has been growing deforestation observed in all biomes and that over the course of three years, the deforested area reached 42,000 square kilometers — almost the equivalent landmass of the state of Rio de Janeiro.

About 18 trees per second hacked down

Mapbiomas said there had been 16,557 square kilometers of native vegetation lost during the course of 2021. According to the study's figures, deforestation was taking place at a rate of 189 hectares an hour. During the course of 2020 the area lost to deforestation was calculated to be 13,789 square kilometers.

"In the Amazon alone, 111.6 hectares were deforested per hour or 1.9 hectares per minute, which is equivalent to about 18 trees per second," the organization said.

Land being cleared for agriculture was found to be the leading cause of deforestation with min-



ing, urban expansions, and construction of wind and solar plants among the contributing factors.

Researchers validated 69,796 "deforestation alerts" during the course of 2021. These "deforestation events" were evaluated on an individual basis, with a variety of

factors taken into consideration, including data from protected areas and authorizations with data from protected areas.

Lack of enforcement a key issue

Deforestation was taking place

on properties registered on the rural environmental register (CAR) and accounted for 77% of the deforested area which according to the study "means that in at least three-quarters of deforestation, it is possible to find a person responsible."

Nearly 20,000 properties were found to be repeat offenders, pointing to a lack of law enforcement, the study suggested.

"To solve the problem of illegality, it is necessary to attack impunity — the risk of being penalized and held accountable for the illegal destruction of native vegetation must be real and properly perceived by environmental offenders," explained Tasso Azevedo, coordinator of MapBiomias.

Azevedo said action was required on three fronts with the need to ensure that "all deforestation is detected and reported; all illegal deforestation receives accountability and punishment of offenders (e.g. fines, embargo); the offender does not benefit from the illegally deforested area and receives some type of penalty."

Deforestation rises under Bolsonaro administration

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has a questionable track record when it comes to the preservation of the Amazon.

His administration has been accused of rendering environmental authorities toothless and has backed legislative measures to loosen land protections.

The Brazilian Amazon hadn't recorded a single year with more

than 10,000 square kilometers of deforestation in over a decade before Bolsonaro's term began in January 2019.

The Karipuna Indigenous community has taken the Brazilian government to court, demanding permanent protection from encroachment on their territory.

Karipuna land among the eight most illegally deforested Indigenous territories in Brazil.

HRW casts doubt over Bolsonaro's empty promises

In April 2021, speaking at the Leaders Summit on Climate convened by the United States, Bolsonaro insisted he was committed to protecting the Amazon and even pledged more resources for environmental law enforcement.

But since taking office in 2019, his administration has done nothing but accelerate the destruction of the rainforest, according to Human Rights Watch.

At which point, the NGO said Bolsonaro's "climate commitments cannot be taken seriously."

Brazilians head to the polls in October as the incumbent seeks a second term, with some NGOs, environmental experts and activists arguing the Amazon's future is at stake. **DW**

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UK records hottest-ever temperature as heatwave in Europe continues

The UK’s previous all-time record high of 38.7 C (101.7 F) was set in 2019

LONDON: The United Kingdom on Tuesday provisionally recorded its hottest-ever temperature reading, with the mercury rising above 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) for the first time. A temperature of 40.2 C was recorded at London Heathrow shortly before noon GMT, according to the Met Office weather service.

The record-breaking day follows the UK’s warmest-ever night, with temperatures in some regions remaining above 25 degrees Celsius (77 Fahrenheit) from Monday to Tuesday, according to the Met Office.

The 40 C mark was announced shortly after the day’s first record-breaking reading of 39.1 C was provisionally recorded at Charlwood in the southern Surrey region.

The UK’s previous all-time record high of 38.7 C (101.7 F) was set in 2019.



Tuesday’s record could be broken again as the day goes on, with temperatures expected to continue rising in the afternoon.

“Forty-one isn’t off the cards,” said Met Office CEO Penelope Endersby. “We’ve even got some 43s in the model, but we’re hoping it won’t be as high as that.”

The Met Office will need to validate the equipment used to measure the temperature before it officially becomes a recorded high.

On Monday, British officials issued the UK’s first-ever extreme heat emergency, extending from London in the south to Manchester and Leeds in the north. Train services were disrupted by buckled rails, and more travel disruption is expected on Tuesday.

“We’re probably going to see the hottest day ever in the UK recorded today,” Transport Minister Grant Shapps told the BBC. “Infrastructure, much of which was built from the Victorian times, just

wasn’t built to withstand this type of temperature.”

The mercury reached 38.1 Celsius on Monday in Suffolk, in eastern England, which was hottest temperature recorded in the UK this year, and the third-hottest day on record.

Average July temperatures in the UK range from a highs of 21 degrees Celsius to night-time lows of 12 degrees, and few homes or small businesses have air conditioning.

Wildfires in France

On the other side of English Channel, several towns and cities in France recorded their highest-ever temperatures on Monday. Saint-Brieuc, on the normally temperate coast of Brittany, topped 39.5 C. The western city of Nantes recorded 42 C, beating a decades-old high of 40.3 C set in 1949.

In southwestern France’s Gironde region, two large wildfires raging for a week across dry pine forests have forced the evacuation of 32,000 people. The blazes have already destroyed a total of 190 square kilometers (more than 70 square miles) of forest.

Fire officials said strong winds and heat are fanning the flames, despite the deployment of water-bombing aircraft.

DW correspondent Barbara Wessel reporting from Gironde said the forests in the area are “tinder dry” and go up in flames very easily driven by strong winds.

“The temperatures have let up a bit so it’s easier for the firefighters, but the wind makes their life incredibly difficult because the fire jumps from one side of the road to the other.”

The blaze was literally “blowing things up” with its ferocity, said Marc Vermeulen, head of the local firefighting service, adding that exploding trees were scat-

tering embers and spreading the blaze further. “We’re facing extreme and exceptional circumstances,” he said. French weather channel La Chaine Meteo reported Tuesday that conditions in the affected regions are forecast to improve over the next 48 hours, with an eastern wind from the Atlantic bringing thunderstorms and cooler temperatures.

Germany approaches record temperatures

Germany’s weather service (DWD) said Tuesday that parts of the country’s west could crack the 40 C mark, putting the all-time temperature record of 41.2 C recorded in 2019 within reach.

The DWD said the extreme heat is centered on the Western states of Saarland, Rhineland-Palatinate and North Rhine-Westphalia, especially including low-lying areas on the Rhine and Ruhr rivers.

Areas of Germany have also raised forest fire alert levels. In 10 of Germany’s 16 states, predominantly in the south, west and northeast, the highest of five alert stages has been issued.

The Bavarian forestry minister has called on the public to be especially careful when walking through forests, warning that even a single cigarette butt can ignite an inferno. **DW**

AHEAD OF TALKS

Russian President Putin arrives in Iran

TEHRAN: Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Tehran on Tuesday ahead of talks with his Iranian and Turkish counterparts on key issues affecting the region.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will discuss the ongoing conflict in Syria as well as the UN-backed proposal to allow for grain to be exported from Ukrainian ports.

The three regional powers have a complex relationship of shared interests and conflicts. The talks mark Putin’s second trip outside of Russia since the beginning of the war in February and the first face-to-face meeting with a NATO member leader.

The talks also come days after US President Joe Biden visited



Washington’s key allies in the region – Saudi Arabia and Israel, as well as the Palestinian Occupied Territories.

Turkey’s role at the talks

Both Iran and Russia support President Bashar Al-Assad’s regime, while Turkey has thrown its weight behind certain anti-Assadist groups.

“Maintaining the territorial integrity of Syria is very important, and any military attack in

northern Syria will definitely harm Turkey, Syria and the entire region, and benefit terrorists,” Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei had said.

Turkey has threatened to launch a military operation into northern Syria, particularly regions controlled by Kurdish groups, to extend a so-called “safe zone.”

Ankara has also found itself on the opposite side of Moscow in conflicts in Azerbaijan and Libya, and has even sold drones to Ukraine. But its role as a NATO member that has not imposed sanctions, makes Turkey a much needed partner for Russia.

Erdogan has also proven to be a thorn in the side of NATO’s plan to quickly accept Sweden and Finland into the alliance. **DW**

MORAL COMPASS

UN chief calls for action to honour Mandela’s legacy

NEW YORK CITY: United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday described Nelson Mandela as a “moral compass,” calling for honouring the former South African president’s legacy by taking action.

“Nelson Mandela was a healer of communities and a mentor to generations,” Guterres said in his message to mark the Nelson Mandela International Day which falls on Monday.

“He remains a moral compass and reference to us all,” the UN chief noted, adding that Mandela showed that “each and every one of us has the ability and responsibility to build a better future for all.”

“Our world today is marred by war; overwhelmed by emergencies; blighted by racism, discrimination, poverty, and inequalities; and threatened by climate disaster. Let us find hope in Nelson Mandela’s example and inspiration in his vision,” Guterres said.

The best way to honor Mandela’s legacy is by taking action, the UN chief said.

“By speaking out against hate and standing up for human rights. By embracing our common humanity -- rich in diversity, equal in dignity, united in solidarity. And by together making our world more just, compassionate, prosperous, and sustainable for all,” he said. **ANI**

BROAD-BASED RECOVERY

India’s services sector sees recovery on improved demand: Finance Ministry

NEW DELHI : India’s services sector has witnessed a broad-based recovery in sales revenues in both nominal and real terms during the January-March 2022 quarter 2022, the Ministry of Finance said in its latest Monthly Economic Review report.

The Information technology (IT) companies maintained strong growth while non-IT service companies continued to recover from the slump caused by the lockdown. A broad-based recovery in service activity continued in the first quarter of 2022-23, which can be attributed to improvements in demand following the retreat of pandemic restrictions, capacity expansion, and a favourable economic environment.

Domestic freight movement data also signaled resilience, with railway freight continuing to expand in double-digits on a year-on-year basis in June 2022.

“Hotels and tourism, trading, shipping transport services, information technology or software and films exhibition all witnessed a growth of over 20 per cent,” the report said, adding that road, railway, shipping transport, and media content, however, experienced negative growth in real terms.

On the other hand, the report raised concern about India’s rising current account deficit.

India’s current account deficit, meaning a shortfall between the imports and exports, will deteriorate in 2022-23 on account of costlier imports and tepid exports, if recession concerns do



A broad-based recovery in service activity continued in the first quarter of 2022-23, which can be attributed to improvements in demand following the retreat of pandemic restrictions, capacity expansion, and a favourable economic environment

not lead to a sustained and meaningful reduction in the prices of food and energy commodities.

A sudden and sharp surge in gold imports amid wedding sea-

son, as many weddings were postponed to 2022 from 2021 due to pandemic-induced restrictions, is also now exerting pressure on the trade deficit, it said.

The country’s trade deficit widened to \$45.18 billion in April-June 2022 period as compared to \$5.61 billion recorded in the corresponding period of last year.

In order to alleviate the impact, the government recently hiked the customs duty on gold from the present 10.75 per cent to 15.0 per cent.

The widening of the current account deficit has depreciated the Indian rupee against the US dollar by 6 per cent since January of 2022 and is on the brink of touching the 80 mark.

A depreciation in the rupee typically makes imported items costlier, which is already reflected in the country’s foreign exchange reserves data.

India’s forex reserves during the six months in 2022 have declined by \$34 billion. **ANI**

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China set to host Asian Games in September 2023

The OCA said on Tuesday that the new dates were chosen to avoid conflict with other major international sporting events

HANGZHOU: China is set to host the postponed Asian Games in September 2023, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) announced on Tuesday.

The 19th edition of the Asian Games will now be held in Hang-



zhou, China from September 23 to October 8 next year. The OCA said on Tuesday that the new dates were chosen to avoid "conflict with other major international sporting

events". "The Task Force over the last two months held various discussions with the Chinese Olympic Committee, Hangzhou Asian

Games Organising Committee (HAGOC) and other stakeholders to find a window for the Games which did not conflict with other major international sporting events. The recommended dates by the Task Force were duly approved by the OCA EB," OCA said in a statement.

The 19th Asian Games was originally planned to be held in Hangzhou from September 10 to 25 in 2022, however, due to the COVID 19 global pandemic the Games were postponed by the OCA Executive Board (EB) on May 6 in 2022 and a "Task Force" was created by the EB to finalise the new dates for the Games.

Hangzhou lies less than 200 kilometres from the country's largest city Shanghai, which went through a months-long lockdown at the beginning of 2022.

The host city Hangzhou is close to Shanghai which went through several weeks of lockdown. **ANI**

Barcelona spend third most money on transfers: Report



MADRID: Barcelona have gone from being in the red to being the team to have spent the third most money on transfers in a span of two weeks, the Spanish MARCA reported.

It's all thanks to the famous economic levers of Joan Laporta, who has unlocked the financial liquidity needed to make big name signings.

It remains to be seen how he'll register these signings with La-Liga, who are inflexible with their financial fair play rules, or what this means for Barcelona's future, since they are selling part of their assets to get money that is being spent on players.

Barcelona have already signed Franck Kessie, Andreas Christensen, Ousmane Dembele, Raphinha and Robert Lewandowski and, while they can't be registered yet, there is still time until August 31.

The first three arrived for free, while Raphinha cost 55 million euros which could turn into 65m euros. Lewandowski was signed from Bayern Munich for 45m euros plus a potential 5m euros in add-ons, bringing the spending to 100m euros, which could turn into 115m euros.

That figure puts them as the third highest spending team in Europe. Manchester City lead the way at 108m euros, after signing Erling Haaland and Calvin Phillips for 60m euros and 48m

euros respectively. However, they've also brought in 120m euros via sales.

The second biggest spenders are Leeds, who have dished out 105m euros for six players: Brenden Aaronson (33m euros), Luis Sinisterra (28m euros), Tyler Adams (17m euros), Rasmus Kristensen (13m euros), Marc Roca (12m euros) and Darko Gyabi (6m euros).

Having spent 100m euros, Barcelona must now shift their focus to selling some of their current squad.

So far, the sales of Philippe Coutinho (20m euros) and Rey Manaj (2.5m euros) have brought in 22.5m euros, plus an additional 3m euros for Trincao's loan to Sporting CP. Barcelona are still waiting on whether Frenkie de Jong will agree to join Manchester United for 75m euros.

As long as he remains with the club, the Blaugrana will feel the pressure given they don't have many players that could command a similar fee.

Barcelona are signing players like clubs in the Premier League, where it seems there is no financial crisis.

Chelsea (97m euros), Arsenal (94m euros) and Tottenham (87m euros) have all spent sizeable sums on new recruits. Borussia Dortmund, Liverpool, Real Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain round out the top 10. **ONIA**

West Indies batter Simmons announces retirement from international cricket

ST JOHNS: West Indies opening batter Lendl Simmons announced his retirement from international cricket on Monday.

Taking to Twitter, the Windies cricketer, who last played an international game in October 2021 against South Africa, issued a statement announcing his retirement.

"When I wore the Maroon Colours of the West Indies Cricket for the first time on debut in ODIs on December 7th, 2006, little did I know that my international career would have lasted 16 years but my passion and love for the sport fuelled me every day. I am closing this chapter of International Cricket having played 144 matches and scoring 3,763 runs from all



formats. I want to thank the West Indies Cricket Team for the opportunities, and I wish the new crop of WI players all the best and to keep on believing in yourselves and your abilities," said Simmons in his statement.

"My family and friends are my

true motivators as they kept me inspired for so long. Now, I have the time to be one cheering them on the sidelines. I really hope that I represented them well because I did it for them. There were times when the odds were against me, but you stood tall alongside me. Of course,

the FANS, whenever we meet in person, cheering on in the stands or messages on social media...Despite the ups and downs, you all gave me the energy that was needed to bat on for so long," he added.

Simmons advised the youngsters not to be ashamed of dreaming big, saying that it takes a lot of determination, focus and a strong mind to get over the numerous hurdles, but it is all worth it in the end.

"Cricket allowed me to travel the world, meet great people and experience different cultures leaving uncountable and meaningful memories. I never cheated the game; I gave it 100 per cent of hard work and that is why I was able to play Internationally for almost 16 years," he continued. **ANI**



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R.O 6.500



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R.O 1.550



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R.O 0.850



Pepsi 6x330ml

R.O 1.250



Omani Eggs 30's

R.O 1.350



Puck Cheese Jar 2x500gm

R.O 2.200



Kellogg's Corn Flakes 2x375gm

R.O 1.790



Tide Detergent Powder 2x2.5kg

R.O 3.990



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R.O 19.990



Impex Drip Coffee Maker (CM 1915)

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by September 2022 reaching \$104.91, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by \$2.23 from the price of Monday, which was at \$102.68. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,240.21 points, up by 0.93 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.81 per cent at 458.13 points. Ahlia Insurance, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Arab Bank, down 9.3 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman's LNG exports rise 8% to 5.9mn tonnes in 2022 first half

The Sultanate exported 3 million tonnes of LNG during the first quarter of the current year against approximately 2.9 million tonnes during the second quarter of the previous year

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman's exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) during the first half of 2022 increased by 8 per cent to reach 5.9 million tonnes compared to 5.5 million tonnes during the first half of 2021.

Oman's exports of LNG during the first quarter of 2022 reached 3 million tonnes and in the second

quarter of 2022 exports reached 2.9 million tonnes, which is a figure that indicates Oman LNG company's plant is working at its full capacity of 11.4 million tonnes annually.

During the first six months of 2022, Oman's exports of LNG reached 0.9 to one million tonnes monthly.

New locations

Among the new locations which received Oman's gas is Puerto Rico in North America (67,000 tonnes). This shipment was delivered in June 2022.

Oman LNG company began a project that aims to ease congestion in the liquidation plant to increase exporting capacity by 1 to 1.5 million tonnes annually.

Major Asian markets seized the lion's share of Oman's gas exports. At the forefront of those markets was Korea, which received 2.25 million tonnes during the first half of 2022, constituting 38 per cent of exports. Japan received 1.51 million tonnes, constituting 26 per cent. Other markets included China, India, Taiwan and Thailand. - **ONA**



NEW LOCATIONS: Among the new locations which received Oman's gas is Puerto Rico in North America (67,000 tonnes). This shipment was delivered in June 2022.. - **ONA**

REPORT

Venture capital investments in Saudi Arabia up by 244%

RIYADH: The "H1 2022 Saudi Arabia Venture Capital Report" revealed that the funding deployed to Saudi Arabian start-ups grew by 244 per cent to a record-high of SAR 2.19 billion (\$ 584 M) in first half (H1) of 2022 versus H1 2021 and surpassing the total amount deployed in full-year 2021.

Although 2021 was a positive year for venture funding in the Kingdom, H1 2022 witnessed unprecedented VC deployment, setting a new record in the amount of VC funding, according to the report published by the venture data platform, MAGNITT, and sponsored by the Saudi Venture Capital (SVC).

Second-most active

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia advanced to become the second-most active VC market in Mena by the number of deals, which rose by 36 per cent to 79 deals in H1 2022 versus H1 2021 while maintaining its position as the second-most funded market in Mena over H1 2022.

A record-high of 88 investors participated in deals closed by Saudi startups in H1 2022, up 126 per cent versus H1 2021, where 42 per cent of the investors were from outside the Kingdom.

Co-investment

Commenting on the report, CEO and Board Member at SVC Dr Nabeel Koshak, said "The establishment of SVC in 2018 directly contributed to the development of the VC ecosystem in the Kingdom by stimulating investment in funds and co-investment in startups with angel investor groups and fund managers."

New initiatives

He further elaborated, "The Kingdom has achieved record growth in venture investment over the past few years, and within the framework of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, many new initiatives have been launched recently to stimulate venture investment and the growth of startups, in addition to the emergence of an increasing number of VC funds and angel investor groups, and we are proud to see distinguished entrepreneurs building startups capable of fast and high growth. Saudi Arabia has always been an attractive market for entrepreneurs and investors from the Kingdom and abroad due to the huge size of this market." - **SPA**

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



Treasury bills worth OMR90.50mn issued

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) raised OMR90.50 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday.

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 28 days, from July 20 until August 17, 2022.

The average accepted price reached 99.847 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.830 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 2.00073 per cent and 2.00386 per cent, respectively.

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

Central Bank of Oman (CBO) acts as the Issue Manager and provides the added advantage of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo).

It may be noted that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 2.25 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 2.75 per cent.

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

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

NAMA HOLDING

Pre-tender roadshow for Automated Meter Reading project organised

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Nama Holding organised a pre-tendering roadshow for Automated Meter Reading (AMR) project.

The roadshow was aimed to present a high-level briefing about Nama Group and its plan for AMR usage. It is also intended to provide enough time for interested parties to assess their capability and readiness and to discuss with their potential partners before purchasing tender documents. They also wanted to have feedback from interested parties and ensure all concerns are covered in the tender.

The participants/entities expressed interest in the project and were in line with the objective and size of the project.

The usage of AMR is expected to improve customers' experience by providing actual billing and other services such as live interaction and consumption monitoring. It will also enhance the response of companies to outages, provide timely billing, and loss reduction and improve network maintenance and planning.

The AMR project is in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 which is focused on keeping



pace with global developments and employing technology in delivering electricity-related services effectively and efficiently.

The project will support the development of smart, sustainable cities with advanced basic services, improve GDP per unit of energy use and increase the contribution of renewable energy.

AMR is an integrated system of equipment, communications, and information management sys-

tems for utilities to automatically collect consumption, diagnose the data from electricity meters and transfer that data to a central database for billing, troubleshooting, and analysis.

The implementation of this project will be based on the DB-FOT (design, build, finance, own, operate, and transfer) model, which includes smart meters installation, communication, and Headend System (HES).

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MARKET



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MSX index ends higher

Ahlia Insurance, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Arab Bank, down 9.3 per cent, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,240.21 points, up by 0.93 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.81 per cent at 458.13 points. Ahlia Insurance, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Arab Bank, down 9.3 per cent, was the top loser.

Shares of Galfar Engineering were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Oman Telecom were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 692 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR4.39 million, with more than 16.34 million shares changing hands. Out of 43 traded securities, 17 advanced, 9 declined, and 17 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR881,000 while domestic investors were net buyers for OMR521,000, followed by foreign investors for OMR360,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6,755.93 points, up 0.86 per cent. Prices of Ahlia Insurance, Takaful Oman, National Bank Oman,

Muscat Finance and Ahli Bank were up by 9.09 per cent, 4.55 per cent, 3.57 per cent, 3.03 per cent and 2.42 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman Arab Bank, Oman Qatar Insurance and Oman & Emirates Investment were down by 9.3 per cent, 4.5 per cent and 1.19 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,700.07 points, up 0.22 per cent. Prices of Galfar Engineering, Al Anwar Ceramics and Oman Fisheries were up by 3.51 per cent, 1.44 per cent and 0.92 per cent respectively. Prices of Raysut Cement and Gulf Mushroom Products were down by 2.6 per cent and 1.74 per cent respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.36 per cent before closing at 1,612.65 points. Prices of Dhofar Generating, Ooredoo, Oman National Engineering, Barka Desalination and Al Maha Marketing were up by 8.48 per cent, 5.88 per cent, 1.91 per cent, 0.72 per cent, and 0.57 per cent respectively. Prices of OIFC, Phoenix Power, Sembcorp Salalah and Al Jazeera Services were down by 2.31 per cent, 2 per cent, 1.43 per cent and 1.37 per cent respectively. — **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

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INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,241.61	4,201.05	4,240.21	4,201.05	39.16	0.93
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,758.14	6,698.50	6,755.93	6,698.50	57.42	0.86
Industry Index	5,710.18	5,687.51	5,700.07	5,687.51	12.56	0.22
Services Index	1,613.03	1,601.45	1,612.65	1,606.83	5.82	0.36
MSX Shariah Index	458.62	455.02	458.13	454.45	3.68	0.81
MSX TR INDEX	5,346.76	5,295.64	5,345.00	5,295.64	49.36	0.93
FINANCIAL TR IDX	7,071.63	7,009.23	7,071.63	7,009.23	62.40	0.89
SERVICES TR IDX	1,667.83	1,655.86	1,667.45	1,661.43	6.02	0.36
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	5,926.20	5,902.68	5,915.71	5,902.68	13.03	0.22

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
16,341,870	4,390,990	692	22,524,811,598	17	9	17	43

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, JULY 19

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	P/B VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM000007407	100	6	1	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.059	0.005	8.475	0.064	0.054	0.064	0.100	14,223.360
OM000003968	3,396,257	1,205,407	69	0.344	0.360	0.344	0.360	0.340	0.020	5.882	0.360	0.360	0.368	0.100	234,339,923
OM000001483	690,000	159,200	8	0.230	0.232	0.230	0.232	0.224	0.008	3.571	0.232	0.232	0.232	0.100	377,219,555
OM000002200	10,000	12,700	2	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.124	0.003	2.419	0.127	0.119	0.127	0.100	247,806,498
OM000001152	616,651	12,000	31	0.106	0.108	0.106	0.107	0.105	0.002	1.905	0.107	0.106	0.107	0.100	14,980,000
OM000003125	200,000	12,800	5	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.063	0.001	1.587	0.064	0.062	0.064	0.100	12,800,000
OM000002168	212,499	89,675	2	0.422	0.422	0.422	0.422	0.416	0.006	1.442	0.422	0.418	0.438	0.100	92,840,000
OM000002440	49,500	4,029	8	0.081	0.082	0.081	0.082	0.081	0.001	1.235	0.082	0.081	0.082	0.100	7,380,000
OM000003398	211,637	22,424	17	0.105	0.106	0.105	0.106	0.105	0.001	0.952	0.106	0.106	0.108	0.100	316,946,603
OM000003000	21,950	15,413	3	0.700	0.704	0.700	0.704	0.700	0.004	0.571	0.704	0.704	0.712	0.100	48,576,000
OM000002796	355,452	191,135	40	0.538	0.540	0.534	0.536	0.534	0.002	0.375	0.536	0.528	0.536	0.100	2,011,714,413
OM000001749	393,000	100,462	10	0.258	0.258	0.254	0.258	0.258	0.000	0.000	0.258	0.250	0.258	0.100	85,365,159
OM000002176	600	203	1	0.338	0.338	0.338	0.338	0.338	0.000	0.000	0.338	0.000	0.330	0.100	42,215,500
OM000003026	1,524,505	1,372,119	81	0.900	0.908	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.000	0.000	0.900	0.900	0.904	0.100	675,000,000
OM000003224	203,000	92,568	11	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.000	0.000	0.456	0.446	0.456	0.100	107,802,960
OM000002226	67,550	19,467	6	0.288	0.289	0.288	0.288	0.289	0.001	1.370	0.288	0.288	0.288	0.100	17,626,831
OM000001525	2,177,540	272,962	70	0.131	0.131	0.124	0.127	0.130	0.003	2.308	0.127	0.128	0.127	0.100	30,069,000
Total	17	10,219,241	3,636,059	365											
Parallel Market															
OM000006912	20,000	7,200	1	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.330	0.030	9.091	0.360	0.330	0.360	0.100	36,000,000
OM000004776	6,200	285	2	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.044	0.002	4.545	0.046	0.042	0.048	0.100	11,500,000
OM000003521	3,835,064	446,057	138	0.114	0.118	0.114	0.118	0.114	0.004	3.509	0.118	0.117	0.118	0.100	23,952,401
OM000001590	430,150	29,106	22	0.067	0.069	0.067	0.068	0.066	0.002	3.030	0.069	0.068	0.071	0.100	20,885,950
OM000001566	782,627	87,519	51	0.112	0.114	0.110	0.110	0.109	0.001	0.917	0.110	0.111	0.113	0.100	20,028,624
OM000000870	28,000	3,921	6	0.143	0.143	0.138	0.140	0.139	0.001	0.719	0.140	0.137	0.140	0.100	10,573,080
OM000001020	100	240	1	2.400	2.400	2.400	2.400	2.400	0.000	0.000	2.400	2.400	0.000	1.000	7,200,000
OM000001160	148,000	20,894	10	0.140	0.140	0.138	0.140	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.130	0.140	0.100	11,900,000
OM000001319	25,000	2,000	4	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	2,685,716
OM000001368	2,000	158	1	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.077	0.079	0.100	4,937,500
OM000001772	56,000	4,268	7	0.077	0.077	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.000	0.000	0.076	0.076	0.077	0.100	15,200,000
OM000002275	14,157	11,892	4	0.840	0.840	0.840	0.840	0.840	0.000	0.000	0.840	0.840	0.840	0.100	79,800,000
OM000002549	225,490	25,707	8	0.116	0.116	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.000	0.000	0.115	0.115	0.116	0.100	244,580,415
OM000004420	34,501	3,278	4	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.097	0.100	212,510,538
OM000004925	3,500	161	2	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.046	0.045	0.046	0.100	31,044,822
OM000007811	1,000	318	1	0.318	0.318	0.318	0.318	0.318	0.000	0.000	0.318	0.318	0.000	0.100	22,384,020
OM000001681	63,000	5,063	5	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.084	0.001	1.190	0.083	0.082	0.083	0.100	10,115,625
OM000004735	17,620	1,216	3	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.070	0.001	1.429	0.069	0.068	0.071	0.100	65,865,465
OM000002267	194,000	54,526	32	0.277	0.283	0.277	0.283	0.288	0.005	1.736	0.283	0.281	0.283	0.100	11,774,292
OM000005963	41,179	2,058	4	0.050	0.050	0.049	0.049	0.050	0.001	2.000	0.049	0.049	0.050	0.100	71,667,472
OM000000418	105,000	15,750	3	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.154	0.004	2.597	0.150	0.150	0.154	0.100	30,000,000
OM000006979	46,000	8,474	11	0.182	0.191	0.182	0.191	0.200	0.009	4.500	0.191	0.183	0.191	0.100	19,100,000
OM000005260	323	38	1	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.129	0.012	9.302	0.117	0.117	0.000	0.100	195,320,970
Total	23	6,074,978	729,929	321											

EXPANSION

National Finance opens its new branch at Al Musannah

MUSCAT: National Finance, Oman's leading finance company continues to invest in customer-centric initiatives, catered through an expanding and enhanced branch network across the Sultanate.

Adding yet another milestone to this journey, the company has recently inaugurated a new branch at Al Musannah. This location puts National Finance closer to its growing customer base, to enhance the ease and comfort of both existing and new customers.

Ali Al Mani, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, emphasised their 'customer-first' philosophy, saying, "Our branch network is a testament of our intent to stay connected with our existing customers across the country. Moreover, we want to make financial solutions more accessible to the people and our branch expansion plan enables us to do so."

The company's new approach to branch accessibility is evident

“Our branch network is a testament of our intent to stay connected with our existing customers across the country. Moreover, we want to make financial solutions more accessible to the people and our branch expansion plan enables us to do so

Ali Al Mani
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

through the latest branches located at Airport Heights, Seeb, Sandan and Salalah where all branches are testaments of the company's aim to improve the client's experience.

National Finance, established in

1987, has built a reputation as the market leader trusted by thousands of customers across the Sultanate. National Finance offers a wide range of products targeting individual customers, SMEs and corporates.

STOCK MARKET

Sensex rallies for 3rd straight day

MUMBAI: The Indian stock market's key indices rallied for the third consecutive day on Tuesday with the benchmark Sensex gaining 246 points led by good buying support in banking, infra, and energy stocks.

The 30 stock S&P BSE Sensex jumped 246.47 points or 0.45 per cent to close at 54,767.62 points against its previous day's close at 54,521.15 points. Earlier, the Sensex started the day in the negative at 54,251.88 points and slumped to a low of 54,232.82 points in the early morning trade. The index turned positive later in the day rising to a high of 54,817.52 points in the intra-day. This is the third straight day of rally in the benchmark Sensex. The index had gained 760.37 points or 1.41 per cent. The broader Nifty 50 of the National Stock Exchange rose 62.05 points or 0.38 per cent to 16,340.55 points against its previous day's close at 16,278.50 points. — **ANI**

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Combination of increased screen time and less time outdoors are factors that may put children at higher risk of developing myopia, or nearsightedness, which can lead to serious eye problems in the future.

PARENTS HAVE INACCURATE PERCEPTIONS OF ACTIVITIES THAT AFFECT THEIR CHILD'S EYE HEALTH

A study by the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health at the University of Michigan Health suggests that just half of the parents recognise that screen time has a major impact on their child's eye health.

"Many parents may not be aware of both the short and long-term health issues linked to excessive screen time, including its effect on children's eyes," said Mott Poll co-director Sarah Clark.

"Our findings suggest that some parents may have inaccurate perceptions of activities that affect their child's eye health and vision and how to minimise risks."

The nationally-representative report was based on responses from 2,002 parents of children ages 3-18 surveyed in April.

Some experts have pointed to the combination of increased screen time and less time outdoors as factors that may put children at higher risk for developing myopia, or nearsightedness, which can lead to serious eye problems in the future.

The rate of nearsightedness

in children has increased dramatically in the past 30 years.

Research is ongoing but studies suggest outdoor time protects against myopia.

"Parents should encourage at least one to two hours of outdoor time per day because exposure to natural light benefits eye development," Clark said.

"Parents should enforce family rules to ensure children have a sustained period of non-screen time during the day. This is especially important during summer months when they're off from school and may have less structured downtime."

Some research has also indicated associations between working up close — like reading or using a tablet — increasing the odds of myopia.

"It's important to time to think about myopia risks for children because kids with this condition often become more nearsighted over time," said Olivia Killeen, M.D., an ophthalmologist at U-M Health Kellogg Eye Center who consulted on the report.

"The age of myopia onset is the most significant predictor of severe myopia later in life."

Using eyewear to minimise risks to children's eyes

Another overlooked area of eye health — protecting little eyes from intense sunlight.

Less than a third of parents polled say wearing sunglasses when outdoors has a major impact on children's vision and eye health, with just two in five having their child wear eyewear when outdoors.

In fact, when children are outdoors, they should wear sunglasses or wide-brimmed hats to decrease the risks of ultraviolet radiation damage, which can contribute to eye problems in older age, Clark says.

"While parents often make sure their children's skin is protected with sunscreen, they may not think about protecting their eyes from the sun as well," Clark said.

Many parents polled also skip steps that help minimise eye injuries during activities that include a risk of objects hitting the child's eye at high speed or force, with less than a third of parents saying their child wears protective glasses or goggles during contact sports. Clark recommends parents seek advice

from their child's health provider for safe and comfortable eyewear for sports like lacrosse, tennis, baseball and softball, and basketball.

However, most parents polled say children and teens wear protective glasses or goggles when doing activities that pose a risk of eye injuries, including working with tools and playing shooting games like Nerf guns or paintball.

After time spent on screens, the most common factors parent identify as impacting children's vision and eye health are reading in poor light, how close children sit to the TV/screen, diet and blue light from screens.

"Some parents may still follow advice from past generations on protecting kids' eyes," Clark said. "Reading in poor light or sitting close to the TV can cause eye fatigue or strain, but they will not do any permanent damage or long-term eye problems."

Less than a third of parents say children wear glasses that block blue light. While the amount of blue light does not damage the eyes, it may impact circadian rhythms and make it harder for children to fall asleep.

Experts recommend children stop blue light screen use at least one hour before bedtime.

Four in five parents report their child has had a vision test during a visit to the pediatrician or family doctor while more than a fourth say kids were tested at school or daycare.

Most parents report their child's health insurance covers the full or partial cost of visits to an eye doctor while 9 per cent say they are not covered and 7 per cent are unsure.

Parents who report no coverage for eye doctor visits are less likely than parents with full or partial coverage to say their child has seen an eye doctor in the last two years.

One in seven parents say their child has not had a vision test or seen an eye doctor in the past two years.

"Children should get vision tests at least every two years to make sure eyes are developing properly," Clark said. "It's important to identify and treat vision problems as early as possible because undiagnosed issues can lead to serious eye conditions in the future, including permanent vision loss." —ANI



IN-PICTURES



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Azerbaijan, EU ink deal on energy partnership to double gas supplies to Europe
Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev (third from left) meets with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen (fourth from right) in Baku, Azerbaijan. **Xinhua**



Chinese performance dazzles at Edinburgh Festival Carnival
An artist performs during the Edinburgh Festival Carnival in Edinburgh, Britain, July 17, 2022. More than 800 performers from around the world, including over 300 from China, brought back the spectacle of the Edinburgh Festival Carnival, as the main thoroughfare of Edinburgh, Scotland's capital, was filled with music and colour. **Xinhua**



Highlights of fashion show in Algiers, Algeria
A model presents a creation during a fashion show in Algiers, Algeria. **Xinhua**



Kenya's Kipyegon wins second 1500m world title
Kenya's Faith Kipyegon celebrates after the women's 1,500m final at the World Athletics Championships Oregon22 in Eugene, Oregon, the United States. **Xinhua**



Zishui bridge along Changde-Yiyang-Changsha railway under construction
Aerial picture shows a track-delivery vehicle passing through the Zishui super major bridge along Changde-Yiyang-Changsha railway, in central China's Hunan Province. **Xinhua**



Supermoon seen around world
A supermoon is seen from the Great Pyramid of Giza, Egypt. **Xinhua**



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ROUND-UP



Indulge in a Lexus ownership experience with exclusive benefits

Lexus has been at the forefront offering customers some of the finest luxury vehicles on the road today

MUSCAT: Lexus enthusiasts have a good opportunity to own their favourite Lexus and benefit with Service 3 Years / 30,000 km (Whichever is earlier), and 1 Year Free Registration. (Conditions apply. Visit any Lexus showroom for details).

Lexus has been at the forefront offering customers some of the finest luxury vehicles on the road today. Equipped with advanced features and technology and impressive luxury, Lexus vehicles make every experience memorable.

In Oman, customers can choose from an inspiring range. It includes, the NX which is equipped with two powertrain options.

A newly developed inline 4-cylinder, 2.4 L turbocharged engine that produces 275 hp and 6000 RPM and is paired to an 8-speed Direct-Shift automatic transmission (8AT). Meanwhile, the new hybrid-electric system combines two power sources consisting of a 2.5-liter petrol engine and two electric motors producing 240 hp. The hybrid-electric system is also mated to a Direct Shift Con-



tinuously Variable Transmission (CVT).

The Lexus UX has a front-wheel drive configuration and is powered by a high-efficiency 2.0 litre, four-cylinder engine, which is coupled with a Direct Shift Continuously Variable Transmission (DCVT).

The five-seat Lexus RX350 is equipped with a 3.5-liter V6 that is mated to an eight speed automatic transmission. The RX is also avail-

able in a 3-row 7-seater option. Also available is the Lexus RX450h, a hybrid version featuring a 3.5-liter Atkinson-cycle engine.

The Lexus GX460 is perfect for families who seek no-holds-barred adventure on their days off, yet also desire an easy-driving, comfortable and versatile luxury SUV for the work week. The Lexus GX460 features a 4.6L engine that provides outstanding power and

responsive performance.

In sedans, the range includes the IS350. This sleek and stylish powerful sedan is equipped with a 3.5-litre engine that's paired to an 8-speed automatic transmission. The turbocharged IS300 features a 2.0-liter twin-scroll turbocharged inline four-cylinder engine with intercooler that generates 241 Hp.

The flagship LS which is an inspiring luxury sedan, is available

in 3.5-liter V6 Multi Stage Hybrid System producing 354 hp, a 3.5-liter V6 naturally aspirated Atkinson-cycle producing 311 hp and 38.7 Kg.M Torque, and a 3.5-liter twin-turbo V6 engine producing 415 hp and 61.2 Kg.M of Torque.

Lexus ES emotional design elevated by the new design front grille is a thrilling drive personality imbued by two powertrain options. ES350 is powered by a 3.5 litre, 24

valve, V6 engine that produces 298 hp and 36.3 kg.m. of torque. While the ES250 is powered by high efficiency 2.5 litre, 16-valve DOHC engine that produces 204 hp and 24.8 kg.m of torque.

In Oman, every Lexus vehicle comes with special benefits and privileges such as Manufacturer's Warranty of 4 years/100,000 Kms (whichever is earlier) and 24 hours on-road assistance from AAA.

FULLY INTEGRATED RESORT VILLAGE

Muscat Bay is now closer with opening of new downtown showroom at Shatti Waterfront

MUSCAT: Muscat Bay, Oman's only fully integrated resort village recently announced the opening of its new showroom in the heart of Muscat city for easy access to impress even the most discerning buyer.

The new location, at the Shatti Waterfront boasts a new show space and office with a luxurious meeting space to present various new promotions on offer to clients and partners.

Within its varied offerings, Muscat Bay Waterfront office will also showcase several deals on the global luxury hospitality brand, Jumeirah Muscat Bay Hotel – the Village Resort's latest addition.

On the occasion, the Muscat Bay team hosted the Brokers Privilege Club event for its growing sales partnership network to celebrate Muscat Bay's new hotel launch and the village resort's growing sales momentum. The Club is an added advantage provided to brokers and aims at developing & strengthening ties between Muscat Bay and the sales partners. It enables sales partners to explore and enjoy benefits of the exceptional amenities & experiences on offer at the prestigious, international resort community. In addition to its headquarters at Muscat Bay Experience Centre, the new office space is already attracting



new leads, and new awareness to buyers and sales partners.

Jawad Sajid, Vice President Sales at Muscat Bay noted, "We are proud to host our partners at our newest addition and focus on a continued sales growth curve. The decision to expand and open a second office at the Waterfront is a logical step in our business growth strategy. It is critical that we meet clients where their needs can be served most effectively. As part of the strategy to have the best offerings in a constantly evolving marketplace, Muscat Bay has created a more diversified sales & marketing

resource base to service the different facets of an Integrated Tourism Complex: individual luxury properties, investor-aligned properties, and mixed-used assets. For example, we now have a dedicated Business Development Executive purely serving the needs of our sales partners, locally, regionally and internationally."

Muscat Bay's new luxury waterfront office destination will soon be signing a new luxury transfer service to further enhance its frictionless resort sales offering for interested clients and sales partners.

Muscat Bay's select residential

range includes The Wajd Senses Grand Villa Collection, regal 5-bedroom palatial dwellings located on the hilltop overlooking the bay below; Nameer's opulent Island Villa Collection, Zaha's cool Clubhouse Waterfront & Parkland Villas, the Sky Garden Penthouses, as well as a selection of luxury 2 and 1 bed lifestyle residences that provide fantastic investor returns. Only a few residences from the low density, 260-luxury portfolio remain unsold given the harmonious setting and resort services on offer, only 20 minutes from downtown Muscat.

NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN



NBO offers debit card customers chance to win Fifa World Cup match tickets

MUSCAT: National Bank of Oman (NBO) is offering Visa Debit Card customers the chance to win an all expenses paid trip for two to attend a Fifa World Cup Qatar 2022 group stage match, courtesy of Visa.

Until August 20, customers will receive one free entry into the prize draw for every purchase of OMR 20 or more using their Visa Debit Card. The prize includes two match tickets, return flights to Doha, accommodation and much more.

Maha Al Raisi, Head of Product at NBO Retail Banking, said, "We continue to pursue partnerships that unlock opportunities for our customers and cater specifically to their needs and lifestyle preferences. The Fifa World Cup is one of the world's biggest sporting events and for football fans, its the trip of a lifetime that they can share with a friend or loved one, thanks to our partnership with Visa. The draw is also a great way to motivate customers to use our secure payments platforms while adding extra value to their everyday purchases."

To be eligible for the prize draw, customers must spend OMR20 or more in one transaction on their eligible Visa Debit Cards. Plus, customers who replace their existing debit card with a Visa card during the campaign period will get one extra chance in the draw, on activation and first use of card.

We continue to pursue partnerships that unlock opportunities for our customers and cater specifically to their needs and lifestyle preferences. The draw is also a great way to motivate customers

Maha Al Raisi
Head of Product at NBO Retail Banking

You can replace your Debit Card with a Visa Debit Card, by visiting NBO's self-service kiosk located at the bank's headquarters in Azaiba, log into the mobile banking app or contact the Call Centre on 24770000 where a specialist customer adviser will be available to assist.

ONLINE EXAM

40 College of Engineering-NU students qualify at first screening level hosted by Eidaad team

MUSCAT: For the current year Eidaad programme, the first screening online exam was scheduled between May 22 to May 28.

We understand that more than 850 students from 23 universities/colleges in Oman attended the online assessment of the Eidaad programme. The online exam hosted by Eidaad is considered one of the toughest competitive exams in the region because it tested cognitive skills and the thriving index of the applicants though a well-developed assessment tool.

This assessment was developed to meet industry standards and to measure general mental ability, capacity for critical thinking and numerical reasoning.



As per the criteria set for the EIDAAD programme, 97 students across 9 engineering disciplines viz; Process Operations and Maintenance, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Quantity Surveying

and Cost Management, Computer Engineering, Electrical Power Engineering, Electronics and Communications Engineering, and IT Management for Business attempted the first screening online exam. Forty students of CoE suc-

cessfully passed the first level of screening through the entrance test. (50% mark was set as a minimum threshold to pass this test). These 40 students who cleared the first screening level will now progress to the next round of screening and allotment in the industry. All students in this internship program are expected to start in September 2022, after completing the necessary formalities.

Eidaad scheme is a unique initiative where engineering students are placed in the industry for one year on job training for acquiring practical skills. This internship program exposes students to relevant industries and transforms them to be ready for employment.



ROUND-UP



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Luxurious crossover Changan CS85 is easy to own at low EMI

Redefining the definition of smoothness, CS85 coupe SUV is outfitted with turbocharged direct injection engine that produces 224 HP and a maximal torque of 360 Nm, partied with an 8-speed automatic transmission, while accelerating from zero to 100 km /h in just 7.5 seconds and four driving modes

MUSCAT: Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC (AGAE), which is part of Bahwan International Group, is offering an EMI starting from OMR 156 for eight years on the 2023 Changan CS85 Coupe a sporty crossover designed SUV which reflects one's personality. A manufacturer's warranty of 6 years or 250,000 kms (whichever is earlier) is available on the model.

Redefining the definition of smoothness, CS85 coupe SUV is outfitted with turbocharged direct injection engine that produces 224 HP and a maximal torque of 360 Nm, partied with an 8-speed automatic transmission, while accelerating from zero to 100 km /h in just 7.5 seconds and four driving modes.

Changan CS85 Coupe with elegant design and characteristic

dexterity is now available at low EMI 156 for 8 year loan tenure through Bank Muscat auto loan division; subject to finance approval from bank only; terms and conditions apply.

Changan CS85 premium coupe SUV, the model stands out from its counterparts through its lustrous appearance, focus on high quality and application of latest technology with radar features.

A spokesperson for Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment (AGAE) said, "We are pleased to extend special EMI and warranty benefits on 2023 model Changan CS85, the luxurious crossover coupe that combines the dynamic handling of an SUV with the sporty aesthetics of a coupe to give owners the best of both worlds. Style and fashion will be the new constant in your life once you own this sporty coupe. Blue Core Powertrain Technology based on the principles of power, clean and quiet provides highly efficient and energy saving performance."

With all the vehicles' key parts originating from the world's leading suppliers, the CS85 Coupe of-



fers top grade enjoyment from every angle - visual, tactile, auditory and safety - coming together to create the perfect driving experience. With its wide body and muscular shoulders accentuated by horizontal contours that sweeps through the sides, the Changan CS85 makes a sporty style statement.

The sleek exterior styling is matched by luxurious interior crafted using high-quality materials and supported by high-tech features. Equipped with innovative driving technologies and radar based features, the Changan

CS85 keeps owners at ease with everything under control when on the road. It has features including 360° HD Camera, blind area monitoring, forward collision warning, adaptive cruise control, lane departure warning.

19" Alloy Wheels, LED Headlamps with LED DRLs, Auto Headlamps, Follow me Home Function, Matrix Fog Lamps, Roof Rails, Quad Exhaust Pipes in Chrome, Panoramic Sunroof, Electrically Adjustable, Folding ORVMs with Heating and Memory.

The overall interior style of Changan's CS85 coupe is dynamic, elegant, and luxurious. The interior decoration of the car applies double real stitching lines. It has sport seats in leather, 8-way and 4-way electrically adjustable driver and co-driver seat, seat heating and ventilation, lumbar support, seat courtesy function, 64 colour ambient lighting, illuminated door sills, parking simulation display, drive select mode (sports, economy, snow) and rear AC vents.

Changan CS85 has advanced safety features include ESP (ABS +TCS) + EBD, Hill Hold Assist, Electronic

Parking Brake Hill Descent Control, Front, Side & Curtain Airbags, Front & Rear Sensors with Screen & IC Display, Adaptive Cruise Control, Lane Departure Warning, 360° HD Camera, Forward Collision Warning, Automatic Emergency Braking, Blind Area Monitoring, Lane Change Assist, Reverse Lateral Warning and TPMS.

A host of infotainment attributes includes 10.25" LCD Instrument Cluster, 12.3" Infotainment Touch Screen, navigation, Bluetooth, Front & rear USB, Mirror Link, Radio, 8 Speakers, Multi Screen Interaction and Memory Card Slot

Cruise Control, Keyless Entry, Electric Tailgate Opening, Vehicle Control (Forward and Reverse) with Remote Control, One Touch Up-Down Movement for all four windows are some of significant features of the vehicle.

Engine: 2.0L Turbo GDI, Power: 224 hp, Torque: 360 Nm, Transmission: 8 Speed AT, Drive Type: 2WD, Dimensions (LxWxH): 4720x1845x1665 mm, Wheelbase: 2705 mm, Fuel Tank - 58 Litres

The premium automotive brand Changan has received overwhelming response among the Oman customers. Changan Automobile boasts of a comprehensive portfolio of range of products including Sedan, Crossovers and SUVs like Changan Alsvin - Entry level sedan, EADO Plus - Family Sedan, CS35 PLUS Crossover, CS75 Plus Crossover, CS85 Coupe, CS95 7 Seater 4WD and Changan Hunter Double Cabin Pickups (Gasoline and Diesel variants available)

Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment which is part of Bahwan International Group has set up a spacious and state-of-the-art showroom in Al Qurum and service centre in Ghala, Muscat. AGAE has already tied up for Periodic Maintenance Services in many cities including Salalah, Sohar, Sur, Nizwa, Ibra and Barkat etc. Changan Oman offers 6 years or 250,000 kms manufacturer warranty on all passenger vehicles in Oman.

CELEBRATION

Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah marks its 1st anniversary

MUSCAT: Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah marked its 1st anniversary in a glittering celebration event which witnessed motivational and encouraging speeches by the management and a series of performances as a part of cultural event.

All the doctors were felicitated with moments to recognise and appreciate their contributions, on World Doctors Day. On this occasion an anniversary special discount card was launched.

Introduction of Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah was an important milestone which was achieved in the challenging times of COVID-19 pandemic. Considering the immense need of quality healthcare facilities for the people of Mabelah and surrounding regions, the facility was completed in record time by overcoming many challenges. This facility hosts all major specialties and advanced diagnostic facilities.

In his welcome address Hareesh M T, branch manager of Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah congratulated and welcomed everyone on this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. P A Mohammed, Managing Director said that we are happy with the quality healthcare services delivered at Badr Al Samaa, Mabelah. He said we have already introduced many advanced modalities and we'll con-



tinue to upgrade this facility by introducing new medical programs. He congratulated and appreciated all the staff of the centre for their hard work and commitment.

Abdul Latheef, Managing Director said since we started the centre during the pandemic, the challenges were many. But we are satisfied to successfully complete one year. He said in growing patient expectations we have also grown in our

service standards and added to the patient satisfaction to a greater extent. This medical centre is getting referrals from other parts of Oman which speaks a lot about the quality of medical professionals and care.

Moideen Bilal, Executive Director said the staff of Mabelah branch has worked extraordinarily to serve the needs of the growing patients. He congratulated all of the staff for winning the trust and

confidence of patients and making Badr Al Samaa as their preferred healthcare partner.

Firasath Hassan, Executive Director said Badr Al Samaa is not just one of the best medical centres of Badr Al Samaa group but of whole private healthcare. He said with the growing population around the centre, we are also upscaling our facility and hiring more skilled workforce to deliver the

best services.

Sameer PT, Chief Executive Officer appreciated the board of directors for setting up a world-class facility in Mabelah and recruiting best doctors, nurses and support staff for this centre. He congratulated everyone for achieving this important milestone and appreciated the doctors for handling many complicated cases which gives the hope to take this centre to higher levels.

Jacob Oommen, COO said the centre started in peak time of COVID-19 pandemic and irrespective of the challenges the centre managed to deliver the responsibilities of a dependable healthcare facility.

Alwin George, Chief Financial Officer said it is a moment of pride for all of us to achieve this one year of successful healthcare services. He congratulated everyone on this occasion.

K O Devassy, Chief Marketing Officer said that the branch has done very well in terms of delivering quality healthcare services. He urged the staff of the branch to uphold the values of Badr Samaa of keeping patient care above everything.

Dr. Laith Al Haj Hazza, Medical Director and Cardiologist in this thanking note thanked everyone present there. On behalf of the staff of Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah he reassured the management for continuously raising the standards of healthcare service delivery.

Divya Anu, Assistant Manager anchored the formal program. The formal program was followed by cultural programs which witnessed electrifying entertainment performances like singing, dancing and acting by the staff of Badr Al Samaa Medical Centre, Mabelah. This session was anchored by Senet Varkey.





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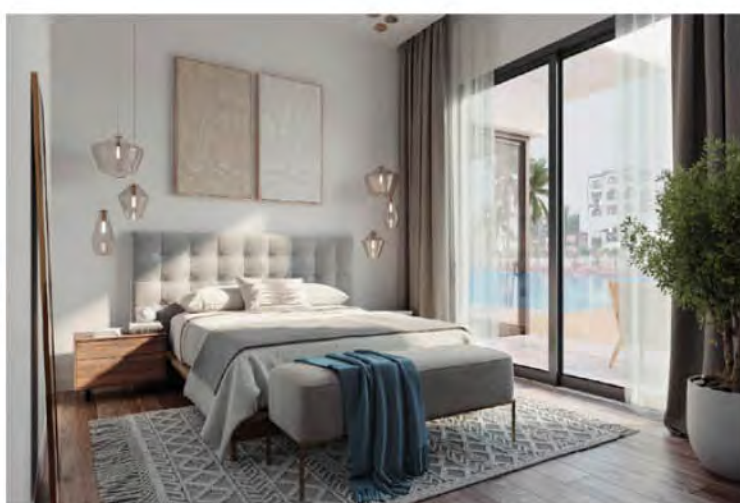
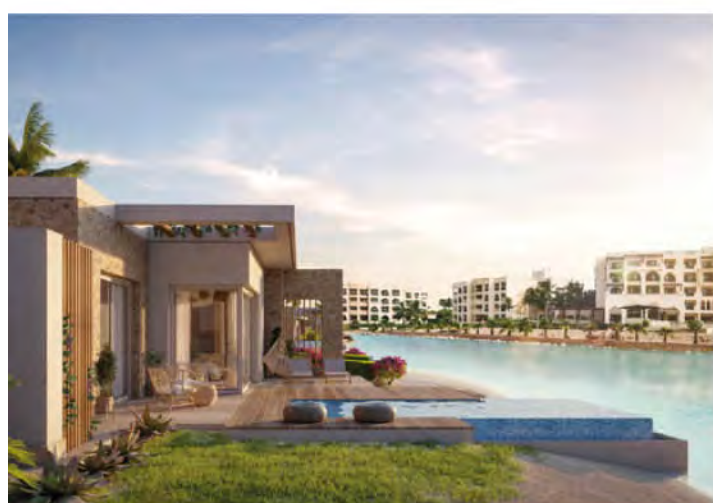
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