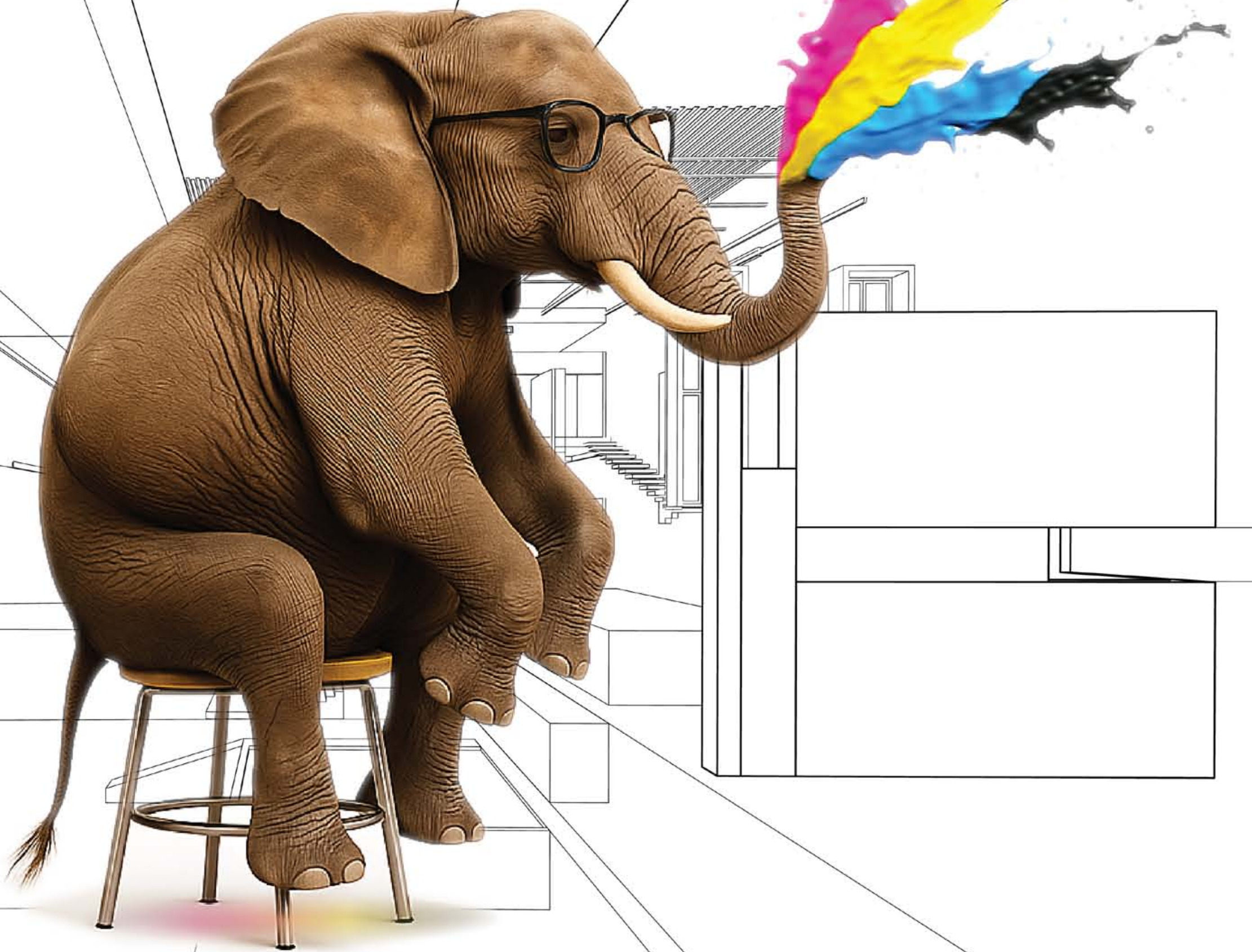




Showrooms: **Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940, Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930, Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920**

We make your Business bigger than your problems.



We get you ahead on

- Booth production
- Event conceptualisation
- Event management

Wait, there's more

- Large format digital printing
- Flex banners
- Vinyl stickers
- Back drops with metal frames
- Wooden standalones
- Backlit flex banners



PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....	12:07pm
Asr.....	3:08pm
Maghrib.....	5:28pm
Isha.....	6:44pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:22am

RAM implents plan as per Royal vision to train competent national cadres

The programme addressed accelerating geo-economic transformations that have been redefining leadership, competitiveness, and growth models globally and nationally

MUSCAT: Under the patronage of Dr. Said bin Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy, the Royal Academy of Management (RAM), in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy, on Monday concluded the Governorates' Planning and Economic Capacity Building Programme.

Marking a decisive shift in the approach to national development, from managing services to strategically shaping the economy, the programme was implemented in alignment with the Royal vision of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, aiming to cultivate competent national leaders capable of contributing effectively to the objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

The programme aimed to build strategic economic foresight and equip national leaders with analytical depth and adaptive capacity to interpret global and regional economic shifts, re-engineer development priorities, and design future-ready economic pathways at the governorate level. In doing



so, the programme addressed accelerating geo-economic transformations that have been redefining leadership, competitiveness, and development models both globally and nationally.

This approach reflects a broader national transition toward leadership models that sustain resilience, competitiveness, and long-term economic value creation.

As economic complexity intensifies and traditional development paradigms rapidly erode, the programme underscores a fundamental reality: Effective leadership today is no longer defined by authority alone, but by the ability to understand, anticipate, and navigate the dynamics of the new

economy. Leaders who fail to grasp these transformations, regardless of their mandate, are increasingly unable to translate authority into a real impact.

Dr. Ali bin Qasim Al Lawati, Chairman of the Royal Academy of Management, said that the programme embodies the Royal vision of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, which places the development of empowered, future-ready leadership at the heart of national development.

He underlined that the current and upcoming phases of Oman's development journey require a new calibre of leaders capable not only of managing institutions but also of comprehending and navi-

gating the growing complexity of the global and regional economic environment.

According to him, economic capacity building goes beyond conventional skill development. Instead, it represents a strategic investment in competencies and enablers that equip leaders with the ability to decode the dynamics of the new economy and engage deeply with the requirements of specialised economic sectors, which in turn enhance the nation's comparative advantages and long-term competitiveness.

The programme was designed as more than a traditional training initiative, positioning it instead as an integrated foundational platform for re-examining both local and global economic realities and for engineering sustainable development pathways that transcend short-term interventions.

Dr. Ali Al Lawati also noted that this approach reinforces the principle that economic leadership empowerment is a cornerstone of the national economic diversification strategy, ensuring coherence among development initiatives, decentralisation objectives, and the overarching national agenda.

He further highlighted that the

world is undergoing profound and accelerated economic transformations that are reshaping established models of development and competitiveness.

Therefore, national resilience and adaptability are no longer determined solely by the availability of resources, but by national leadership endowed with economic foresight, leaders who can anticipate change, interpret complex economic shifts, and transform global and local challenges into sustainable development opportunities.

Dr. Nasser bin Rashid Al Maawali, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Economy, emphasised that implementing the Governorates' Planning and Economic Capacity Building Programme reflects an integrated government approach to advancing decentralisation and strengthening the role of governorates in defining and prioritising their development agendas.

He noted that the programme engaged 50 participants from across the governorates and used a comprehensive methodology that effectively combined theoretical foundations with practical application, while providing an interactive platform for dialogue and the exchange of expertise among participants.

Dr. Al Maawali added that the programme's evaluation results were highly positive, underscoring the quality of its content, delivery, and overall impact by enhancing participants' knowledge and professional capabilities.

Capacity development

He emphasised that the Ministry of Economy, in collaboration with its partners, will continue investing in capacity development in administrative and economic decentralisation and equipping governorates with best practices that support sustainable development, accelerate local growth, and enhance the competitiveness of gov-

ernorates nationwide.

The programme served as a specialised capacity-building framework to enhance the capabilities of national leaders and strengthen institutional competencies in governorates and executive entities.

Aligned with international standards and designed to support integrated development efforts across the governorates, it focused on boosting skills in economic and development planning, budgeting, performance indicator formulation, and the application of best practices, models, and tools.

The programme equipped participants with knowledge, competencies and skills in local administration and its role in achieving economic decentralisation and governorate development, as well as in contract management, economic analysis, strategic planning, and investment promotion, enabling them to develop comprehensive frameworks that support the governorates' strategy.

The programme also focused on aligning various initiatives with stakeholders to strengthen cross-sectoral integration, and introduced project evaluation and selection frameworks with implementation mechanisms in line with governorates' development priorities.

Its delivery combined specialised learning modules, field visits, collaborative team and applied projects, and strategic presentations, ensuring a practical focus and measurable skill development.

Through the launch of strategic initiatives and programmes aligned with the requirements of key sectors across the Sultanate of Oman, RAM continues to strengthen its pioneering role in empowering national leadership.

These efforts aim to accelerate sustainable development and enhance institutional efficiency, reflecting RAM's commitment to contributing to comprehensive national development. -ONA

ITTIHAD 2025

RNO takes part in live missile and cannon firing in Gulf naval exercise

KUWAIT: The activities of the Joint Gulf Naval Exercise "Ittihad 2025" concluded on Monday in the State of Kuwait.

The exercise was hosted by the Mohammed Al Ahmad Naval Base with the participation of the naval forces of the GCC countries, including vessels from the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO). The exercise commenced on 1 December 2025.

The exercise activities included the execution of live-fire missile and cannon exercises, and a number of joint naval drills and operations, in addition to accompanying programs that contributed to enhancing integration and unified military action among the participating forces. This exercise, which embodied the depth of defense co-operation among GCC states and the unity of objective and destiny, demonstrated the technical pro-



fessionalism and high capability for joint action of the Gulf naval forces in different operational environments. The exercise serves as one of the strategic training

drives aimed at enhancing the regional sea defense system, protecting national interests in the economic waters of the GCC states, raising the level of combat

readiness, enhancing joint maritime security and unifying operational concepts through realistic field scenarios that simulate potential challenges. -ONA

UN CONVENTION

EA organises workshop on compliance with the climate change agreement

MUSCAT: Acting in cooperation with the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Environment Authority is organizing a 4-day regional workshop on compliance with the principles of the UN Convention, with effect from yesterday.

The workshop, which focuses on topics related to Article 6 and carbon pricing, brings together representatives of government departments concerned.

The workshop aims to enhance regional interaction and cooperation among member states towards the implementation of the UN Convention's provisions in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.

It also seeks to address key gaps in the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, which entered into full force after the 29th Conference of the Parties to the



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The regional workshop serves as an interactive platform to promote genuine partnerships between member states and experts from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The workshop deals with measures of assessing carbon pricing globally, with emphasis on the

Middle East and North Africa region (MENA).

It will analyse the main trends endorsed by countries in the MENA region, besides aligning carbon pricing with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), reviewing regional experiences in dealing with Article 6 mechanisms and exchanging expertise about countries' developing carbon pricing policies to support their respective NDCs.

It is worth noting that the regional workshop is in pursuance of the Sultanate of Oman's preparations to host "Oman Climate Week" from 14 to 16 September 2026.

The event is envisaged to unite leaders and experts from around the world with a view to cooperation about environmental commitments and combating all types of environment pollution. -ONA

HARMONISATION OF AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES

Workshop aims to update Oman's National Air Navigation Plan



INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS: The 4-day event is organised by the Civil Aviation Authority in cooperation with the Regional Office of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) for the Middle East region. -ONA

MUSCAT: A specialised workshop on the Global Air Navigation Plan (National Plan) commenced in Muscat yesterday.

The 4-day event is organised by the Civil Aviation Authority in cooperation with the Regional Office of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) for the Middle East region.

The workshop aims to support the Sultanate of Oman's efforts in developing and updating the National Air Navigation Plan in alignment with relevant global and regional plans, and to enhance the harmonisation of air navigation services with best practices and approved international standards.

Participants in the workshop include a number of specialists and experts from the Middle East region in the aviation sector, along with representatives from air navigation service providers, airport operators, national airlines, and relevant government entities.

This participation contributes to the exchange of expertise and

the enhancement of institutional integration in this vital field.

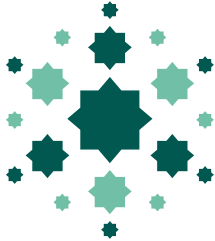
The workshop features discussion sessions and specialized technical presentations addressing the strategic framework for air navigation, the role of the national plan in improving operational efficiency, ensuring aviation safety and security, promoting environmental sustainability, and increasing airspace capacity.

This aligns with the requirements of growth in global air traffic.

Strategic planning

The Civil Aviation Authority confirmed that organising this workshop is part of its ongoing efforts to develop the air navigation system in the Sultanate of Oman and support strategic planning for the civil aviation sector.

This contributes to achieving sustainable development goals and strengthening the Sultanate of Oman's position as a reliable regional hub for aviation and air navigation services. -ONA



ظفار الإسلامي
DHOFAR ISLAMIC

LIVE YOUR DREAM LIFE TODAY
with profit rates starting from

3.49%

on goods financing.



www.dhofarislamic.com | 24775777

*Terms and Conditions Apply.

Consensus reached on disputed articles in key legislative drafts

Following deliberation, the Joint Committees of State and Shura Council successfully achieved consensus on disputed articles



Ministers. The meeting was held in accordance with the provisions of Article (49) of the Council of Oman Law, issued by Royal Decree No. (7/2021). The draft laws under discussion were: "Amendments to Certain Provisions of the Law on Arbitration in Civil and Commercial Disputes," originally issued by Royal Decree No. 47/97, and "The Real Estate Registry Law."

The number of articles requiring reconciliation for the Arbitration Law amendments stood at seven. For the Real Estate Registry Law, the divergent articles totalled sixteen. The differences encompassed provisions within the original draft laws as well as new articles introduced by the Shura Council.

Following deliberation, the joint committees successfully achieved consensus on all disputed articles. A final report detailing the agreed-upon text will now be prepared for presentation and discussion at a forthcoming joint plenary session of the State Council and the Shura Council.

— ONA



Programme aligns with Vision 2040's focus

Nabhan bin Rashid Al Maawali, Dean of the Higher Institute of the Judiciary, said: "The programme aligns with Vision 2040's strategic focus on legislation, oversight, and judicial development, ensuring that Oman's legal environment supports institutional and economic transformation."

Sheikh Dr. Yousef bin Salem Al Fulaiti, General Supervisor of Legislation, Judiciary, and Oversight Priorities at the Follow-up unit, emphasised the programme's role in promoting legislative coordination, linking laws to development projects, and assessing their social, environmental, and economic impact. Participants will also gain practical skills to review existing legislation, define desired outcomes, and incorporate stakeholder feedback, enabling continuous improvement of Oman's legal framework. "By combining legislative reform with Vision 2040's strategic goals, Oman aims to build a modern, agile legal system capable of supporting sustainable development, investment, and long-term national transformation," he added.

A'Rustaq Hospital accredited as 'Mother, Baby-Friendly'

A'RUSTAQ: A'Rustaq Hospital on obtained accreditation as a Mother and Baby-Friendly Hospital from the Ministry of Health, making it the third hospital in the Sultanate of Oman to receive "Baby-Friendly Hospital" accreditation and the second to receive "Mother-Friendly Hospital" accreditation. This national achievement adds to the record of excellence in the health sector. The ceremony was held under the patronage of Eng. Masoud Said Al Hashmi, Governor of South Al Batinah, in the presence of Dr. Nasser Abdullah Al Shukaili, Director General of Health Services in South Al Batinah Governorate, and a number of officials. The ceremony's programme included an introductory film about South Al Batinah Governorate, highlighting its geographical and service components and its role in supporting health and community development. The programme also featured



a scientific presentation titled "Breastfeeding: Treatment Before Nutrition," delivered by Dr. Ahmed Abdullah Al Farsi, Consultant in Pediatric Intensive Care at A'Rustaq Hospital. The presentation addressed the health and therapeutic benefits of breastfeeding and its positive impact on boosting a child's immunity and preventing numerous diseases. During the ceremony, a special film titled "A'Rustaq Hospital: Friendly to Mother and Child," was screened. It reviewed the hospital's journey and its efforts in implementing the initiative's standards, as well as the role of health personnel in supporting the mother from pregnancy stages until after childbirth. This reflects the hospital's commitment to providing comprehensive and humane healthcare. -ONA

Function held to show solidarity with persons with disabilities

MUSCAT: The Medical City for Military and Security Services organised a ceremony yesterday marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which falls on 3 December of every year. The event was held under the auspices of Brigadier Dr. Nasser bin Salim Al Hinai, Director General of Medical Services for Military and Security Services and Acting Director General of the Medical City for Military and Security Services Hospital - Al Khoudh. The event, which took place at the Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation Centre at the Medical City for Military and Security Services, began with a speech by the chief guest of the occasion. He affirmed the appreciation and pride in the journey of persons with disabilities who are retired personnel of the Ministry of Defence and the Sultan's Armed Forces. He noted that they have left their mark in the memory of time and place and are a source of inspiration and an example to be followed that embodies the finest images of determination and persistence, wishing them all success and happiness. Following the speech, the chief guest and attendees toured the accompanying exhibition, which included a diverse range of recreational, cultural, and sports activities. The chief guest then inaugurated the Hydrotherapy Unit affiliated with the Al Amal Centre for Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation. -ONA

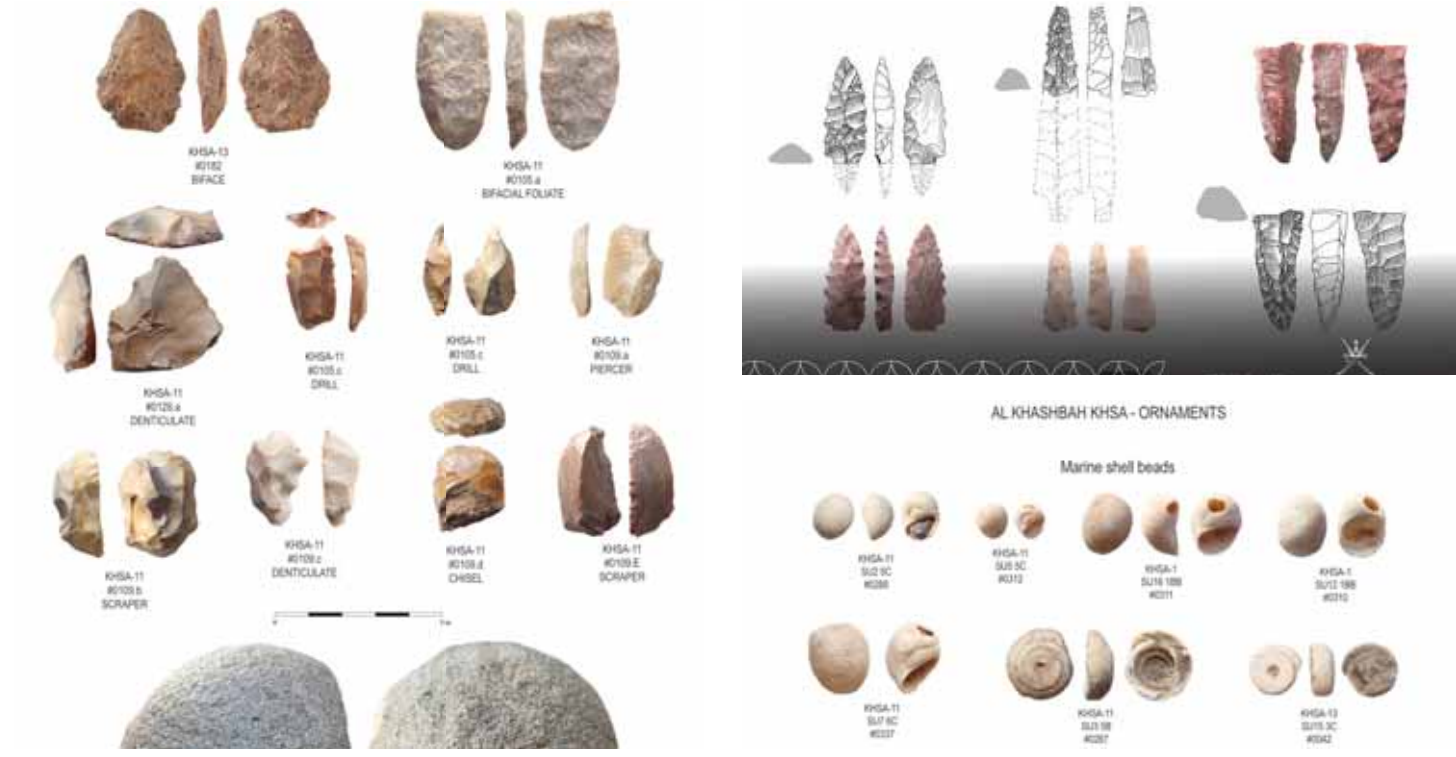


and place and are a source of inspiration and an example to be followed that embodies the finest images of determination and persistence, wishing them all success and happiness. Following the speech, the chief guest and attendees toured the accompanying exhibition, which included a diverse range of recreational, cultural, and sports activities. The chief guest then inaugurated the Hydrotherapy Unit affiliated with the Al Amal Centre for Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation. -ONA

Excavations unearth secrets of prehistoric life at Al-Khashbah

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, in collaboration with the Czech-American archaeological mission from the University of Utah and the Czech Academy of Sciences, has launched the second season of excavations at the Al-Khashbah site in the Wilayat of Al Mudhaibi. Al-Khashbah is considered one of the largest Late Stone Age sites in the region. It features extensive workshops for stone tool production and multiple hearths, offering a rare glimpse into prehistoric life in the Arabian Peninsula. The joint mission is employing cutting-edge technologies to uncover and date archaeological remains, aiming to deepen understanding of ancient human settlement patterns, mobility, and adaptation strategies in arid desert environments. This excavation is part of a broader national effort to explore and preserve Oman's rich archaeological heritage.

According to the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, a total of 38 archaeological missions are currently active across the Sultanate for the 2025/2026 season. These include teams from Oman (1), Italy (9 missions), France (5), the United States (4), Japan (2), Germany (2), Czech Republic (2), and several joint missions such as Czech-American, Omani-French, Omani-Italian, and Omani-British collaborations. The research projects are distributed across various governorates, with Dhofar hosting the highest number (8 projects), followed by Al Dakhiliyah and South Al Batinah (4 each), and others spread across Muscat, Al Wusta, North and South Al Sharqiyah, and North Al Batinah. This growing international interest underscores Oman's significance as a key location for understanding human history and prehistoric adaptation in the Arabian Peninsula.



Oman Botanic Garden officially handed over to Muscat Municipality

Located in the village of Al Khoudh, the Oman Botanic Garden is a world-class initiative celebrating the country’s rich plant life, landscapes, and cultural heritage

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism has officially transferred the Oman Botanic Garden project to Muscat Municipality, marking a major milestone for one of the most unique and expansive botanical gardens in the region. The garden is distinguished by its scale, ecological diversity, and its integration of educational and tourism functions.

His Excellency Salim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism, commented on the occasion: “After years of continuous work, the ministry has completed this project, which has now been handed over to Muscat Municipality. We wish them success in utilising it as a catalyst for various service and productive sectors. Our sincere appreciation goes to everyone who contributed to this achievement, as we now move forward with other projects that will empower the tourism sector.”

The Oman Botanic Garden is a world-class initiative celebrating the country’s rich plant life, landscapes, and cultural heritage. Located in the village of Al Khoudh, just 20 kilometers from Muscat International Airport and near Sultan Qaboos University, the garden spans 430 hectares and is nestled within the northern mountains of Oman.

Designed to showcase the full range of native Omani flora, the garden features carefully recreated natural habitats from arid sand deserts to lush monsoon cloud forests. It also highlights traditional agricultural practices and the many ways plants are used in Omani daily life, offering both educational and cultural experiences for visitors.

The project is expected to become a major hub for environmental education, scientific research, and eco-tourism, reinforcing Oman’s commitment to sustainability and heritage preservation.



“

After years of continuous work, the ministry has completed this project, which has now been handed over to Muscat Municipality. We wish them success in utilising it as a catalyst for various service and productive sectors. Our sincere appreciation goes to everyone who contributed to this achievement, as we now move forward with other projects that will empower the tourism sector.



State financial authority workshop to sharpen skills of participants

The programme involves the participation of more than 80 entities from civil, military, and security units of the State Administrative Apparatus, along with government companies

MUSCAT: The Institutional Partnership Programme organised by the State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority commenced its activities on Sunday in Muscat.



The programme involves the participation of more than 80 entities from civil, military, and security units of the State Administrative Apparatus, along with government companies under the Authority's oversight, through nine specialised workshops.



The workshops, which will last for four days, cover a number of axes aimed at developing the capabilities of participants in the areas of oversight of contracts and procurement, auditing of development projects, detection of financial and administrative violations,

enhancing internal control and risk management systems and reviewing institutional experiences in government excellence, governance of economic projects in governorates, and financial analysis.

Internal audit evidence
The programme also includes specialised axes on internal audit evidence, allowing participants to learn about its concept and importance, develop skills in collecting and analysing evidence, and train on documenting it according to accredited professional standards.
The organisation of this programme is part of the authority's commitment to raising the efficiency of national cadres, promoting the principles of governance and transparency and applying best practices in financial and administrative oversight.
The event also aims to strengthen institutional partnership among various entities, thereby contributing to improving the quality of institutional performance and supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals. -ONA

UN CHARTER

Oman Marks 80th anniversary of United Nations' establishment



MUSCAT: The Foreign Ministry on Monday commemorated the 80th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations (UN).
The ceremony was held in the presence of António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations and Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister.
The event reaffirms the Sultanate of Oman's unwavering commitment to the principles enshrined in the UN Charter and its steadfast support for the Organisation's vital role in advancing international peace and security, upholding the rules of international law, and fostering multilateral cooperation to tackle common global challenges.
Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Har-



thy, the Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, delivered an address.
He highlighted the esteemed position and central role of the United Nations within the global order and underscored the critical

importance of collective action and international coordination in resolving political, humanitarian and developmental issues.
He also articulated Oman's consistent foreign policy approach, grounded in dialogue, diplomacy, respect for state sovereignty, and the promotion of mutual understanding among nations.
The ceremony was hosted at the Ministry's headquarters. Attendees included HH Assistant to the Vice Chancellor of Sultan Qaboos University for International Cooperation; undersecretaries; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps; representatives of United Nations offices accredited to the Sultanate of Oman; and officials from the Foreign Ministry. -ONA

EMPLOYING CITIZENS

RNO receives new batch of cadets after evaluation



MUSCAT: The Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) received on Monday a new batch of citizens to begin the military and academic programme for officer cadets, after they successfully passed the acceptance and evaluation stages.
This is in continuation of the national efforts exerted by the

Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) to implement national plans for employing citizens in coordination with the Ministry of Labour.
Enrollment
The RNO has utilised its expertise and capabilities to provide all administrative and health require-

ments for their enrollment in the fields of honour and national duty.
The efforts of the SAF continue to provide the divisions of the Sultan's Armed Forces and other departments within the Ministry of Defence with qualified national competencies to contribute to the service of the nation. -ONA

MEETING

Kuwaiti delegation watches Oman's training programme

MUSCAT: Maj. Gen Hamad bin Ahmed Sakroon, Chairman of the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies, received on Monday at his office in Bait Al Falaj Camp a delegation from the Mubarak Al Abdullah Joint Command and Staff College of the State of Kuwait.
During the meeting, both sides discussed a number of matters of mutual interest, particularly in the academic fields.
The occasion was attended by a number of senior officers from the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies.
The delegation from the Kuwait Command and Staff College also visited the Joint Command and Staff College (JCSC) at the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies.
The delegation was received upon arrival at the college headquarters by Brigadier Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Mishaikhi, Commandant of the Joint Command and Staff College.
During the visit, the delegation watched a visual presentation on the JCSC and its diverse training and educational programmes. The delegation also toured the college's facilities, sections, systems, and viewed



its equipment.
The delegation also visited the Centre for Strategic and Defence Studies at the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies in Bait Al Falaj Camp.
They were received upon arrival at the Centre's headquarters by the Acting Head of the Centre.
The delegation listened to a briefing on the various roles and tasks undertaken by the Centre. They were also briefed on the most important activities and events in the fields the Centre is concerned with. -ONA

وزارة النقل والاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

إعلان مناقصة
Tender Notice

The Internal Tenders Committee at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology invites for the Following Tenders:

TENDER NUMBER	TENDER NAME	DATE OF PUBLISHING	LAST DATE TO PURCHASE TENDER DOCUMENT	SUBMISSION DATE	COMPANIES WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS TENDER	DOCUMENT PRICE
216/2025/ MTCIT	FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGED IT SERVICES	14-12-2025	28-12-2025	25-01-2026	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE PROJECT, TENDERS AND LOCAL CONTENT AUTHORITY (EXCELEN And FIRST CLASS)	(35/-) THIRTY-FIVE OMANI RIAL FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL COMPANIES (10/-) TEN OMANI RIALS (SMEs) NON-REFUNDABLE
217/2025/ MTCIT	ENHANCING ROAD SAFETY & UPGRADING THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TUNNEL ON SULTAN THUWAINI BIN SAID ROAD	14-12-2025	28-12-2025	25-01-2026	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE PROJECT, TENDERS AND LOCAL CONTENT AUTHORITY (SECOND,THIRD)	25/-) TWENTY FIVE OMANI RIALS (LOCAL AND REGIONAL COMPANIES) (10/-) TEN OMANI RIALS (SMEs) NON-REFUNDABLE

Interested Companies registered with the Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority may obtain Tender documents from the E-Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of documents. Tenders should be submitted online on given website

CORRESPONDANCE:

1. Tender Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the TENDER Inquiry must be online at e-Tendering System. (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)

2. E-Tendering System Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the e-Tendering System technical support must be directed to the following helpdesk email address and phone number:
Tel: +968 24402200 e-mail: etenderhd@ptlc.gov.om

[@mtcitoman](mailto:etenderhd@ptlc.gov.om)

www.mtcit.gov.om

Internal Tenders Committee

Bahrain to celebrate National Day today

Omani-Bahraini relations are witnessing continuous development in various fields, based on a shared historical legacy and a wise leadership vision that strengthens paths of cooperation and integration between the two countries

MUSCAT: The Kingdom of Bahrain will celebrate today its 54th National Day and the 26th anniversary of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain assuming the reins of power, which falls on 16 December of every year.

The Kingdom of Bahrain celebrates this national occasion while witnessing pioneering developmental achievements and a comprehensive modern renaissance under the leadership of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa.

Omani-Bahraini relations are witnessing continuous development in various fields, based on a shared historical legacy and a wise leadership vision that strengthens paths of cooperation and integration between the two countries.

Dr. Juma bin Ahmed Al Kaabi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman, told Oman News Agency (ONA) that the outstanding achievements realized in the comprehensive development journey are considered a milestone in Bahrain's ancient civilization history and an exceptional model for growth and development, achieving economic growth, financial stability, and sustainable development.

He added that the Kingdom of Bahrain's celebration of its National Day embodies an occasion to express loyalty, fidelity, and gratitude to the wise leadership, pride in the achievements of the comprehensive development journey, and the continuation of the march towards further prosperity and stability.

The Ambassador affirmed that the Kingdom of Bahrain continues its balanced approach in its foreign policy, based on clear foundations of cooperation and moderation, consolidating the values of dialogue and human coexistence, enhancing international cooperation, and spreading sustainable peace. This is alongside continuing efforts to achieve sustainable development, enhance the protection of human rights and freedoms, and preserve the environment, due to the influential role this has in cementing the Kingdom of Bahrain's standing on the international level.

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman praised the Kingdom's achievements during 2025, which



included diverse fields, most notably economic growth, where the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 2.5%. This is in addition to progress in the education sector through hosting the UNESCO award and rehabilitating technology-incubating schools, as well as achieving successes in the fields of energy, logistics, and sustainable development.

The ambassador noted that the Kingdom of Bahrain achieved an advanced milestone in the Communications and Technology Index for 2025, scoring 97.5 points, which qualified it for the fifth rank on the level of Arab countries. This index is considered one of the most prominent international indicators that measures the development of countries in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

He added that the Kingdom of Bahrain is moving steadily towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through adopting flexible and integrated policies, strengthening strategic partnerships between the public and private sectors, and investing

in human capital, thereby contributing to accelerating the pace of achieving those goals.

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman described the Omani-Bahraini relations as historical relations rooted in antiquity.

History attests to the strength of these relations since the civilizations of Dilmun and Magan, which will remain witnesses to the sophistication and greatness of the relations between the two countries.

The bilateral relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman, the ambassador stressed, are based on solid foundations and principles, framed by close, firm, and extended fraternal and historical bonds, deeply rooted in history. These relations have developed to encompass various political, economic, social, and cultural aspects, and are witnessing growth and prosperity in various developmental fields, thanks to the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain.



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



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

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 22009004, E-mail: amcoman@choueirgroup.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Schools in Musandam shift to distance learning as heavy rains forecast

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Education has announced that all government, private and international schools in Musandam Governorate will shift to distance learning today (Tuesday, December 16, 2025), as a precautionary measure due to forecasts of heavy rainfall.

The decision follows weather warnings indicating that parts of the governorate may receive between 20 and 60 millimetres of rain starting on Tuesday. The announcement was made based on information provided by the National Centre for Emergency Management.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has also issued an official weather alert, warning of heavy rainfall and thunderstorms affecting Musandam. According to the CAA's National Multi-Hazard

Early Warning Centre, the rainfall is expected to be accompanied by strong downdraft winds ranging from 28 to 64 km/h (15–35 knots).

These weather conditions may lead to flash floods in valleys and low-lying areas. The alert further warns of rising sea waves between 1.5 and 2 metres along the Musandam coast and the Sea of Oman, as well as reduced visibility during periods of rainfall.

The CAA also noted the possibility of scattered thunderstorms over Al Buraimi, North and South Al Batinah, and parts of the Hajar Mountains, which could result in surface runoff in streams and valleys.

Authorities have urged the public to exercise caution, avoid crossing valleys and low-lying areas, and refrain from marine activities during the alert period.

ESSENCE OF HUMANITY

ISWK [Cambridge] marks Annual Day

MUSCAT: The Indian School Wadi Kabir [Cambridge] celebrated its Annual Day 2025, themed "A World Built on Values," on December 13. The event, an embodiment of the Essence of Humanity, was attended by Chief Guest Hussain Ali Al Lawati, CEO of the Development Bank, Oman.

Also in attendance were chief patron Sheikh Anil Khimji, along with Kiran Asher and Harshendu Shah (members of the Education Cell), members of the Office Bearers Committee and the School Management Committee, faculty members, parents, and students.

The formal ceremony featured the ceremonial lighting of the lamp and the rendition of the Omani and Indian national anthems. The President, Gargi Chugh, addressed the audience. The school principal and vice principal presented the school annual report, highlighting academic achievements, co-curricular milestones, and the successful placement of alumni across various continents

and prestigious universities.

The cultural segment brought the theme to life through a thoughtfully curated sequence of performances blending classical fables from the Panchatantra, Aladdin, and Tenali Raman with global music. Through vibrant storytelling and artistic expression, students conveyed powerful messages on kindness, honesty, integrity, unity, respect, inclusivity, and equality. In an increasingly complex and fast-paced world, the performances underscored the enduring relevance of values as guiding principles that shape responsible individuals and conscientious global citizens.

The event also served as a platform to recognize excellence. Academic achievers, including country and world toppers, along with sports champions, were felicitated. Educators completing five years of dedicated service and those receiving special awards for outstanding contributions were also honoured.



IN SUDAN

UN's Guterres condemns attack on Bangladeshi peacekeepers

NEW YORK: United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has issued strong condemnation over the drone attacks targeting a United Nations Interim Force logistics base in Sudan's Kadugli, leaving six Bangladeshi peacekeepers dead and eight injured.

In a post on X on Sunday, the UN Secretary-General expressed his "heartfelt condolences" to the families of the peacekeeper and prayed for the "swift recovery" of those who were injured.

He noted that such assaults against UN peacekeepers are "unjustifiable" and "may constitute war crimes," reminding all parties of their obligation to protect UN staff and civilians.

"I strongly condemn the horrific drone attacks that targeted

the UNISFA-Abyei logistics base in Kadugli, Sudan, resulting in fatalities & injuries of members of the Bangladeshi UN Peacekeeping contingent. My heartfelt condolences to the families of the fallen peacekeepers & the Government & people of Bangladesh. I wish a swift recovery to the injured," Guterres said.

Protect UN personnel

"Attacks against UN peacekeepers like this one are unjustifiable & may constitute war crimes. I remind everyone of their obligation to protect UN personnel & civilians. There will need to be accountability," he added.

This comes a day after six Bangladeshi United Nations peacekeepers were killed and eight others

were injured in a drone attack on a United Nations base in Abyei, Sudan.

Following the incident, the Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement strongly condemning the attack.

According to the statement issued on Saturday, the Bangladesh MoFA said the country mourns the loss of its "valiant sons" and expressed deep condolences to the bereaved families. The minister also conveyed prayers for the swift recovery of the injured peacekeepers.

"Bangladesh strongly condemns the attack today on the Bangladeshi peacekeepers who were serving under the UN peacekeeping mission in Sudan. Six Bangladeshi peacekeepers have died and

eight were injured when a drone attack was carried out on a United Nations base in Abyei, Sudan," the statement read.

The Foreign Minister added that the government, through Bangladesh's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, has requested the UN to ensure the best possible medical treatment for the injured personnel and that the Bangladesh Mission in New York is in close contact with the UN and is working to extend all necessary support to the Bangladeshi peacekeeping contingent in the region.

Earlier, Bangladesh's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) confirmed the incident in a brief statement, calling it a "terrorist attack". —ANI



HEAVY RAIN AND SNOWFALL



Morocco flash floods leave 41 people dead

RABAT: At least 41 people were killed in flash floods caused by heavy rainfall in Morocco on Sunday, authorities said on Monday.

In the Atlantic coastal province of Safi, local authorities said in a statement that the death toll had risen to 37, with 14 injured people receiving treatment at local hospitals.

In the southern province of Tinghir, four people were killed after their vehicle was swept away by strong currents and overturned into a river between the areas of Fezou and El Hafira, local news outlet Hibapress reported.

The statement said the floods in Safi were caused by intense thunderstorms that occurred within about one hour.

Dozens of homes and shops in the city of Safi were flooded,

while vehicles were overturned or washed away by torrents. Roads were also damaged, leading to widespread traffic disruptions.

Moroccan authorities warned that more rainfall is expected in the coming days. Schools in four provinces were closed on Monday, and large-scale emergency response operations were launched.

The water levels decreased by Sunday evening as rescue personnel continued a search for other possible casualties.

Meanwhile, the weather service has predicted more heavy downpour on Tuesday across the North African country.

Morocco is witnessing heavy rain and snowfall on the Atlas mountains after seven consecutive years of a severe drought left some of the nation's major reservoirs parched. — *Xinhua*

Flights disrupted in Delhi amid intense fog

Ministry of Civil Aviation said that senior officials visited the Airport Operations Control Centre on Monday to review real-time operations and assess the situation on the ground



semination of information, and facilitate passenger convenience. Passenger safety and smooth operations remain our top priority.”

Earlier in the day, the ministry issued a heavy fog alert for airports across northern India, warning that dense fog had significantly reduced

Travellers were also asked to allow extra time for their journeys due to possible fog-related delays.

In a post on X, the Ministry of Civil Aviation wrote, “Heavy Fog Alert for Northern India Delhi (DEL) & other airports in Northern India are experiencing dense fog, severely affecting visibility. For Passengers: Before heading to the airport, please check the latest flight status with your airline. Check flight information on the airport website/app. Please allow extra travel time. Safety is our top priority. Our teams & ATC are working tirelessly to minimise disruptions. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.” The Ministry emphasised that safety remains the top priority, noting that airport teams and air traffic controllers are working diligently to minimise disruptions. — *ANI*

NEPAL

Closed session of Oli’s UML starts in Kathmandu

KATHMANDU: A closed session of the 11th General Convention of the CPN-UML (Communist Party of Nepal- Unified Marxist Leninist) has started in Kathmandu to select the party's new leadership.

The session began at 3 PM in Kathmandu, following the inauguration ceremony in Bhaktapur on Sunday, which continues today and tomorrow.

Former Nepali Prime Minister and Party Chair KP Sharma Oli is facing a leadership challenge from Senior Vice-Chair Ishwor Pokharel. However, neither party has announced its panel.

Pokharel, who has declared his candidacy for the chairmanship, is reportedly supported by former President and former party vice-chair Bidhya Devi Bhandari's faction, raising speculation about a potential “Ishwor-Bidhya” panel.

Under the party's current structure, UML has 15 office bearers, including one chair, three vice-chairs, one general secretary, three deputy general secretaries, and seven secretaries.

Meanwhile, CPN-UML Chair KP Oli has amended the party statute, effectively retaining the provisions adopted at the 10th General Convention by revising the newly drafted statute within three months. — *ANI*

CHILE ELECTION

Far-right candidate wins presidential runoff

SANTIAGO: Far-right Republican Party candidate Jose Antonio Kast has won Chile's presidential runoff election, results showed.

Contender Jeannette Jara, a member of the Communist Party and former labour minister, conceded defeat to her hard-right rival and said that “democracy spoke loud and clear.” She went on to say in a post on X that she had spoken to Kast to wish him well.

Kast wins more than 58% of the vote

Leading up to the vote, opinion polls showed Kast leading Jara by a wide margin, with some indicating a lead of more than 10 percentage points.

Kast's campaign spokesman, Arturo Squella, declared victory from the party headquarters in the capital of Santiago.

“We are very proud of the work we've done,” he told reporters. “We feel very responsible for this tremendous challenge of taking charge of the crises that Chile is going through.”

Kast vowed to bring about “real change” during his victory speech at the headquarters of his Republican Party.

“Without security, there is no peace. Without peace, there is no democracy, and without democracy there is no freedom, and Chile will return to be free of crime, anxiety and fear,” he said.

For the first time in over a dec-



ade, voting has been made compulsory, with around 15.8 million people eligible to cast ballots. Kast is due to take office in March 2026.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio congratulated Kast on his election win in a post on X.

“Congratulations to Chilean President-Elec @JoseAntonioKast on his victory. The United States looks forward to partnering with his administration to strengthen regional security and revitalise our trade relationship,” Rubio said.

What are the most pressing issues for Chilean voters?

Sunday's vote marked Kast's third bid for the presidency, with the 59-year-old having campaigned on a tough-on-crime and anti-migrant platform.

He pledged to seek unity in

what he described as a highly polarised country, saying the winner “will have to be the president of all Chileans.”

Once viewed as one of the safest and most prosperous countries in Latin America, Chile has been disrupted in recent years by the Covid-19 pandemic, violent social protests and an increase in organised crime.

Polls show more than 60% of Chileans consider security the country's most pressing issue, more so than concerns over the economy, healthcare or education.

Although Chile remains one of the safest countries in Latin America, there has been a rise in crime in certain areas over the past decade, with authorities laying the blame on gangs linked to Venezuela, Peru, Colombia and Ecuador.



What has Kast said about immigration?

Migration featured equally prominently throughout campaigning, with migrants now accounting for roughly 10% of Chile's population.

Many have arrived fleeing violence and poverty elsewhere in South America, particularly from Venezuela. Kast has pledged to secure Chile's borders and deport any migrants who do not hold legal status, while building new prisons. He opposes abortion without exception and has voiced support for former military ruler Augusto Pinochet, who governed Chile from 1973 to 1990. Some critics have said they worry Kast's positions could signal a return to authoritarian practices.

He is seen by some voters as similar to Pinochet, who left power after losing a 1990 referendum following 17 years of dictatorship

marked by killings, disappearances and widespread torture.

Leftist challenger had led first round

Meanwhile, Jara had led the first round of voting held on November 16, when she won nearly 27% of the vote. Kast finished second with 24%, but since last month's vote has consolidated support from other right-wing candidates.

Jara's candidacy has been tied to the unpopular government of outgoing President Gabriel Boric, whose own four-year term has struggled as many of his efforts to reform the Pinochet-era constitution proved unsuccessful.

Boric, who is constitutionally barred from re-election, cast his vote in Punta Arenas, calling democracy “the best instrument” for resolving differences among Chileans. — *dw*

TWO-DAY VISIT

Indian PM arrives in Amman on first leg of three-nation tour

AMMAN: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Amman on Monday for a two-day visit to Jordan, marking the beginning of his three-nation tour. He was welcomed on arrival by Jordan's Prime Minister Jafar Hassan.

The visit to Jordan is taking place at the invitation of King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein and is focused on advancing bilateral relations between India and Jordan. Prime Minister Modi departed from New Delhi earlier on Monday to commence the multi-country engagement.

During his stay from December 15 to 16, the Prime Minister is scheduled to hold discussions with King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein to review the entire range of India-Jordan ties and to exchange views

on key regional developments.

The visit gains added importance as it coincides with the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Jordan, a landmark expected to further energise bilateral cooperation.

Prime Minister Modi will also interact with members of the Indian community in Jordan during the visit.

In his departure statement, the Prime Minister said, “I am embarking on a three-nation visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Sultanate of Oman, three nations with which India shares both age-old civilizational ties, as well as extensive contemporary bilat-



eral relations.”

After concluding the Jordan leg, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Ethiopia from December 16 to 17, marking his first-ever visit to the African country.

In Addis Ababa, he is expected to hold detailed talks with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali on various dimensions of bilateral cooperation. Addis Ababa also hosts the headquarters of the African Union.

Referring to the Ethiopia visit, Prime Minister Modi said, “I will pay my first visit to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa is also the headquarters of the African Union. In 2023, during India's G20 Presidency, the African Union was admitted as a permanent member of the G20. In

Addis Ababa, I will hold detailed discussions with H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali and also have the opportunity to meet the Indian diaspora living there.”

The Prime Minister is also scheduled to address a Joint Session of the Ethiopian Parliament.

“I eagerly look forward to sharing my thoughts on India's journey as the ‘Mother of Democracy’ and the value that the India-Ethiopia partnership can bring to the Global South,” he said.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ethiopia visit will reaffirm the shared commitment of both countries, as partners in the Global South, to further strengthen friendship and bilateral engagement.

SPORTS

Late blow for Al-Manar Racing as Al Zubair & Co finish second

The Ferrari 296 GT3 trio dominated early stages at Yas Marina before brake drama cost them a potential victory in the Abu Dhabi Gulf 12 Hours thriller

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A late-race pit stop to address a brake issue denied Al-Manar Racing's Al Faisal Al Zubair and his British co-drivers, Chris Froggatt and Ben Tuck, a potential victory at the 15th Gulf 12 Hours at Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi, UAE, leaving the trio to settle for a hard-fought second place on Sunday night.

The Ferrari 296 GT3 outfit from Dubai-based Dragon Racing had dominated much of the endurance classic, leading after nine hours and looking set for a memorable triumph.

However, a five-second speeding penalty in the pit lane combined with the unscheduled brake repair dropped the Al-Manar team behind the Capital RT by Motopark Mercedes trio of Denis Remenyako, Adam Christodoulou, and Mikhail Aleshin, who ultimately took the checkered flag.

Despite the setback, Al Zubair's performance highlighted his versatility and skill behind the wheel. The trio completed 346 laps of the challenging 5.281km Yas Marina circuit, narrowly missing out on victory, with Grove Racing by Get-speed rounding out the podium in a Mercedes-AMG GT3, a lap adrift. Optimum Motorsport and Inward Motorsport completed the top five, while 14 of the 20 starters finished



the grueling 12-hour contest.

Reflecting on the result, Al Zubair described the day as "bitter-sweet." He said: "Second place is great for the first race in the Ferrari. I am very happy with it. Dragon did a great job all weekend. It's just a bit tough knowing that we were the car to beat the whole weekend. We led at the eight-hour mark and it was unfortunate that we had a brake fluid leak and we had to change the calipers."

"The car was very nice. I enjoyed

it a lot. It was very different to the BMW and the Mercedes but I am very happy overall. High-speed feels a lot more aero and the driveability was more enjoyable, I would say. I felt comfortable from the get-go and had good team-mates with me. As a team, we did a great job. All these endurance races are full push all the time. We approach them as sprints."

Froggatt set the tone by starting the race and keeping the car in podium contention during his stint.

Al Zubair then took over, immediately asserting himself at the front of the field. With a safety car deployed midway through the first eight-hour segment, Al Zubair led from Winward Racing's Gabriele Piana and Capital RT by Motopark's Remenyako, eventually building a 12.9-second advantage over the latter by the end of the first section.

Ben Tuck took over for the final stint of the opening segment, keeping the Ferrari in command and



securing the lead heading into the second part of the race.

Unfortunately, a pit lane speeding penalty and a brake fluid issue during the latter stages saw the team slip briefly to third before climbing back to second. Despite the frustration, the Al-Manar crew maintained composure to bring the car home in a highly credible runner-up position.

Al Zubair, Froggatt, and Tuck's pace in practice and qualifying had already signaled their com-

petitiveness. They clocked strong times throughout the sessions, ultimately securing second on the grid for the opening eight-hour section behind pole-sitters Inception Racing.

Looking ahead, Al-Manar Racing and Dragon Racing are already eyeing redemption at the Michelin 24H Dubai from January 16-18, with Al Zubair confident that the team's pace and experience with the Ferrari 296 GT3 will translate into another podium charge.

TOUR OF INDIA

Messi gets India jersey as Argentine star enthrall fans

NEW DELHI: Football superstar Lionel Messi ended his whirlwind tour of India on Monday with a lap of honour in New Delhi, thrilling thousands of fans and thanking them for "all the love and support".

The 38-year-old Argentine great greeted chanting supporters at a nearly packed Arun Jaitley Stadium, usually home to cricket, with fans dressed in Argentina jerseys waving flags and shouting his name.

"It was beautiful to receive all the love and support. I knew it was there, but to receive it first-hand was, well, amazing", Messi told the crowd, speaking in Spanish, saying he will "definitely be back".

Clad in a pink jersey and black trousers, Messi enthralled the audience with his charm as he kicked footballs into the crowd and obliged star-struck delegates and fans with selfies.

Messi and his fellow stars played football with children before being presented with a T20 World Cup ticket and an Indian jersey by the International Cricket Council (ICC) Chairman Jay Shah.

India — a nation of 1.4 billion — are a cricket powerhouse, but struggles on the football pitch and are 142nd on the FIFA rankings.

Former India football captain Bhaichung Bhutia took the stage with Messi, who signed Argentine jerseys for the Indian star and his family. His final stop in India went smoothly after a chaotic opening day on Saturday, when fans vandalised a stadium in the city of Kolkata, where his brief presence left the crowd frustrated.

Heavy security left fans struggling to catch a glimpse of him. Many had paid more than \$100 for tickets, and they broke down barricades and stormed the pitch after the superstar abruptly left the arena.

In New Delhi on Monday, thousands of excited fans dismissed hazardous choking air pollution to see their hero.



Messi, who is in India as part of his so-called GOAT Tour along with his Inter Miami teammates Luis Suarez and Rodrigo de Paul, seemed unperturbed by the toxic air.

He looked in good spirits as he kept up his energy with fans and football enthusiasts in his 35-minute stay at the stadium.

Messi had also visited the cities of Hyderabad and Mumbai, where he met cricket icon Sachin

Tendulkar and Indian football star Sunil Chhetri.

Messi won his second consecutive Major League Soccer (MLS) Most Valuable Player (MVP) award last week after propelling Inter Miami to the MLS title and leading the league in goals.

The former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) forward will spearhead Argentina's defence of the World Cup in June-July in North America. - Agencies

KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL STADIUM

Atlas Lions rout UAE to roar into FIFA Arab Cup final

DOHA: Morocco ended UAE's FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2025 title hopes as they recorded a comfortable 3-0 win in the first semi-final at the Khalifa International Stadium in Al Rayyan, Qatar, on Monday.

Goals from Karim El Berkouqi and substitute Achraf El Mahdoui sealed victory for the Atlas Lions, who will face either Saudi Arabia or Jordan in the final at Lusail Stadium on Thursday.

The second semi-final was to be played on Monday night at Al Bayt Stadium.

Invariably when Morocco go in front, they go on to win. That was once again the case for a nation that has been powered by a brilliant defensive display in Qatar, where the only goal they conceded — an own goal — came way back in the first hour of their opening match.

UAE put Morocco under pressure from the start but their dominance soon waned off as the African side tightened their grip with El Berkouqi and Anas Bach testing Hamad Al Meqbaali with long-range efforts, while Oualid Azaro had his glancing header calmly collected.

Caio Lucas couldn't find the target from distance before Majid Rashid almost carved open Morocco's defence in the 25th minute when he sent Bruno through on goal, only for the Al Jazira midfielder to shoot straight into the arms of El Mehdi Benabid.

Morocco's patient game finally came to fruition just before the half-hour mark when Hamza El Moussaoui sent a delightful cross for El Berkouqi, who finished with a powerful header into the bottom right corner.

UAE continued to withstand the pressure and came off un-



scathed in the 34th minute with Al Meqbaali tipping over Amin Zahzouh's long-range effort over the bar.

Cosmin Olaroiu's side wasted two clear-cut chances after the break with Caio Lucas smashing a rebounded effort against the left post after El Berkouqi failed to hold on to Ruben Amaral's initial shot.

Al Ghassani then couldn't time his run to connect with Rashid's teasing cross in front of the goalmouth.

UAE pumped bodies forward in a bid to draw level and while

Bruno saw his glancing header graze the bar, Morocco almost exploited the gaps when Mohamed Boulacsout set up Azaro for a diving header which sailed over the bar.

Morocco finally doubled their lead in the 83rd minute after substitute Abderrazzaq Hamdallah set up El Mahdoui to strike home past Al Meqbaali.

The Atlas Lions then applied the killer touch with another late goal as Hamdallah converted Boulacsout's pass to confirm Morocco's passage to the final. - Agencies

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by February 2026 reaching \$61.33, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME).The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 49 cents from the price of Friday, which was \$61.82. - ONA

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 5,985.66 points, up by 0.50% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.66% at 528.53 points. Oman United Insurance, up 5.61%, was the top gainer while, Gulf International Chemicals, down 2.78%, was the top loser.

OMR150mn sugar refinery boosts national food security

The opening of the Oman Sugar Refinery factory at Sohar Port is an important national achievement as it is the first sugar refinery in the Sultanate of Oman



MUSCAT: The Oman Sugar Refinery (OSR) factory was inaugurated yesterday at Sohar Port and Freezone. This is a significant industrial project for the food security sector in the Sultanate of Oman, with an investment cost exceeding OMR150 million.

The inauguration was held under the auspices of Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance.

Zayed bin Ahmed Al Habsi, representative of Oman Sugar Refinery Company, stated that the opening of the OSR factory at Sohar Port is an important national achievement as it is the first sugar refinery in the Sultanate of Oman. He described it as a strategic step in supporting the food security system and reinforcing the Sultanate of Oman's direction towards localizing food industries and reducing reliance on imports.

Eng. Salim Abdullah Al Ghafeli, Director General of Food Security at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, said that the sugar factory aligns with the national directives aimed at localizing transformative food

industries and reducing external dependence. This contributes to achieving food stability and supporting economic diversification. He added that such projects help raise the efficiency of supply chains and ensure the sustainable availability of essential food commodities under all circumstances.

The chief guest of the ceremony and the attendees then toured the factory and were briefed on the production lines and stages.

The project is built on an area of 20 hectares at Sohar Port. The factory successfully completed its trial operation phase and met the Tier 2 standards according to European specifications, preparing for a gradual transition to commercial operation by January 2026.

The factory employs an advanced European refining system which contributes to increasing production efficiency and ensuring high quality across all operations.

The factory's production capacity is one million tons annually of



refined sugar, supported by extensive storage infrastructure, including 500 thousand tons of raw sugar and 70 thousand tons of refined sugar. These advanced capabilities contribute to solidifying Oman's position as a regional hub for sugar processing, distribution, and re-export.

The project also contributes to the development of the industrial ecosystem of Sohar Port and Freezone by supporting the National Food Security Strategy, enhancing integration between the port and freezone operations and industrial supply chains, and providing expansion opportunities for transformative industries, particularly in the food sector. -ONA



CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN

Oman's central bank issues treasury bills worth OMR33.9 million

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR33.9 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Monday.

The bills are for a maturity period of 91 days. The average accepted price reached OMR99.058 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR99.055 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 3.77761% and 3.81352%, 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 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 4.75% while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 5.25%.



Furthermore, Treasury Bills

promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the Govern-

ment may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. -ONA

OIL PRICE

Oil rises on fears of supply disruption

SINGAPORE: Oil prices rose yesterday, recouping part of last week's 4 percent slide, as concerns over potential disruptions from escalating US-Venezuela tensions.

Brent crude futures rose 25 cents, or 0.4 percent, to \$61.37 a barrel, and US West Texas Intermediate crude was at \$57.67 a barrel, up 23 cents, or 0.4 percent.

Russian state oil and gas revenue in December is likely to fall by nearly half from a year earlier to 410 billion roubles (\$5.12 billion) due to lower crude prices and a stronger rouble.

A possible peace deal could eventually increase Russian oil supply, which is currently sanctioned by Western countries.

On the supply side, US energy firms last week cut the num-



ber of oil and natural gas rigs operating for a second time in three weeks.

Gold rises

Gold prices rose yesterday, supported by a decline in US Treasury

yields, while silver prices stabilised after a record surge last week.

Spot gold increased by 0.3% to \$4,313.08 per ounce, having earlier reached its highest level since 21 October 2025.

Gold's gains have exceeded 64% since the beginning of the year, shattering multiple records and making it one of the best-performing assets in 2025.

US gold futures climbed 0.39% to \$4,344.80 per ounce.

As for other precious metals, spot silver was steady at \$62.02 per ounce, after hitting a record high of \$64.64 on Friday before closing sharply lower.

Spot platinum fell 0.2% to \$1,741.82 per ounce, while palladium rose 0.4% to \$1,493.40 per ounce. -ONA

APPOINTMENT

Genetco names Eng. Wael Ahmed Al Lawati as CEO

MUSCAT: General Electric and Trading Company (Genetco), one of Oman's longstanding corporations, announced the appointment of Eng. Wael Ahmed Al Lawati as Chief Executive Officer.

This comes as Genetco, which represents leading global brands across consumer products, business solutions, engineering services, and facility management, continues to strengthen its portfolio, modernise operations, and expand strategic partnerships in line with the company's long-term plans. The Board selected Eng. Wael for his demonstrated ability to lead complex organisations, build high-performing teams, and deliver sustainable growth in competitive and rapidly changing markets.

Murtadha Hassan Ali, Chairperson of the Board said: "Eng. Wael Al Lawati brings balanced leadership, deep corporate understanding, and a steady approach to decision-making that aligns with Genetco's values and ambitions. The Board places full confidence in his ability to guide Genetco's next phase of growth while reinforcing our positioning and ensuring continued excellence."

Eng. Wael is well regarded within Oman's business community for his collaborative style, strategic clarity, and ability to guide organisations through periods of change. With more than 32 years of experience spanning Oil and Gas, Tourism, Real Estate, Investments, Corporate Transformation, Governance, and Business Development, he has held senior positions at OM-RAN, The Wave Muscat (Al Mouj Muscat), Petroleum Development Oman, Majid Al Futtaim, DAMAC Properties, and most recently Muriya Tourism Development. His international exposure spans more than 30 countries and is recognised for his role in the



advancement of Omani professionals. Known for his practical approach and emphasis on teamwork, he is valued for cultivating cultures built on accountability.

Eng. Wael Ahmed Al Lawati said: "I am grateful for the trust placed in me by the Board. My approach has always been to help companies and people grow and achieve their potential in a dynamic landscape that continues to progress at remarkable speed. Genetco's direction is aligned with government priorities and with Oman Vision 2040, and I take on this responsibility with humility and a strong sense of purpose. I look forward to working closely with our teams and partners to reinforce the company's foundations while building sustainable opportunities for the future."

Eng. Wael succeeds Dr. Muthanna Al Durrah, who led Genetco for nearly 17 years, contributing to notable operational improvements, the expansion of core business lines, and the enhancement of the company's presence. The Board of Directors expresses its appreciation for his long-standing service and commitment to the organisation. A structured transition process is underway to ensure continuity covering all business functions.

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Oman United Insurance, up 5.61%, was the top gainer while, Gulf International Chemicals, down 2.78%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,985.66 points, up by 0.50% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.66% at 528.53 points. Oman United Insurance, up 5.61%, was the top gainer while Gulf International Chemicals, down 2.78%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover. A total number of 4090 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 52.44 million, with more than 245.09 million shares changing hands. Out of 71 traded securities, 32 advanced, 13 declined, and 26 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net sellers for RO 640K while foreign investors were net buyers for RO 399K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 241K worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 9,791.62 points, up 0.43%. Prices of Oman United Insurance, Dhofar Insurance, Bank Dhofar, Bank Nizwa, Al Omaniya Financial Services were up by 5.61%, 3.91%, 2.04%, 1.82%, 1.43% respectively. Prices of Muscat Finance, United Finance, Financial Services, Oman Qatar Insurance, OMINVEST were down by 1.82%, 1.41%, 1.16%, 1.02%, 0.30% respectively. Industrial Index closed at 7,818.03 points, up 0.60%. Prices of Dhofar Cattle Feed, Gulf Mushroom Products, A'Saffa Foods, Jazeera Steel Products, Raysut Cement were up by 3.90%, 3.63%, 2.67%, 1.09%, 1.06% respectively. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals, Oman Flour Mills were down by 2.78%, 1.03% respectively. Services Index was up by 0.29% before closing at 2,462.00 points. Prices of Barka Desalination, Muscat Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, Sembcorp Salalah, Dhofar Generating were up by 2.70%, 2.35%, 1.55%, 1.50%, 1.15% respectively. Prices of Al Batinah Power, Majan College, Renaissance Services, Barka Water & Power Company, Shell Oman Marketing were down by 1.21%, 0.74%, 0.60%, 0.54%, 0.14% respectively.— **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	6,016.30	5,955.46	5,985.66	5,955.62	30.04	0.50
FINANCIAL INDEX	9,822.15	9,749.49	9,791.62	9,749.49	42.14	0.43
Industry Index	7,845.99	7,768.73	7,818.03	7,771.59	46.43	0.60
Services Index	2,473.88	2,456.86	2,462.00	2,454.82	7.18	0.29
MSX Shariah Index	530.29	525.13	528.53	525.05	3.48	0.66
MSX TR INDEX	9,042.83	8,951.38	8,996.78	8,951.63	45.15	0.50
FINANCIAL TR IDX	11,669.05	11,582.73	11,632.79	11,582.73	50.06	0.43
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	9,673.43	9,578.18	9,638.95	9,581.70	57.25	0.60
SERVICES TR IDX	3,226.12	3,203.93	3,210.63	3,201.27	9.37	0.29
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,206.62	1,206.62	1,206.62	1,206.62	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
245,094,279	52,438,359	4,090	32,283,315,510	32	13	26	71

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF. RD.	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST MD.	LAST OFFER	PAV VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	117,245	36,988	15	0.300	0.320	0.300	0.320	0.303	0.017	5.611	0.320	0.302	0.320	0.100	22,000,000
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	283,646	139,311	23	0.480	0.500	0.480	0.500	0.487	0.013	2.669	0.500	0.492	0.500	0.100	40,000,000
OM0000004200	QAS GAS NETWORKS	4,917,894	53,888	97	0.103	0.111	0.111	0.112	0.102	0.010	9.818	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.100	230,536,740
OM0000000972	OQ GAS NETWORKS	15,953,826	3,116,949	497	0.194	0.197	0.194	0.196	0.193	0.003	1.554	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.100	848,892,288
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	13,386	2,589	4	0.147	0.147	0.147	0.147	0.147	0.000	1.894	0.147	0.147	0.147	0.100	40,808,980
OM0000003861	VOLTAMP ENERGY	45,938	48,794	13	1.080	1.080	1.080	1.081	1.080	0.001	1.048	1.081	1.081	1.100	0.100	99,323,655
OM0000003598	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	74,638,344	12,488,112	713	0.165	0.169	0.165	0.168	0.165	0.001	0.606	0.168	0.165	0.168	0.100	1,068,462,881
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	29,748,389	10,191,486	862	0.341	0.344	0.341	0.342	0.340	0.002	0.888	0.342	0.342	0.342	0.100	2,567,157,756
OM0000002188	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	504,098	94,165	71	0.186	0.189	0.185	0.186	0.185	0.001	0.541	0.186	0.185	0.186	0.100	40,920,000
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	28,078	70,629	11	2.500	2.580	2.500	2.511	2.500	0.011	0.449	2.511	2.490	2.530	0.100	2,236,267,360
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	1,358,585	1,464,566	69	1.077	1.080	1.077	1.078	1.077	0.001	0.953	1.078	1.078	1.078	0.100	805,500,000
OM0000001488	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	352,204	130,272	8	0.370	0.371	0.368	0.370	0.370	0.000	0.000	0.371	0.368	0.371	0.100	601,500,151
OM0000002226	AL LAZEERA SERVICES	178,085	33,827	13	0.190	0.190	0.189	0.190	0.190	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.100	8,140,168
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO	38,421	37,222	4	0.084	0.087	0.086	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.000	0.087	0.087	0.088	0.100	8,750,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	51,000	10,009	2	0.208	0.209	0.208	0.209	0.209	0.000	0.000	0.209	0.207	0.210	0.100	41,800,000
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	657,886	63,148	29	0.086	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.100	16,625,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWAD POWER	100	17	1	0.167	0.167	0.167	0.167	0.167	0.000	0.000	0.167	0.164	0.168	0.100	119,305,859
OM0000004768	ARAB ENERGY SERVICES	2,888,606	96,931	178	0.347	0.347	0.344	0.346	0.346	0.000	0.000	0.346	0.346	0.348	0.100	266,400,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	198,612	66,134	17	0.333	0.333	0.332	0.333	0.332	-0.001	-0.300	0.333	0.332	0.333	0.100	310,656,250
OM0000003234	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	66,211	21,985	12	0.333	0.333	0.332	0.334	-0.002	-0.566	-0.332	0.333	0.333	0.333	0.100	78,488,150
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	97,036	15,944	19	0.165	0.165	0.163	0.163	0.165	-0.002	-1.212	0.164	0.163	0.164	0.100	110,060,651
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	632,803	44,527	31	0.070	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.071	-0.001	-1.408	0.070	0.070	0.078	0.100	24,528,911
Total		133,056,396	29,595,698	2,196												

Parallel Market

OM0000001095	DHOFAR INSURANCE	1,375	329	1	0.239	0.239	0.239	0.239	0.230	0.009	3.913	0.239	0.000	0.238	0.100	27,807,886
OM0000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	2,300	186	2	0.084	0.084	0.080	0.080	0.077	-0.003	-3.886	0.080	0.080	0.084	0.100	15,814,154
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	11,954	3,675	5	0.305	0.314	0.305	0.314	0.303	0.011	3.630	0.314	0.306	0.314	0.100	14,370,461
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	49,789	2,421	6	0.148	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.148	0.004	2.702	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.100	11,478,244
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	274,802	23,731	24	0.085	0.088	0.085	0.087	0.085	0.002	2.353	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	15,532,885
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	21,271,375	323,362	204	0.147	0.150	0.147	0.150	0.147	0.003	2.041	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.100	455,899,790
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	462,460	94,638	37	0.203	0.206	0.203	0.203	0.200	0.003	1.500	0.203	0.204	0.203	0.100	183,778,106
OM0000003077	ALMAHANA FINANCIAL SERVICES	24,200	2,334	6	0.142	0.143	0.142	0.142	0.140	0.002	1.429	0.142	0.142	0.143	0.100	14,578,014
OM0000007910	AMMAN REAL ESTATE	22,500	1,778	5	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.001	1.282	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.100	15,900,000
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	180,779	15,921	14	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.001	1.429	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	15,571,117
OM0000005005	AL BATHA CERAMICS	249,095	70,119	18	0.280	0.285	0.279	0.282	0.280	0.002	0.714	0.282	0.282	0.290	0.100	266,400,000
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,494,398	14,993	11	0.141	0.142	0.141	0.142	0.141	0.001	0.699	0.142	0.141	0.142	0.100	21,300,000
OM0000002230	AL BATHA	13,336	46,138	6	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.171	0.170	0.001	0.588	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.100	462,862,885
OM00000010120	RYSTAD SHIPPING	43,204,472	8,126,644	415	0.186	0.190	0.186	0.187	0.186	0.001	0.538	0.187	0.170	0.172	0.100	274,035,180
OM0000008908	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SF2)	49,205,361	9,283,986	682	0.188	0.190	0.187	0.188	0.187	0.001	0.535	0.188	0.188	0.188	0.040	650,384,280
OM0000002036	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	11,500	2,310	2	0.201	0.201	0.201	0.201	0.201	0.000	0.000	0.201	0.201	0.215	0.100	3,516,154
OM0000007043	LIVA GROUP	110,635	3,027	13	0.292	0.300	0.286	0.286	0.285	0.001	0.351	0.286	0.287	0.307	0.100	113,505,062
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	10,263,382	3,900,460	71	0.148	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.148	0.004	2.702	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.100	11,478,244
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	231,578	21,998	26	0.095	0.096	0.094	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.094	0.100	0.100	8,075,000
OM0000001388	NATIONAL GAS	231,578	21,998	26	0.095	0.096	0.094	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.094	0.100	0.100	8,075,000
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTERNATIONAL DEV & INV	4,000	1,060	2	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.000	0.000	0.074	0.074	0.077	0.100	131,454,877
OM0000001881	AL BATHA	195,300	20,225	13	0.104	0.104	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.000	0.000	0.103	0.103	0.110	0.100	12,553,125
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	234,410	23,683	18	0.101	0.102	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.000	0.000	0.101	0.100	0.101	0.100	30,153,846
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	158,300	20,225	13	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.039	0.044	0.100	3,400,000
OM0000002341	OMAN CHLORINE	7,515	1,803	3	0.239	0.240	0.239	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.239	0.240	0.100	17,162,122
OM0000003077	ALMAHANA FINANCIAL SERVICES	24,200	2,334	6	0.142	0.143	0.142	0.142	0.140	0.002	1.429	0.142	0.142	0.143	0.100	14,578,014
OM0000004689	SHARQIA DESALINATION	286,107	42,265	17	0.148	0.149	0.149	0.149	0.149	0.000	0.000	0.149	0.149	0.155	0.100	14,772,125
OM0000004689	OMAN REAL BANK	1,000	130	1	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.128	0.130	0.100	36,250,018
OM0000007811	MUSANAB BANK	1,320,000	396,000	8	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.000	0.000	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.100	94,848,000
OM0000008447	AL FAYD FUND	42,052	3,986	8	0.093	0.093	0.092	0.093	0.093	0.000	0.000	0.093	0.092	0.093	0.100	61,318,885
OM0000009519	AL FAYD REIP	42,052	3,986	8	0.157	0.157	0.157	0.157	0.157	0.000	0.000	0.157	0.155	0.157	0.100	50,148,000
OM0000009519	JABAL REIP	389,462	40,084	2	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.000	0.000	0.103	0.103	0.108	0.100	79,920,000
OM0000003141	OMAN MARKETING	1,000	130	1	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.128	0.130	0.100	36,250,018
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	14,448	2,661	1	0.185	0.185	0.176	0.184	0.185	-0.001	-0.541	0.184	0.176	0.185	0.100	29,400,000
OM0000001887	AL BATHA	195,300	20,225	13	0.104	0.104	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.103	0.104	0.100	12,553,125
OM0000009679	OMAN QATAR INSURANCE	65,570	18,425	11	0.197	0.197	0.194	0.194	0.194	-0.002	-1.162	0.192	0.192	0.198	0.100	31,278,884
OM0000004420	OMAN QATAR INSURANCE	65,570	18,425	11	0.197	0.197	0.194	0.194	0.194	-0.002	-1.162	0.192	0.192	0.198	0.100	31,278,884
OM0000001384	FINANCIAL SERVICES	1,000	130	1	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	10,000,000
OM0000002341	OMAN CHLORINE	7,515	1,803	3	0.239	0.240	0.239	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.239	0.239	0.240	0.100	17,162,122
OM0000004420	SUN POWER HOLDING	8,850	2,248	4	0.232	0.232	0.232	0.232	0.232	-0.008	-2.575	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.100	45,317,125
OM0000002028	SUN INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	1,000	130	1	0.072	0.072	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.002	0.778	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	14,772,125
Total		43	111,541.48	22,801.981	1,859											



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

CONNECT

PRINT EDITION

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Email to : amcoman@choueirigroup.com



RENT

CARGO

VACANCY



RENT OR
SALE?

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Email: amcoman@choueirigroup.com

DNV 2.7-1 OFFSHORE CONTAINERS, REEFER CONTAINER SALES & RENTALS

ISO CONTAINER SALES, CONVERSIONS & RENTALS

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



For High Impact Professional

WEBSITES
GULFCYBERTECH
E-Solutions

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

Oman Web Award Winner

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

WJ Towell Group Company



**Quality car rentals
at competitive prices.**

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

Muscat 9679 0594
9679 0684

Sohar 9731 6218
Salalah 9429 9325

www.orbit-oman.com



JOB WANTED

DOCUMENT CONTROLLER

Experienced document controller seeking immediate placement in Oman. QA/QC, project coordination, skilled in EDMS, sharepoint, Aconex, and administrative support.

Contact: +971 585841339
Email: bajifazil@gmail.com

MANAGER

Finance and Accounts Manager well experienced, MBA finance with 16years experience in Oman. Looking for senior position in Accounts and finance.

Contact No. 95920740
Email ID: alhameed1527@gmail.com

MEDICAL

Pharmacist with 16 yrs exp. in retail & hospital pharmacy in Muscat & India. Previously registered with MOH, Oman with work License, NOC with D/L, currently in Muscat

Contact: 77336141
Email: confession.mercy@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY

URGENTLY REQUIRED

- Urgently Required Omani with minimum 2 years experience in Media house.
- Knowledge of English both writing & speaking preferred.

Interested candidate please forward
Cv-ASamarani.OPS@ChoueiriGroup.com



JOB WANTED

GENERAL MANAGER

Dynamic professional with 16+ yrs of progressive experience in financial strategy, business consulting/management, operational excellence, and growth leadership across Trading, Construction, RMC production, and MNCs company. Open to strategic senior management opportunities.

Contact: 92022786 or 97403883
Email: gm.seekers.2025@gmail.com

MANAGER

Finance and accounts Manager well experienced, MBA finance with 16years experience in Oman. Looking for senior position in Accounts and finance.

Contact No. 95920740
Email ID: hameed1527@hotmail.com

FINANCE

Experienced Senior Accountant 10+ years in financial accounting, auditing, VAT, and reporting seeks opportunity in Oman. MBA-Finance. Skilled in Tally ERP, Excel, Autoline, reporting, audit, tax, and compliance.

Contact: 94792025 / vjinuraj@gmail.com

FINANCE

Financial & Management Accountant with 15 yrs exp in manufacturing, trading, contracting, oil and gas, insurance, construction, IT. Skilled in accounting, auditing, VAT, payroll, budgeting, cost control, and financial reporting.

Contact: 92106856,
Email: lizmarytherese@gmail.com

FINANCE

Indian Male B.Com, MBA, with 18 yrs in healthcare, trading, logistics, IVMS up to finalization with MIS, LC, LTR software expertise, ERP, tally, Odoo & online Accountings, valid Omani D/L, can be join with short notice period.

Contact : 99279626

ENGINEER

Indian, B.Tech-Mech Engineering Holder having 13 years of experience in Oman specialized in Steel Fabrication looking suitable position.

Contact: Mobile : 95945230
Email : Arungopalakrishnan85@yahoo.com

LOOKING
FOR
ENGINEERING
JOB ?



Send email to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Send email to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com



URGENTLY REQUIRED

An excellent grade construction company requires

PROJECT MANAGER (ELECTRICAL)

Those who have Oman experience kindly forward their CV to

jobsoman2025@gmail.com

**LOOKING FOR
DRIVER JOB?**



Send email to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com

RENT

Furnished, attached
Single room in Ruwi.
Contact: 99743709

SERVICE

Cleaning services & pest control specialized cleaning of buildings carpet, sofa shampooing pest control, termite treatment Painting, plumbing, electrical works manpower supply. Glow Services Trading LLC Contact: 99844284, 99450130

JOB VACANCY

SALES/MARKETING

Looking for Sales Partner in Oil & Gas related supplies & services. Contact : ohvacancy977@hotmail.com

Required Two Filipino Sales Girls for marine/fishing equipment shops.Pls send CV Email: easternmarinesalalah@gmail.com. Contact 92471989

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp. 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279

Indian male, MBA finance, 15 yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation, VAT submission. Immediate joining. Contact: 96290882, Email: ajithakes@gmail.com

Indian Male B.Com graduate with 2+yrs experience as an accountant, Contact-9071 2090-Email- mohdnaif14@gmail.com

Indian male with 9 yrs (3yrs in Oman & 6yrs in India) experience in accounts, account receivables, payables, GL, tally prime, bank reconciliation seeks placement. Contact 94120095, Email shaikmunawar.ac@gmail.com

Indian male, M.com (Finance) 12 years accounting experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently & Business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 99859141,

Accountant looking for job. Contact: 75024166

Highly skilled chief accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: 79888153

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Male, MBA, 17 years experienced in key accounts, project sales, business development looking for suitable opportunities. Contact: 92790532

MBA Finance Senior accountant, 13-yrs GCC experience looking for a job upto finalization. Contact: 98869499

Accounts cum supervisor with 8yrs experience & D/L looking job. Contact: 95273377

14 yrs GCC exprienced Senior Accountant, looking for suitable position (Oman D/L). Contact: 93150057

Indian male, Bcom, MBA Finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs in accounts. Have valid Oman D/L. Contact: 97436925. Email : sasdsrk@gmail.com

Accountant available immediate joiner, Indian male, B.Com, 10+ yrs exp (4 yrs Oman) Expert in Tally & Accounts Contact: 91417133

Indian Male MBA, Senior accountant, admin having 10 yrs experience. Contact: 95416322, Email: aabynarayan@gmail.com

MBA Finance & B com Computer with experience of 2yrs as an accountant in Muscat Oman, having Oman D/L. Presently in Oman. Contact: 93965857

Indian Male, Bcom, MBA finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs in accounts. Have valid Oman D/L. Contact: 97436925. Email: sasdsrk@gmail.com

Indian Male, B.com, MBA finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs. Contact: 97436925. Email: sasdsrk@gmail.com"

ADMINISTRATION

Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 78439875

ADMINISTRATION

Sri Lankan Management Executive, 13 yrs operations and business development experience in distribution, manufacturing, service industries. Contact: 9329 7579

Indian Male, Arabic Diploma with 8 yrs of experience in UAE as a Typist, Data Entry, PRO and Admin looking for job in above position. Contact : +96890411524. Email Jabirvadinoor@gmail.com

Indian Male, 29 yrs, MBA with NEBOSH certified with 2+ yrs experience in administration looking for safety or administration jobs. Contact: +968 74105832, Email : ashikhthahir@gmail.com

Indian Female, M.Sc. (Computer Science), overall 13+ yrs of experience in different administrative as well as project roles looking for suitable placement. Contact: 79166904/97498882

Highly skilled accounting and administrative professional with diverse experience in technical and office administration roles Contact: 90473476. Email: kpsanjay202@gmail.com

ARCHITECT

Architect, Interior Designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com

DRIVER

Driver with 25 yrs experience, PDO licence looking for job. Contact: 99116288

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Indian Female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/ +968 94117967, Email: induchandran01@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

IT

Female Software Engineer full stack developer also expert in digital marketing with 7 yrs experience. Contact 74102443

Oman-based 2025 Computer Science Engineering graduate seeking job opportunities in IT support, administration, or document control roles. Fresher, currently in Muscat, and available to join immediately. Contact: +968 94988567

MCA graduate seeking a suitable job opportunity in Oman. Available in Muscat. Contact: 91488059

ENGINEER

Indian Male, 15+ yrs Sales exp. (IT/ Software). Open to Sales/BD roles in any industry. Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 94110178

Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com

Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvi@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225

Project Manager (Civil) Indian, 18 yr GCC experience, valid D/L and transferable visa, can join immediately. Contact: 97723786

Project Manager Civil seasoned professional with strong consultancy and construction expertise. Open for suitable opportunities. Contact 93455363 | WA +966 56 373 2589 (WhatsApp)

Civil Site Engineer with 24 yrs of experience in building construction, 15 yrs in oman, valid D/L looking for job. Contact 79128770

Indian Male (22yrs), Diploma in HSE. 1 yrs experience. Contact: 75086973

Quantity surveyor (B.Tech Civil, AIQS), 4+yrs Oman experience. Skilled in primavera, BIM, Revit, ongoing RICS accreditation, valid Oman D/L. Seeking infrastructure, oil & gas roles. Contact: 97649953

ENGINEER

MEP Engineer having 3+ yrs experience looking for a suitable placement. Ready to join immediately . Contact +968 7509 9651

Electrical Engineer, experience 18 yrs in Oman. Contact 98148034

Sales Engineer Indian Male, 7 yrs experience in sales. Seeking suitable job opportunities NOC & Oman D/L available. Contact 94150903 Email: vaseem9633@gmail.com

BE Civil Engr. Indian Male, 11yrs experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L seeks placement. Contact: 93867573, Email: pineasdhas@gamil.com

LOGISTICS

Indian Male Graduate with 25 yrs of proven experience in Car rental, fleet Management & logistics. Currently seeking for Senior/middle management position. Contact: 92152334.

Indian Male, 23 yrs of experience in store, logistics & commercial operations, looking for a suitable job. Contact : 91425510

MANAGER

Accounting Manager, Indian (M), 43yrs, 18+ yrs in Oman, D/L & NOC. Contact: 76432203

Indian Male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive) looking for suitable position. Contact: 98132055

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian Male Procurement Executive with 11 yrs of experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L available in Muscat for immediate joining. Contact 92345876

Indian Male 41 yrs MBA, B.com having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L, seeking suitable opportunities in Oman. Contact: +971529546753

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading. whatsapp: +96895839964

Indian Male 40 yrs Bcom MBA having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L, seeking suitable opportunities. Contact: +971529546753

SALES/MARKETING

Indian Male, 15+ yrs Sales exp. (IT/ Software). Open to Sales/BD roles in any industry. Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 94110178

Indian, MBA, 20yrs of experience in Sales (FMCG/retail) with D/L seeks suitable placement. Contact: 95548480

Indian Male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 94566786

Indian Male (35) MBA in Oman 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma Contact -79755795

Indian Male (MBA) with 5 yrs experience looking for a business development, marketing manager role. Contact: 99470508

Indian Senior Sales & Operations, 7+ yrs exp, with D/L. Seeks suitable position. Cont: 71713865 | Email: praveenmkg@gmail.com

MEDICAL

Microbiologist, quality assurance executive, Indian female (M.Sc) having 5yrs experience in microbiological testing, Quality assurance, documentation in food Industry. Looking for a suitable job. Contact 95603424 Email: annmariasunny22@gmail.com

Zelenskyy says willing to drop NATO membership demands

Zelenskyy described the proposal as a significant concession by Kyiv, which has for years pushed for NATO membership as the strongest safeguard against future Russian aggression



KYIV: Ukraine has signalled that it may be willing to give up its long-standing goal of joining NATO if it receives firm security guarantees from Western allies, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said ahead of key meetings with US envoys and European partners in Berlin, according to media report.

Zelenskyy described the proposal as a significant concession by Kyiv, which has for years pushed for NATO membership as the strongest safeguard against future Russian aggression. Instead, he said Ukraine could accept legally binding security guarantees from the United States, European countries and other allies.

"From the very beginning, Ukraine's desire was to join NATO; these are real security guarantees. Some partners from the US and

Europe did not support this direction," Zelenskyy said in response to questions from reporters in a WhatsApp chat.

Alternative arrangements

He said alternative arrangements could still offer strong protection. "Thus, today, bilateral security guarantees between Ukraine and the US, Article 5-like guarantees for us from the US, and security guarantees from European colleagues, as well as other countries - Canada, Japan - are an opportunity to prevent another Russian invasion," he said. Zelenskyy stressed that such assurances must be legally binding, adding, "And it is already a compromise from our part."

If pursued, the shift would mark a major change in Ukraine's position, as Kyiv has consistently sought NATO membership de-

spite Russia viewing the alliance's expansion as a direct threat. While the move would align with one of Moscow's stated objectives for the war, Zelenskyy made clear that Ukraine continues to reject any demand to surrender territory, as per Al Jazeera.

The Ukrainian president said he was seeking a "dignified" peace and firm guarantees that Russia would not launch another attack. He also accused Moscow of deliberately prolonging the conflict through continued strikes on Ukrainian cities and critical infrastructure, calling the war potentially Europe's deadliest since World War II.

The comments came as diplomatic efforts intensified, with growing pressure from US President Donald Trump to reach a settlement.

Trump's envoy Steve Witkoff

and his son-in-law Jared Kushner arrived in Berlin on Sunday for talks involving Ukrainian and European representatives.

The decision to send Witkoff, who has previously been involved in negotiations with both Kyiv and Moscow, was seen as a sign that Washington believes progress may be possible, according to Al Jazeera. Zelenskyy said Ukraine, along with the US and European partners, is reviewing a 20-point plan that could eventually lead to a ceasefire.

However, he reiterated that Kyiv is not holding direct talks with Russia. He noted that a truce along the current front lines could be considered fair, but pointed out that Moscow continues to demand Ukraine withdraw from parts of Donetsk and Luhansk that remain under Ukrainian control.

Despite ongoing diplomatic

Putin wants solution to Ukraine war, not temporary ceasefire, Kremlin says

MOSCOW: Russian presidential spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said Putin was "open to peace" in Ukraine but was against a temporary ceasefire.

"[Putin] is open to peace, to serious peace, to serious decisions," Peskov said Monday, according to the state-owned TASS news agency. "He is absolutely not open to aand creating artificial respites."

Peskov added that Ukraine refraining from joining the NATO alliance was fundamental to a potential settlement of the war.

"Naturally this issue is one of the cornerstones and, of course, it is subject to special discussion," he said.

Putin has repeatedly demanded that Ukraine renounce its NATO ambitions and withdraw troops from about 10% of the Donbas region that Kyiv still controls. The Russian leader has also said Ukraine must be a neutral country and



that no NATO troops can be stationed in Ukraine.

Many of the peace terms Putin has sought to dictate have been rejected by Ukrainian officials and have complicated international efforts to ensure Ukraine's security following the Russian invasion.

Peskov said he expected Russia to be updated on the state of talks among Ukrainian and European leaders in Berlin by the US envoys also in the German capital. — **DW**

discussions, Russian attacks have not stopped. Recent strikes have left thousands without electricity, and Ukrainian officials say Russia is deliberately targeting the power grid to deprive civilians of heat and water during the winter months. — **DW**

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SEISMOLOGY



Earthquake of 4.0 magnitude rattles Afghanistan, weeks after deadly quake

NEW DELHI: An earthquake of magnitude 4.0 struck Afghanistan early on Monday, according to the National Centre for Seismology (NCS).

The tremor was recorded at 6:10 am at a depth of 22 km, with its epicentre located at latitude 36.71 degrees north and longitude 71.58 degrees east. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

This comes amid a series of earthquakes reported in Afghanistan over the past week. Earlier on December 10, a stronger earthquake of magnitude 4.3 hit the country in the early hours of the day. That tremor was recorded at a much deeper depth of 150 km, the NCS said in a post on X.

A day earlier, on December 9, the NCS reported two separate earthquakes in the region. One quake of magnitude 3.8 struck at a depth of 70 km, while another stronger tremor measuring 4.5 occurred at a shallow depth of just 10 km.

Shallow earthquakes are considered more dangerous as seismic waves reach the surface quickly, leading to stronger ground shaking.

Afghanistan frequently experiences earthquakes, particularly in the Hindu Kush region, which lies in a highly active seismic zone, according to the Red Cross.

The recent tremors follow a powerful 6.3-magnitude earthquake that struck northern Afghanistan on November 4. Ac-

The tremor was recorded at 6:10 am at a depth of 22 km, with its epicentre located at latitude 36.71 degrees north and longitude 71.58 degrees east

cording to Afghan authorities, at least 27 people were killed and hundreds were injured in that quake. CNN reported that the tremor also damaged one of the country's most iconic mosques. The United States Geological Survey reported that the quake occurred at a shallow depth, which increases its impact.

Afghanistan's vulnerability to earthquakes is linked to its location along the collision zone between the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates. A major fault line also passes through parts of the country, including the Herat region.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) notes that Afghanistan remains extremely vulnerable to natural disasters, including earthquakes, landslides and seasonal flooding. — **ANI**

BONDI BEACH SHOOTING

Australia agrees to tougher gun laws

SYDNEY: Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced on Monday that he had met with the leaders of the country's states and territories, and that the group had agreed to "strengthen gun laws across the nation."

They plan to introduce even more rigorous background checks, bar non-nationals from gaining firearms licenses, and further limit the kinds of weapons individuals can own.

The announcement came the day after an antisemitic attack on Sydney's famed Bondi Beach that left 15 people dead.

Some 1,000 people had gathered for a celebration to mark the first night of the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.

Two gunmen, identified only as a 50-year-old and 24-year-old father and son, opened fired on the crowd.

The older suspect was reportedly killed during the incident, and his son is in a hospital in critical condition.

Fifteen people were killed, including a Holocaust survivor, a local rabbi, and a 10-year-old girl.

While authorities are still investigating a motive, Albanese called it "an act of pure evil, an act of antisemitism, an act of terrorism on our shores."

Police asked people not to jump to conclusions after reports of several instances of Islamophobic vandalism on Monday.



As panicked people fled the beach, some remind behind to comfort and help the wounded.

Local shopowner Ahmed al-Ahmed was then seen approaching one of the gunmen. A 43-year-old father with no experience with guns, he wrestled the firearm out of the assailant's hands.

At a press conference Sunday, New South Wales state premier Chris Minns hailed al-Ahmed as a "genuine hero."

"It's the most unbelievable scene I've ever seen — a man walking up to a gunman who had fired on the community and single-handedly disarming him, putting his own life at risk to save the lives of countless other people," he said.

Al-Ahmed's family said he was stable and recovering in a local hospital, having sustained gunshot wounds in the process of disarming the assailant.

World leaders express solidarity

"This attack was designed to target Sydney's Jewish community on the first day of Hanukkah," said Minns.

"What should have been a night of peace and joy celebrated in that community with families and supporters has been shattered," he added.

World leaders expressed their solidarity with those affected by the attack.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen wrote on social media "Europe stands with Australia and Jewish communities everywhere. We are united against violence, antisemitism and hatred."

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, French President Emmanuel Macron, and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer also strongly condemned the attack and offered condolences to the victims and their families.

"We must realise that this attack on a Hanukkah celebration did not happen by chance. It is a pattern of antisemitic terror to choose holidays to murder innocent and defenseless people," said Josef Schuster, president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany.

"As the Jewish community in Germany, our thoughts are with our brothers and sisters in Australia," he added.

What are Australia's current gun laws?

Seen as a gold standard internationally, Australia has had roughly the same set of laws in place since a 1996 mass shooting in Tasmania that killed 35 people.

The government launched a massive buyback scheme for firearms, instituted background checks and national registers for firearms, and restricted access to automatic and semi-automatic weapons. — **DW**

TELEPHONIC CALL

Marco Rubio speaks to Australian FM as US condemns 'heinous' Bondi Beach terror attack

WASHINGTON DC: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Sunday held a call with Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong to discuss the antisemitic terrorist attack at Sydney's Bondi Beach, which targeted members of the Jewish community celebrating the first day of Hanukkah.

In a statement attributable to Principal Deputy Spokesperson Tommy Pigott, the US State Department said Secretary Rubio "had a call today with Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Penny Wong to discuss the antisemitic terrorist attack at Sydney's Bondi Beach."

"The United States strongly

condemns the heinous terrorist attack in Australia targeting a Hanukkah celebration hosted by Chabad-Lubavitch of Bondi. As Prime Minister Albanese said, this was 'an act of evil, antisemitism, terrorism,'" the statement said.

"We stand in solidarity with the Jewish community and with the Australian people as we pray for the victims and their families. We are grateful to Australian first responders and bystanders for their heroic response," it added.

Referring to the significance of the festival, the statement said, "As Jews around the world light Hanukkah candles tonight, they commemorate the triumph of light

over darkness and the long history of Jewish resilience in the face of oppression. No community should have to fear publicly celebrating their faith and traditions due to the threat of extremist violence and terror. There can be no compromise with antisemitism - this scourge must be confronted and defeated."

The call came as Australian authorities confirmed that the death toll from the shooting has risen to 16, with at least 40 people still hospitalised. The New South Wales Police Force said in a post on X, "Police can confirm 16 people have died, and 40 people remain in hospital following yes-

terday's shooting at Bondi. More information will be made available soon."

According to CNN, a Jewish community representative confirmed that a 12-year-old girl and a rabbi are among those killed in the attack.

Police said the area around Bondi Beach remains sealed off as investigations continue.

"Bondi Beach and surrounding roads in the Bondi area will be closed today as investigators continue to work through the crime scene. Aircraft, including drones, are prohibited from flying over the crime scene," the police said in a separate post. — **ANI**



FEATURES

CATASTROPHIC US FLOODS LINKED TO HOTTER CLIMATE

Rising temperatures and extreme rainfall might not seem connected, but they often are. Here's how.



Days of relentless rainfall in the west of Washington state has forced authorities to order tens of thousands of residents to evacuate as catastrophic flooding hits.

As rivers reach near historic levels, the state's governor, Bob Ferguson, declared a statewide emergency. "Lives will be at stake in the coming days," he said.

Meteorologists say the extreme rains have been caused by an "atmospheric river" soaking the region along the coast of Oregon and Washington. Former National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chief scientist Ryan Maue, now a private meteorologist, said between 20 and 30 inches (51 to 76 centimetres) could fall in a three-week period, which is "quite extreme."

What's the science behind extreme flooding?

Rising global temperatures, caused by burning fossil fuels, is making rainfall more frequent and severe across most parts of the world.

Tropical storms and intensified monsoon systems have also triggered catastrophic flooding and landslides across Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam since mid-November.

"Increasing heavy rainfall and extreme flood heights in a warming climate threaten densely populated regions across Sri Lanka and the Malacca Strait," according to a study this week by World Weather Attribution, a UK-based academic institution.

While modelling precipitation patterns is complex, a clear guiding principle is that when air gets hotter it holds more moisture.

Greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere act to insulate Earth, trapping heat and causing temperatures to rise. One consequence is more rapid evaporation of water on land and at sea, so more water is released when it rains, which can result in flooding.

Air's capacity to hold moisture rises by 7% with every rise of 1 degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit). Global air temperatures increased 1.55 C above pre-industrial

levels in 2024, which was the hottest on record according to the World Meteorological Organisation.

Temperature rises also make more precipitation fall as rain instead of snow which can make high-altitude regions vulnerable to flooding and landslides. A 2022 study published in the science journal Nature found that in snowy, high-elevation parts of the Northern Hemisphere, rainfall extremes increased by an average of 15% per 1 degree Celsius of warming.

How hotter temperatures are affecting rainfall

Climate change is altering the frequency of heavy downpours during storms and sudden outbursts through its influence on complex atmospheric and weather patterns.

Advances in attribution science are allowing experts to pinpoint the causal relationship between climate change and extreme weather events more accurately. According to one estimate, on average, one in four record rainfall extremes in the past decade can be attributed to climate change.

Severe flash flooding in the US state of Texas in July that killed more than 100 people was also made worse by climate, say experts.

Edward Gryspeerdt, a research fellow at the Department of Physics at Imperial College London in the UK, concluded that "the floods in Texas were driven by record amounts of atmospheric moisture over a region that is known for flash floods."

He warned that, as the atmosphere warms due to climate change, such extreme rainfall events are likely to become worse.

"Climate models predict that while Texas may become slightly drier on average due to climate change, the intensity of rainfall will likely increase, suggesting that these types of thunderstorms will become more common in the future."



Will floods increase in the future?

Climate science shows that the risk of extreme flooding will increase if the world fails to limit global warming.

If the 1.5 degrees Celsius temperature rise limit set at the Paris climate summit is breached, extreme rain deemed a once-a-decade rainfall event will occur 1.5 times every 10 years and be over 10% wetter, according to the UN's International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

At 2 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial levels, such events would be likely to hit 1.7 times per decade and be 14% wetter, according to the IPCC.

And if the world warms to 4 degrees Celsius, heavy rains could hit almost three times more often and unleash 30% more rain. - DW

SPORTS

Haaland scores a brace to help City triumph at Crystal Palace

Aston Villa also won to keep pressure on leaders Arsenal in the Premier League

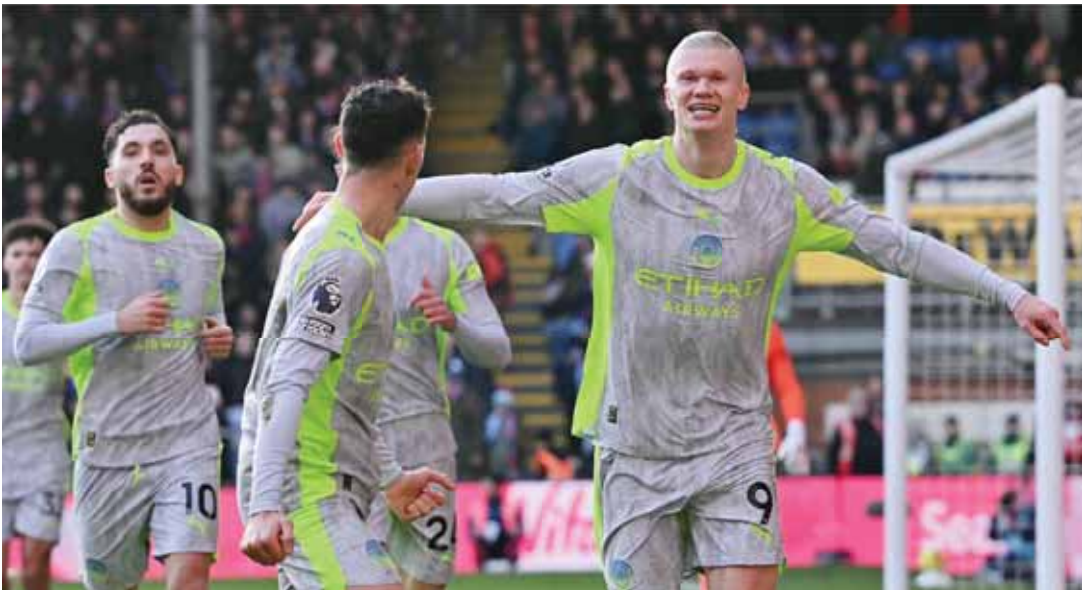
LONDON: Erling Haaland scored twice to help Manchester City dispatch Crystal Palace 3-0 on Sunday and maintain the pressure on Premier League leaders Arsenal. The win helped City reduce Arsenal's lead at the top to two points again.

City would have been eyeing top spot on Saturday night when Wolves grabbed a late equaliser at Arsenal but Yerson Mosquera's injury-time own goal provided Mikel Arteta's men with much-needed relief.

City did their job in the capital but did not have it all their own way as Palace carved out the best opportunity early on - Yeremy Pino breaking the offside trap from Adam Wharton's dinked pass but only managing to strike the crossbar when one-on-one with Gianluigi Donnarumma.

The hosts were creating chances without being able to apply the finishing touch and that lack of cutting edge proved costly as Matheus Nunes swung in a cross to the back post for Haaland to thump home a header four minutes before half-time.

England international Wharton has not scored for Palace since



joining from Blackburn in February 2024 but came close to breaking his duck at the start of the second period when a rasping strike rattled the foot of the post.

Tijjani Reijnders' low drive was kept out by Dean Henderson before Phil Foden drove home a delightful finish and Haaland added a third late on from the penalty spot after Savinho was brought down by the Palace goalkeeper.

Aston Villa also claimed an away win on Sunday to stay within striking distance of Arsenal as they trail now by three points.

Aston Villa twice came from behind away to West Ham 3-2, who took a first-minute lead through Mateus Fernandes before an own goal made it 1-1 in the ninth minute. Jarrod Bowen put West Ham back in front in the 24th minute, but two goals from England midfielder



Morgan Rogers turned the game around to give Villa a sixth consecutive league win.

An own goal by Newcastle United striker Nick Woltemade at the start of the second half earned Sunderland its first Wear-Tyne derby win in the league in nine years.

Nottingham Forest claimed three vital points with a 3-0 win at home to Tottenham Hotspur, climbing to 16th in the standings. Callum Hudson-Odoi scored twice, with Ibrahim Sangare providing both assists before adding Forest's third.

Brentford and Leeds United shared the points, with Jordan Henderson putting Brentford ahead in the 70th minute and Dominic Calvert-Lewin equalising for Leeds in the 82nd minute. - Agencies

SPANISH LA LIGA

Rodrygo, Mbappe on target as Real Madrid down Alaves for vital win



VITORIA: Real Madrid recorded a much-needed win as they beat Alaves 2-1 at Mendizorrotza Stadium in Vitoria, Spain, on Sunday.

Boss Xabi Alonso has been under pressure after back-to-back defeats by Celta Vigo and Manchester City, and a third consecutive loss at Alaves was likely to spell the end for the 44-year-old.

However, his side closed the gap to league leaders Barcelona to four points with a hard-fought away win.

Real were five points clear at the summit when they beat Barca in El Clasico at the end of October, but a run of poor results since, including draws against Elche

and Rayo Vallecano, have allowed Hansi Flick's side to take control.

Kylian Mbappe - who returned to the squad after missing the Champions League loss to City with a knee injury - scored his 17th league goal of the campaign in the 24th minute, latching on to Jude Bellingham's pass and firing into the top corner. The France captain now has 70 goals for Real Madrid since joining in July 2024.

Goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois produced a fine save to deny Pablo Ibanez on the stroke of halftime but Carlos Vicente equalised for Alaves a minute after entering the field in the 68th minute as he expertly controlled Antonio Blan-



co's ball over the top and fired past Courtois. The goal was initially ruled offside before VAR overturned the decision.

In the 76th minute, Alonso's side restored their lead when Rodrygo darted into the box and finished from close range from Vinicius Jr's pass.

The result is a much-needed reprieve for under-fire boss Alonso with Real hosting Sevilla in the league next on Saturday. Sevilla claimed a 4-0 win against struggling Oviedo, who remains rooted in the bottom three.

The game was virtually over by the 22nd minute after Akor Adams and Djibril Sow had put Se-

villa 2-0 up, with Batista Mendy scoring a neat individual goal in the 51st minute and Chidera Ejuke wrapping things up one minute from time. Oviedo's day was made worse by David Carmo's 82nd-minute red card.

Celta claimed its first home league win of the season with a 2-0 triumph over Athletic Bilbao, with Williot Swedberg and Jones El-Abdellaoui scoring after 48 and 55 minutes, while Athletic's Nico Williams had a penalty saved.

The game scheduled on Sunday between Levante and Villarreal was postponed due to a red alert for heavy rain in the Valencia region. - Agencies

REAL SOCIEDAD AND OVIEDO



Two La Liga clubs dismiss coaches

MADRID: Two Spanish top-flight sides parted company with their head coaches on Sunday, with Real Sociedad and Oviedo both acting after poor runs of form left them hovering near the relegation places just 16 matches into the season.

Real Sociedad dismissed coach Sergio Francisco on Sunday after only 16 matches, naming B team boss Ion Ansotegi as caretaker. The decision came after Friday's 2-1 home loss to Girona, which left the club on 16 points from 16 matches and sitting just one point clear of the relegation zone.

Francisco took charge in the summer after Imanol Alguacil stepped down, but he opened the campaign with one win in the first nine league games. A brief rebound followed, with three wins and a draw.

That momentum faded after a stoppage-time defeat to Villarreal, a 1-0 derby loss to Alaves, and Friday's setback to Girona.

Earlier on Sunday, Oviedo also announced the dismissal of first-team coach Luis Carrion following a heavy 4-0 defeat away to Sevilla.

"The manager has left the club with immediate effect. His coaching staff has also ended their association with the club," read a statement published by Oviedo.

The club is now looking for its third coach after just 16 matches of the season.

Carrion lost his job after eight league matches in charge, with Oviedo taking just four points, all from draws, and failing to score in seven of those games. Oviedo now sit second from bottom in the standings. - Agencies

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Kane rescues draw for leaders Bayern Munich against Mainz

MUNICH: Bayern Munich squandered the chance to extend its lead at the top of the Bundesliga as it was held to a 2-2 home draw by bottom side Mainz at Allianz Arena in Munich on Sunday.

The league leader dominated possession from the outset but struggled to turn control into clear chances. After early attempts by Lennart Karl and Harry Kane, Bayern took the lead in the 29th minute. Michael Olise initiated the move, Kane drove a low ball across goal and Karl arrived unmarked to finish from close range.

Mainz, playing its first match under coach Urs Fischer, remained dangerous from set pieces. Its persistence was rewarded just before the break when William Boving's curling free kick was met

by Kacper Potulski, who headed past goalkeeper Manuel Neuer to equalize in stoppage time.

Serge Gnabry wasted a clear chance on the hour, and the hosts were punished moments later. Stefan Bell clipped a long pass into the area and Lee Jae-sung headed home to put Mainz ahead in the 67th minute.

Bayern responded by increasing the tempo and committing more players forward, but was repeatedly frustrated by Mainz goalkeeper Daniel Batz.

Relief finally arrived when Potulski was penalised for pulling Kane in the box, and the England striker converted the resulting penalty in the 87th minute for his 18th league goal of the season.

The draw leaves the defending

champions on top with 38 points from 14 matches, nine points clear of second-placed RB Leipzig, while Mainz remains bottom on seven points.

"We dominated the first half and had enough chances, but conceding before the break changed the momentum," said Kane. "A home draw is always disappointing."

Kane has scored all 20 penalties he has taken in the Bundesliga games.

The England captain is the top scorer in the league with 18 goals and his latest strike was his 80th in the division.

Elsewhere, third-placed Borussia Dortmund was held to a 1-1 draw by Freiburg, while Stuttgart eased past 10-man Werder Bremen 4-0. - Xinhua



Stokes tells England to confront Australia head-on to save Ashes

England skipper calls for commitment and courage ahead of Adelaide Test, which begins on Wednesday

ADELAIDE: Ben Stokes has urged his England team to unleash “the dog” in them to keep the Ashes alive ahead of a decisive third Test in Adelaide, which begins on Wednesday.

Trailing 2-0 to Australia after two different but equally harrowing eight-wicket defeats, the England captain has lit a fire under his charges, urging them to show more fight ahead of what will be the biggest match of his tenure.

Since taking over in the summer of 2022, Stokes has tended towards a more holistic approach, encouraging players to express themselves in ways they see fit.

Now, in the City of Churches, he has called for something akin to Old Testament fury - to challenge Australia head-on in what will be a defining week for his tenure, and that of head coach Brendon McCullum.

Asked how he would define that need for more “fight” after two meek Tests, Stokes insisted the word would show itself differently in each player. But the sentiment, he believed, was to look squarely back at Australia and not relent.

“What it [fight] means to me could be completely different to



someone else,” Stokes said. “It’s just trying to fight in every situation that you find yourself in and understanding the situation and what you feel is required for your team. Just look at your opposition every single time and show a bit of dog. That’s a fight to me.

“It comes a lot easier to me, it might be a lot harder for other people because of their personalities or whatever that may be. I’m not going to expect or ask a completely different character to carry on like me. That’s like asking me to carry

on like someone like Jamie Smith, who’s a lot more laid back. It just wouldn’t work. However, you find the best way to find that mode that I’m talking about, that’s probably the best way to explain it.”

It was a sentiment Stokes first put across with his own actions, after resuming his seventh-wicket stand with Will Jacks on the morning of the final day of the second Test. The pair’s 96 from 221 deliveries was a welcome show of resistance, even if it only delayed Australia’s win.

“I could have gone out there on that morning session in Brisbane and nicked off the first ball, but going out there with that mentality and that mindset is what fight is to me. As long as you go out there and everyone is in that mindset around the situation and what is needed, you’re giving yourself the best possible chance if you’ve got a bit of a dog in you.”

He added: “I’ve done all the talking over the last two days that I needed to have done. All that stuff’s done now, so it’s about what gets seen out

on the field in Adelaide this week.

“Everyone’s very switched on for what needs to be done this week. Yeah, a few more expectations, I think, around the group, but everyone responded incredibly well to it. Because what other option do we have?”

Stokes made his Test debut at Adelaide in 2013, where he showcased the mongrel that lies within in a clash with wicketkeeper Brad Haddin, having over-stepped for what would have been his maiden Test wicket.

Stokes has readily accessed that side to his personality throughout his career - at times, to a fault. But he admits his team of varying personalities have been too tentative in fully combating what Australia has thrown at them, on and off the field.

After Mark Wood returned home on Saturday following a recurrence of an injury to his left knee, there are now just four players on the tour with previous experience of Ashes tours. While the squad was told what to expect when they arrived here, the reality has been far more confronting, both with the local media and the crowds.

“Honestly I think so,” Stokes said, when asked if the players had been taken aback by the scale of the noise during their month in the country so far. Now, he hopes they can use it to fuel a desperately needed comeback. There’ve been a lot of guys in the squad who have come out here to Australia for the first time, and I remember my first tour here; you try to imagine what it’s going to be like and you hear people talk. And when it does come around it’s like ‘wow’.

“But now I feel everyone has experienced that, and probably at its highest level, so we all know what it’s going to be like. So for the next three games there isn’t going to be any of that ‘I didn’t expect this’ ... ‘it’s the first time I’ve had this’.

“Even the likes of Jamie Smith, the day he dropped that catch (in Brisbane), then the whole crowd was wailing at him every time he caught the ball. He now knows it. Sometimes experiencing stuff like that for the first time, you’re not worrying about it. I think sometimes saying it with a little bit more emphasis and passion and attitude from myself can take lads to another level in terms of that side of things that they thought they could get to.” - Agencies

ASHES SERIES

England draft seamer Josh Tongue for Adelaide Test

ADELAIDE: England have drafted in seamer Josh Tongue for their third Test against Australia in Adelaide but have decided against calling upon Shoaib Bashir for the most spin-friendly pitch they will encounter on this Ashes tour.

At 2-0 down, England were always likely to twist for Wednesday’s must-win encounter.

But after head coach Brendon McCullum publicly backed a faltering top seven over the weekend, he and the captain Ben Stokes have decided to make just a single change, with Gus Atkinson making way.

Atkinson has had a difficult tour, though is certainly not alone on that front. His average of 78.66 is the worst of England’s bowlers, with just three wickets from 54 overs - the first of those coming with the final ball of his 41st over of the series, during Australia’s first innings of the second Test.

In Tongue, England have opted for a wicket-taking option rather than the control that Matthew Potts might have offered. The seamer will earn his seventh Test



cap since debuting in the 2023 home season, with 31 dismissals at an average of exactly 30.

It will be Tongue’s second meeting with Australia after playing at Lord’s during the last Ashes, taking five wickets in the match, including Steven Smith twice, though the first came when Smith had 110 to his name.

The 28-year-old has dismissed Smith four times in all - once for Worcestershire in 2023’s County Championship when Smith was playing for Sussex, and in this

year’s edition of The Hundred.

Tongue’s last outing for the Test side came in their final match of the summer, taking 5 for 125 against India - his second five-wicket haul - finishing the series as England’s leading wicket taker (19) despite just three appearances in the five-match series.

England’s XI for Adelaide Test: Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (capt), Jamie Smith (wk), Will Jacks, Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer, Josh Tongue. - Agencies

TERROR ATTACK

Australia and England cricketers unite in tribute to Bondi victims

SYDNEY: Australia and England cricketers have paid tribute to the victims of the Bondi Beach terror attack while Aussie skipper Pat Cummins has urged people to donate blood. Sixteen people have died after gunmen opened fire on crowds gathered to mark the first night of Hanukkah, the Jewish holiday, on Sunday evening.

In a joint statement, the two boards said: “Everybody at Cricket Australia and the England & Wales Cricket Board is horrified by the tragic events at Bondi Beach yesterday evening. All of our thoughts are with the victims, their friends and families, the Jewish community and the people of Australia at this deeply distressing time. Our condolences go out to all those affected. We stand with you.”

Posting on Instagram, Cummins wrote: “Absolutely devastated by the horror last night in Bondi. My heart goes out to the victims, their families, the people of Bondi and our Jewish community during this time. If you can, please book an appointment to donate blood.”



Flags at Adelaide Oval, where the teams are preparing for the third Test, were flying at half-mast on Monday. South Australia Premier Peter Malinauskas said there would be additional security for the event.

Australia off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who lives in Sydney, said: “It was a horrific day for everyone involved, and we stand by them, and our thoughts and prayers are with them. But nothing I’m going to say right now is going to make anyone feel any better. But

other than that, we’re thinking of them, and hopefully they can get through this.”

Former England captain Michael Vaughan, who is in Australia commenting on the Ashes, was having dinner with family in Bondi when the restaurant he was at went into lockdown.

“I have never experienced anything like it. You know what’s happening around you, but you don’t want to believe it’s happening,” Vaughan wrote in a column for the UK’s *Daily Telegraph*. - Agencies

DHARAMSALA T20I

India pacer Arshdeep Singh bounces back in style yet again

DHARAMSALA: India pacer Arshdeep Singh knows how to bounce back. In 2022, when he dropped a sitter against Pakistan in the Asia Cup, he was subjected to online abuse. He had shown his mental fortitude in the same game by bowling an excellent 20th over, even though India went on to lose.

A month later, when India faced Pakistan at the T20 World Cup, Arshdeep trapped Babar Azam lbw with his very first ball. In his next over, he dismissed Mohammad Rizwan, and finished with 3 for 32 from four overs.

The third T20I against South Africa in Dharamsala on Sunday was another example of Arshdeep’s bouncebackability.

In the previous game in New Chandigarh, his home ground, he had leaked 54 in four overs without taking a wicket. He missed his wide yorkers time and again, even bowling seven wides in one over.

On Sunday, he put all that be-

hind him and emerged as the Player of the Match, taking 2 for 13 from four overs. He didn’t bowl a single wide.

Before the match began, Dharamsala promised two things. The ground is roughly 1.5km above sea level; the rarefied air makes the ball travel farther. At the same time, it’s chilly and there’s help for seamers, both in the air and off the surface. On Sunday the second overpowered the first.

It helped, perhaps, that Dharamsala is Arshdeep’s home ground in a way, as his IPL team Punjab Kings play half of their home matches here. “When I walked in, everyone was telling me [that],” he said after the game. “I told them, ‘No, this is not my home ground.’ So that felt better.”

But there were still challenges. Dew had started setting in even before the toss. And with Jasprit Bumrah unavailable, Arshdeep had the extra responsibility of



leading the seam attack.

He overcame both with aplomb. Bowling the first over after India chose to field, he seemed to

have the ball on a string. With his second and third deliveries, he squared up Reeza Hendricks with his angle across the right-hand

batter, and then trapped him lbw with the one that swung in.

That was Arshdeep’s 48th wicket in the first six overs in T20Is. It took

him past Bhuvneshwar Kumar’s India record for most T20I wickets in that phase. This was also the 20th occasion on which he had dismissed a batter for a duck in T20Is, again the most by an Indian, again going past Bhuvneshwar’s tally.

Did he change anything from the last game? “Nothing,” he said. “I just pitched the ball in the right areas and tried to get as much help from the wicket [as possible]. When you play at this level, there are days when you won’t execute the things you want to. That was just a one-off day.”

Arshdeep also finished strongly. While he didn’t nail his go-to wide yorkers - a couple ended up as low full-tosses - it was not easy to put him away. When Aiden Markram tried to go after a full and wide delivery, he edged it behind.

There is no doubt about Arshdeep’s class. As he said, and showed, his display in New Chandigarh was an aberration. - Agencies

ROUND-UP

Cadillac introduces its best lineup ever designed for every lifestyle

Five new models include OPTIQ, LYRIQ, VISTIQ, ESCALADE IQ and ESCALADE IQL

MUSCAT: Cadillac Middle East announces the next chapter of its 120-year journey with the launch of five new vehicle models in one year. This marks the brand's most comprehensive lineup ever, reflecting Cadillac's commitment to leading luxury mobility with technology, performance, and design. The announcement reflects the region's increasing move toward advanced, contemporary vehicles and reinforces the evolving customer demand for innovation and modern luxury.

Omar Elkhishin, Managing Director, Cadillac International Operations and Cadillac Middle East said "As an iconic brand synony-



mous with luxury, Cadillac continues to define the future of mobility through innovation, performance, and design. Our enhanced lineup marks a pivotal moment in Cadillac's transformation, one that reflects our unwavering commitment to craftsmanship and cutting-edge technology while staying true to the brand's distinguished heritage. In a region that cultivates innovation, these models embody the spirit of modern luxury that

resonates deeply with our customers. Each vehicle has been created to cater to a wide spectrum of drivers, from loyal Cadillac enthusiasts to a new generation seeking bold design, advanced technology, and refined performance. This launch represents more than the introduction of new nameplates, it signifies the beginning of a new era for Cadillac, both globally and here in the region"

This new lineup has been created

to offer a Cadillac for every lifestyle, with models designed to suit individual preferences and daily needs seen across cities in the GCC.

The 2026 Cadillac lineup includes:

OPTIQ
A versatile entry SUV. Designed to suit tech-forward drivers who move across cities and seek seamless connectivity and confident driving comfort.

LYRIQ
A mid-size SUV that offers refined performance and an immersive cabin experience. The LYRIQ-V is the fastest Cadillac ever, offering elevated power for those who enjoy dynamic driving.

VISTIQ
A three-row SUV that balances performance with space. It offers flexibility for families and individuals who enjoy road trips and long

journeys without compromising on comfort.

ESCALADE IQ
A reimagining of the brand's most iconic full-size SUV. It offers long electric driving range and intuitive technologies that enhance every journey.

ESCALADE IQL
A larger, extended version with best-in-class cargo space and second-row comfort. Ideal for families that value both practicality and luxury.

The luxury vehicle segment is projected to grow steadily over the next decade, driven by demand for personalization, identity-led choices, comfort, and advanced performance. Cadillac's new portfolio has been shaped to meet these expectations and support the region's shift towards elevated mobility.

With craftsmanship, advanced connectivity, and thoughtful design across all models, Cadillac invites drivers to explore a modern driving experience that fits every part of life.

PROMOTION

26 more Yaris up for grabs! Join Toyota's 50th anniversary celebration

MUSCAT: The joy continues to spread across Oman as Saud Bahwan Automotive the distributor for Toyota vehicles announced the latest group of winners in its historic 50th Anniversary Mega Celebration. With every raffle draw, more customers are turning their Toyota purchase into a life-changing experience, driving home a brand-new Toyota Yaris.

Marking five decades of partnership between Saud Bahwan Automotive and Toyota, the campaign celebrates a golden journey of trust, quality and customer happiness. Alongside the chance to win one of 50 brand-new Toyota Yaris cars, customers also enjoy unmatched benefits including 50% VAT covered, 5 Years / 50,000 Kms Service, 50% Insurance covered and RO 50 worth Thiqah Loyalty Points.

This time, the list of winners features individuals and companies from across Oman; each representing a unique story of loyalty and trust in Toyota.

AsadJuma Mabiya Musabah Al Sadi from Nizwa, who purchased a Land Cruiser Pick-Up, expressed his delight saying, "For us in Nizwa, Toyota is more than a vehicle, it is part of our daily life. My Land Cruiser Pick-up has been my dependable work partner and now to win a Yaris feels amazing. It is truly a proud moment."



Rawnaq Al Duqum Trading, represented by Fahad Said Nasser Al Saad, who purchased a Land Cruiser Pick-Up, said, "Our business relies on vehicles that can perform under tough conditions and Toyota has never let us down. Winning the Yaris in this special 50th anniversary year is a wonderful bonus."

Majan International Petroleum Services, who purchased an Urban Cruiser, said, "Our team depends on Toyota vehicles for their performance and dependability. This win is a joyful reminder that trust and loyalty always pay off. We are happy to be part of Toyota's golden celebration."

AlyaAbdullah Hamed Al Rawahi from Nizwa, who purchased a Corolla, said with joy, "My first ever car was a Toyota and it has always been part of my milestones. Win-

ning a Yaris during Toyota's 50th anniversary campaign makes this purchase even more memorable, it feels like being part of something special."

Three more winners – coupon no. 11582 and coupon no. 11536 were proud owners of one Yaris vehicle each.

With every new draw, excitement continues to build as more customers experience the thrill of winning. The campaign, one of the biggest of its kind in Oman, has already created unforgettable memories for 24 lucky winners, with 26 more Yaris cars waiting to be won.

Customers who have not participated yet can still join in the celebrations by visiting their nearest Toyota showroom and discovering the joy of driving home their favourite Toyota and maybe even become the next Yaris winner.

RECOGNITION

Sohar International secures 3 major wins at TOMI Awards

MUSCAT: Sohar International was recently honoured with three major accolades at the TOMI Awards 2025: Best Overall Advertising Campaign, Best Event of the Year, and the prestigious Gold Marketing ICON title awarded to Dr. Mazin Mahmood Al Raisi, Chief Marketing Officer at Sohar International.

Held at the Crowne Plaza Qurum, the ceremony celebrated standout achievements in marketing excellence across the Sultanate, bringing together leading brands, agencies, and industry pioneers for an evening dedicated to recognizing innovation, measurable impact, and creative leadership.

Commenting on the achievements, Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, Chief Executive Officer of Sohar International, said, "These awards are a direct reflection of the strategic direction guiding Sohar International's journey to build a future-ready financial institution, where clarity of purpose, disciplined execution, and innovation come together to create long-term value. We view our brand not as a communication tool, but as a strategic platform that articulates the bank's identity, translates its priorities, and aligns transformation efforts across the organisation."

Sohar International's win for Best Overall Advertising Cam-



paign highlights the strength of its Digitalization Campaign, anchored in the bank's strategic positioning of "Always a Step Ahead." Presenting a unified, seamless, and secure digital ecosystem, the campaign enhanced customer experiences across both retail and corporate segments and transformed digital empowerment into a compelling narrative embodied by national sports icon Ahmad Al Harthy; symbolizing agility, control, and forward momentum. Supported by extensive media outreach, influencer-driven storytelling, and targeted on-ground activations, the campaign contributed to more than 100% year-on-year growth in mobile app transactions, reaffirming the bank's leadership in digital banking. This commit-

ment to meaningful brand experiences was also recognized regionally, with the Best Event of the Year award for the inauguration of Sohar International's flagship KSA branch—an immersive, culturally grounded experience that blended strategic ambition with an authentic expression of Omani identity, exemplifying the bank's ability to craft engagements that balance cultural relevance with organizational vision.

This progress is supported by leadership that guides the bank's marketing direction, with the Gold Marketing Icon award awarded to Dr. Mazen bin Mahmoud Al Raisi reflecting recognition of his professional experience and contribution to the development of Sohar International's brand identity.

HIMAM

Bank Muscat carnival to promote inclusion for persons with disabilities

MUSCAT: Reaffirming its commitment to enhancing the participation of persons with disabilities in social and sporting activities, Bank Muscat launched one of its key corporate social responsibility initiatives, Himam Carnival 2025. The second edition of the carnival was organized following the success of last year's event and the positive feedback from participants with disabilities and their families.

This year's carnival featured the participation of over 500 persons with disabilities, Bank employees, and their families, and included a range of activities, creating an inclusive and engaging environment.

The initiative included running races suitable for all participant groups, as well as a dedicated entertainment area offering games, competitions, and food stalls. The event coincided with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebrated every December. The carnival concluded with the recognition of 36 winners who secured the top three positions in the various races.

Initiatives directed toward persons with disabilities play a crucial role in promoting inclusion by providing equitable opportunities for participation across different fields. Creating supportive and accessible environments enables



individuals to fully utilize their abilities. Such initiatives also raise community awareness, foster a culture that embraces diverse abilities, and help nurture talent, ultimately generating broader social impact through empowerment and improved quality of life for all.

Bank Muscat's commitment to inclusion is reflected in its broad range of initiatives, from enhancing accessible banking services to ongoing community and sustain-

ability programmes. These efforts reinforce the role of institutions in supporting society; aligning with Oman Vision 2040, particularly its focus on community empowerment and partnerships to ensure a dignified and sustainable quality of life for all.

During the ceremony, Hamza Abbas Al Ajmi, Deputy General Manager – Credit at Bank Muscat, stated: "This initiative reflects Bank Muscat's commitment in

supporting, empowering, and integrating persons with disabilities, in alignment with the pillars of Oman Vision 2040. This year's edition showcased exemplary sportsmanship and inspiring determination. We extend our appreciation to the families of participants for their support and contribution to the success of the Bank's social initiatives aimed at strengthening partnership and collaboration."

Participants in the "Himam Car-

nival" expressed their joy in taking part in an event designed to empower persons with disabilities through inclusive social and sporting activities. Amjad Said Al Wahibi, commented: "Our participation in this year's carnival is a message that true strength comes from within, no matter the challenges. It reminds us that determination opens new doors for those who nurture it. This initiative is a wonderful platform for community engagement.

I was delighted to participate and proud to have secured first place in a highly competitive race which exceeded my expectations. I would like to extend my gratitude to Bank Muscat for the excellent organisation of the carnival."

Nabil Khamis Al Kindi, added: "This carnival brings us together in a moment of joy and celebration. It highlights the beauty of our diversity, talents, and dreams. We thank Bank Muscat for continuing to organise such events and are delighted to take part in today's various activities. Last year, I secured third place in the race and this year I achieved second place. I am pleased with this gathering and hope such events continue to demonstrate the commitment of institutions and community towards persons with disabilities."

Throughout its longstanding journey, Bank Muscat has remained committed to creating tangible social and environmental impact. The Bank has adopted clear strategies and implemented sustainable programmes aimed at delivering long-term value to the Omani community across multiple sectors. In line with its commitment to fostering public-private partnerships, the Bank continues to collaborate with various institutions and organizations to support various segments of society.

ROX

INTRODUCING
THE LUXURIOUS ALL-TERRAIN SUV

ROX ADAMAS

GLIDING LUXURY



POWERED BY
WORLD-LEADING REEV TECHNOLOGY

TESTED IN
GCC



Also available in a First-Class 6-Seater configuration.



476 hp
740 Nm
Torque



Full-Time
4WD
0-100 km/h 5.5 s



Combined
Range upto
1226 km*



140mm Ride Height
Adjustment during
Desert Drive



AI-Powered In-Car
Multilingual Voice Assistant
(Arabic, English)*

For more information, please contact



مسقط الدولية للسيارات ش.م.م
Muscat International Automobiles LLC

800 500 11

ROX-Oman.com

9662 8901

ROXMotorOman

*WLTP-based and range may vary in real conditions.