

HM THE SULTAN GREETES PRESIDENT OF MALTA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President George Vella of the Republic of Malta on his country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to President Vella and the people of his country. **-ONA**



HIS MAJESTY THE SULTAN GREETES PRESIDENT OF ARMENIA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Armen Sarkissian of Armenia on his country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to President Sarkissian. His Majesty also wished the friendly people of Armenia further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**



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FOOTBALL

25th Gulf Cup postponed until January 2023

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The upcoming Arabian Gulf Cup, which was scheduled to begin in December 2021, has been postponed until January 2023.

The 25th edition of the tournament was originally slated to begin in the Iraqi city of Basra in December 2021, and run into January 2022, but the Arab Gulf Cup Football Federation (AGCFF) decided otherwise.

The decision was made at an extraordinary meeting of the organisation's general assembly, led

by Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the body's president, and the heads of the football association of the Gulf countries.

"The extraordinary general assembly decided to postpone the 25th Gulf Cup because the Gulf teams have a packed calendar, and they will be participating in many international and continental competitions during that time," said Jassim Al Rumaihi, the secretary general of the AGCFF, in a statement.

"Iraq had completed, six months ago, all preparations to host the Gulf

Cup, in accordance with our regulations and standards," he added.

During the meeting, discussions were also held over naming the host for the 26th edition of the tournament, which has been pencilled in for December 2023 and January 2024.

At the meeting, the presidency of Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani was also extended until May 2023. During this meeting, Salem bin Saeed Al Wahaibi of the Oman Football Association was named vice president of the AGCFF. **>A5**

SAYYID THEYAZIN MEETS OMAN PARALYMPIC MEDALLIST

His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tarik Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, received paralympic shot put bronze medallist Mohammed Al Mashaykhi, at his office in the ministry. His Highness stressed the importance of Omani players securing podium finishes in international tournaments, which can be aided by organisations in the country working towards creating national champions at the global level.



EXPATS CAN RETAIN FLATS EVEN AFTER LEAVING OMAN

The usufruct period can last for up to 50 years, and be extended for a 99-year span

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Expatriates who buy flats under Oman's usufruct scheme will continue to own their properties, even after they leave the country, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning (MOHUP) has said.

"Non-Omani owners who buy real estate in multi-storey residential and commercial buildings can keep the property even when they return to their home

in these multi-storey buildings," said the MOHUP official.

Expats can invest in buildings coming up in some places. In Amerat, these include Al Amerat Al Hashiyah 1, Al Nahda City phases 2, 3, 4 and 5, Al Amerat Al Muhaj phases 1 and 2.

In Boushar, areas allocated are Boushar phases 1, 2 and 3, Misfah phase 2, Ghala Heights phases 1 and 2, Boushar Al Watiyah phase 2, and Al Khuwair phase 2.

Three areas in Seeb are also part of this scheme: Al Mawaleh 5, Al Khoud 2, and Al Maabala phase 7.

The usufruct period for such buildings can last for up to 50 years, and be extended for a 99-year span. There are a number of conditions concerning the sale of homes in buildings marked

for usufruct.

Firstly, the building must be constructed within the areas that have been designated for use under this scheme.

Once completed, it must be licensed by MOHUP and designed as a multi-storey residential/commercial building and divided accordingly. Housing units cannot be sold until this has been done.

Secondly, the building must have at least four floors, and each flat must have at least two rooms, with utilities.

The structure must also be a maximum of four years old from the time it was issued a building completion certificate. Usufruct can only extend to a maximum of 40 per cent of flats in any building.

Only 20 per cent of them can go

to expatriates of the same nationality. The scheme is open to those who have spent at least two years in the country.

Thirdly, once a flat in the building has been sold under usufruct, the seller of the property must pay a fee of three per cent of the value of the unit on registering it with this scheme, while the buyer is required to shell out an additional five per cent.

Those who buy flats under usufruct can share ownership with their first-degree relatives, such as their parents, siblings or children, can access all common facilities, can obtain financing while using this property as a guarantee, mortgage the flat to a financial institution, and can also sell the flat, should they wish to, after a four-year period. **>A5**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

BSM among best in the Middle East

1 British School Muscat has been recognised as one of the Middle East's best independent schools in Spears Magazine's School Index with Carfax Education. The original not-for-profit school founded 50 years ago, has undergone a restructuring of its facilities under head Kai Vacher. **>A3**

WORLD

Six dead in Russia university shooting

2 A gunman opened fire at a university in the Russian city of Perm on Monday morning, leaving six people dead and several wounded, Russia's Investigative Committee has said. The gunman was later detained, Russia's Interior Ministry and a university spokesman said. **>A6**

MARKET



Wheat production in Oman soars by 19%

3 Wheat crop production grew by 19 per cent in Oman during the agricultural season 2020/2021 to reach 2,649 tonnes compared to the 2019/2020 season. The total area of land planted with wheat in the 2020/2021 season was 2,449 acres, a rise of 19.6 per cent over the last season area. **>B1**

HERITAGE

Citizen converts home to museum of traditional jewellery

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A 51-year-old citizen has dedicated a part of his house for traditional gold and silver jewellery and ancient utensils.

Rashid bin Salim bin Said Al Ghafri, from the Al Driz area in the Wilayat of Ibri in the Al Dhahirah Governorate, spent his youth collecting and preserving the archaeological artefacts he inherited from his parents and grandparents.

He sought to allocate a part of his house to these rare antiquities that are characterised by the beauty of form and inscriptions. The lustrous items he possesses are cast from gold and silver, and differ from each other in shape and size.

Al Ghafri said, "Collecting traditional artefacts has been a hobby of mine since childhood. I started collecting them when I was 18 years old, as I was trying to preserve every happy memory that brought me together with my parents, whom God took away."

He continued, "Since 1988, I have decided to keep the beautiful collectibles that I inherited from my parents and grandparents,



namely the silver and gold jewellery that Omani women used to adorn themselves with in the past during happy occasions such as Eid or weddings. Since ancient times, Omani women have been known to wear elegant jewellery, such as rings, bracelets, heavy necklaces, and earrings."

Al Ghafri also has on display metal utensils of different sizes



and shapes, which are characterised by beautiful and delicate inscriptions. To provide a dedicated and fitting place for such unique and beautiful collectibles, he converted the men's majlis into an area to preserve them for future generations, and keep them out of the reach of children, who might inadvertently damage them.

"I inherited from my parents



about 25 artefacts, ranging from silver and gold jewellery to unique copper vessels," he said. "The majlis also includes copper utensils that we used previously for eating and drinking. They are characterised by their circular shape and carved engravings with creativity and exquisite taste."

"The oldest of the vessels I have dates back to the sixties, and peo-

ple previously believed that putting drinking water in this vessel facilitates childbirth for women suffering from dystocia," he added.

For more than 30 years, Rashid has preserved these beautiful rare collectibles by taking them to the Wilayat of Bahla to be polished and painted by specialists in this field. Because of the intense love and attachment he has for these heirlooms, he has decided neither to sell nor auction these priceless items, despite fielding a number of requests from people.

Al Ghafri spoke about his ambition to organise an exhibition in his name that includes many beautiful and priceless heirlooms to show to visitors from the various governorates of Oman, as well as foreign tourists. "I would also like to invite, through your official newspaper, the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism to visit my humble exhibition," he added. "I hope that these traditional artefacts will see demand from local and international channels, and I also hope to receive encouragement and financial support from the relevant ministry to preserve this legacy."

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MUSCAT





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PRAYER
TIMINGS



Dhuhr.....12:05pm
Asr.....3:31pm
Maghrib.....6:10pm
Isha.....7:20pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....4:40am

TIMES



OMAN

Chief Editor: RANA N. PARVEZE

VOL. I, NO. 31

MUSCAT, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1975

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DEFENCE PAY REVIEW BOARD

H.M. THE SULTAN ORDERS BETTER PAY AND IMPROVED SERVICE CONDITIONS FOR SAF

Muscat : (By our Staff Reporter)

H.M. The Sultan has approved the first recommendation made by the Department of Defence Pay Review Board. The board was appointed to make recommendations for improved pay and conditions for the Sultan's Armed Forces and Defence Department personnel.

Most officers, other ranks and enlisted civilians serving in the Sultan's Armed Forces, and all Omanis employed by the Department of Defence, will receive a 12½ per cent increase on their basic pay from October 1. This is an interim measure while the pay review board meets to consider recommendations for further improvements to pay and conditions of service to take effect early in 1976.

Egyptian Ambassador taken as hostage freed by armed Palestinians

Algiers : (By our Correspondent)

The armed Palestinian students who had seized the Egyptian Embassy building in Madrid arrived here Tuesday aboard an Algerian airliner accompanied by the Egyptian Ambassador and two other officers of the Egyptian Embassy whom they had taken hostages. They freed them on reaching here. Earlier on Monday they had occupied the Embassy building and had threatened to blast the building. Their demands included the return of Egyptian delegation from Geneva without signing the Sinai accord with Israel, but eventually they agreed to the simple signing of a statement by the Egyptian and other Arab Ambassadors condemning Sinai accord. On arrival here they were met by a representative of PLO but a PLO representative denied any involvement in the issue.

ROYAL DECREE No. 45/75

Water Wealth Resources Council formed

Muscat : (By our Staff Reporter)

In view of the general public interest and in order to fully preserve the water resources of the Sultanate to be utilised for development purposes H.M. The Sultan has decreed the formation of a water wealth resources council. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Oil and Mineral Resources has been appointed the Chairman with Ministers of

Fighting continues in troubled Tripoli

Beirut : (By our Correspondent)

The armed conflict which flared up between the Right Wing Christians and Leftist Muslims in Tripoli and its suburbs last week still continues, it was learnt here. The situation being tense more army units were likely to be called in at any time according to a note of warning issued by the Minister of Interior.

Sinai accord has minimised apprehensions of oil embargo

Washington :
(By our Correspondent)

Dr. Henry Kissinger stated here on Friday that the new Sinai agreement has minimised all apprehensions of a new Arab oil embargo.

While talking to a Congress sub-committee for energy, Kissinger told that the new agreement if approved by Congress, shall clear the way for work towards a comprehensive settlement between Egypt and Israel.

Oil price increase should not exceed 15 per cent

—The Shah

Teheran : (By our Correspondent)

The Shahinshah of Iran has said that his country will pursue moderate course in the matter of oil prices and that he would insist on the proposed oil price to be increased to not beyond 15%.



H. M. The Sultan shaking hands with the Jordanian Special Training Unit's Chief at Thamrit on Sunday last.

Photo : Mohamed Mustafa



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TOTAL NATIONAL DAY PRIZES OHR 55,000 3 WINNERS PER BRANCH	TOTAL PRIZES FOR LADIES OHR 11,000 1 WINNER PER BRANCH	TOTAL MEGA PRIZES OHR 112,000 PRIZES FOR KIDS, STANDARD & PRIORITY CUSTOMERS

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Drivers urged to exercise caution while passing near schools: ROP

Royal Oman Police is keen to ensure the flow of traffic on all roads, especially those leading and close to schools



ENSURING SAFETY: Brigadier Engineer Mohammed bin Awad Al Rawas, Director General of Traffic stressed the continuation of coordination, cooperation and joint work between the Royal Oman Police and the Ministry of Education in achieving the safety of students.



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Royal Oman Police (ROP) has urged all drivers to slow down and take more care and caution while passing through school areas, where students would be crossing.

On the occasion of the start of the new school year, Brigadier Engineer Mohammed bin Awad Al Rawas, Director General of Traffic, said that the Royal Oman Police is keen to ensure the flow of traffic on all roads, especially those leading and close to schools, stressing the importance of all drivers to slow down and be cautious while passing through school areas.

Brigadier Engineer Al Rawas stressed the continuation of coordination, cooperation and joint work between the Royal Oman Police and the Ministry of Education

in achieving the safety of students through the provision and use of effective means that enhances the concept of traffic culture among students, and the use of the latest methods to establish traffic awareness. In addition, the activities, events and programmes in the school community have been increased, reinforced with materials and courses taught and applied in practice to instil the concept of traffic safety in order to create a generation that is committed to traffic rules and regulations.

The Director General of Traffic stated that the ROP will be

securing the traffic on the roads in the Sultanate by intensifying traffic patrols and monitoring movement in front of schools, in addition to regulating traffic at roundabouts and intersections where traffic congestion abounds while transporting students to and from schools.

Brigadier Engineer Mohammed

bin Awad Al Rawas explained that the Royal Oman Police pays special attention to traffic awareness and training in order to gain technical skills in driving, train school bus drivers, and educate students about traffic rules and regulations at all educational levels. The establishment of traffic safety institutes in the various governorates

of the Sultanate comes to enhance this role and hold seminars, lectures and training courses and bring services provided to the community, based on the positive results and objectives achieved by the Traffic Safety Institute in the Governorate of Muscat during the past years.

The Director General of Traf-

fic praised the cooperation of all and the adherence of vehicle drivers to traffic regulations and rules, which has had a significant impact on raising traffic awareness among road users and decreasing traffic accidents and their damage to society, stressing that efforts are continuing to make the Sultanate's roads safer for its users.

SPEARS'S SCHOOL INDEX

British School Muscat among best in region

Times News Service

MUSCAT: British School Muscat has been recognised as one of the Middle East's best independent schools in *Spears Magazine's* School Index with Carfax Education.

Spears describe British School Muscat as "Dynamic, purposeful and personal". They then go on to say, "The original not-for-profit British school in Oman was found-

ed with a royal charter 50 years ago. Under head Kai Vacher, the school has undergone a clever restructuring of its facilities to include three pools, a university-style sixth-form centre, state-of-the-art science labs and floodlit sports facilities. Its academic results place it in the top three international schools in the Middle East."

Kai Vacher, BSM Principal, said 'We are delighted and very proud that we have been recognised as

one of the world's best independent schools. The hard work of our students and staff, combined with the wonderful support of the parent community have contributed to this recognition.

'Our school was chosen by expert education consultants at Carfax and researchers at *Spears's* based on our academic results, preparation for university entry, unique ethos and how we prepare students for life beyond academia.'

Categorised by region, prospective parents and pupils can now access a list of the top 100 schools for 2021, across the UK, Switzerland, Europe, USA, Middle East, China, Southeast Asia and the rest of the world, chosen by expert education consultants at Carfax Education and *Spears's*.

Collated by Carfax Education experts on the ground across the world, the index is the most comprehensive global list available.



Trending ON SOCIAL MEDIA

📖 MOST READ ON FACEBOOK

19,570 REACH



Story on loans granted by ODB

A story on loans granted by ODB reached 19,570 people and had 367 engagements on Facebook.

📺 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

6,200 VIEWS



Maghrib Minute video in Hindi

The Maghrib Minute video in Hindi had 6,200 views and reached 25,200 people on Facebook.

📷 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

821 VIEWS



Maghrib Minute video

The Maghrib Minute video had 821 views and 58 likes on Instagram.

FIGHTING PANDEMIC

More than 2.8 million people vaccinated against COVID-19 in the Sultanate

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As many as 2,810,262 people have been vaccinated against COVID-19 in Oman with at least the first jab since launching the National Immunisation Campaign till yesterday (Sunday) 19 September, reaching 80 per cent of the target segment.

The number of those who received two jabs of the COVID-19 vaccine stood at 1,826,224 comprising 52 per cent. The total number of administered doses stood at 4,636,486.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health continues vaccinating target segments against COVID-19 in all governorates of the Sultanate as vaccination centres witness a good daily turnout.

Death rate due to COVID-19 has decreased by more than 70 per cent last week, said the Government Communication Centre (GCC). The percentage of recoveries decreased to 13 per cent.

The rate of inpatients at intensive care units has reduced by 15 per cent and the inpatients at health institutions by



RISE NUMBER: The Ministry of Health continues vaccinating target segments against COVID-19 in all governorates of the Sultanate as vaccination centres witness a good daily turnout.

five per cent.

For the period September 12 to September 18, the rate of immunisation with COVID-19 vaccines has risen by 3.3 per cent.

For the third consecutive day, on Monday, Oman recorded zero

deaths due to COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

According to the data shown by the Ministry of Health (MoH), Oman has recorded zero deaths and 36 new COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours. In addition

Oman has registered 113 new recoveries, bringing the recovery rate to 96.9 per cent.

Oman has recorded only one death due to COVID-19 on September 16, 2021, with no further deaths thereafter.

COLUMN



A new ‘back to school’ milestone

Across the world, students are slowly returning to in-person lessons, some doing so after more than a full academic term of remote classes or even a disruption in learning. Oman is no exception, slowly and steadily, bringing about the resumption of in-person schooling in the country, with most schools having reopened this week.

In the aftermath of the pandemic, students — from tiny tots to university students have shown that it is possible to adapt to previously unimaginable circumstances with creativity and openness. At the same time, COVID has also highlighted the need for continued learning and exposed the inequities in access to education.

While each student's experiences have been different, to a great extent and as permitted by access to technologies, students in Oman have adopted and navigated the then-new normal of online and remote lessons. Zoom meetings, Google Classrooms, and other Learning Management Systems, may have become a part

of their everyday lives. Now, as they resume physical schooling, this brings another change, another milestone in their resilience path. In-person instruction and a classroom setting is of paramount importance, as of course, a critical element of learning for students is social learning, learning from their peers as much as from their teachers.

In addition, this next phase brings with it unique possibilities — a starting point for the changes needed in education to ensure that students are equipped with 21st century skills like adaptability, resilience, and innovation. Nevertheless, there are also some challenges that these students may face as they try to grapple with a new reality.

Learning gaps

Even if a student had access to full-fledged online lessons, it is expected that school closures would have brought about some kind of learning gaps in academic as well as extra-curricular competencies. It is essential to identify these areas of improvement for each student and develop an individualised plan for bridging these

Academic continuity is one of the biggest priorities of the world as we strive to continue to battle the pandemic. As important as that is, the reopening of the schools also offer a shot at a larger goal.



at first to be more independent and self-reliant than usual. This could be as true for college students moving away from parents as for kindergartners and primary school students leaving the familiarity and comfort of home. Hence, keep communication channels open between students, parents, siblings and friends so that students are better able to cope with these changes.

Feeling overwhelmed

Initially, some students may feel overwhelmed by the sudden load of stimulations — the increase in physical interactions, in-person instructions, classwork, homework and more. Educators and parents need to be understanding and give them time to settle through the transition period.

Mental health impact

During the school closures, students may have experienced the effect of the pandemic in different ways. Some may have lost family members while others may have suffered due to the social isolation. As they come back to group-setting after an extended period of stress, they may be

concerned about the virus or the safety implications. Or, thoughts about bullying or having to interact with multitude of people may be causing them anxiety. It is important that schools, teachers, counsellors and parents try to address these concerns with right and relevant emotional support.

Academic continuity is one of the biggest priorities of the world as we strive to continue to battle the pandemic. As important as that is, the reopening of the schools also offer a shot at a larger goal — of reimaging age-old pedagogical practices and resetting education.

One of the silver linings of remote schooling was the shift in focus to student-led learning. Even as our students return to their old classrooms, may they continue to play an active role in their learning, becoming a self-enabled learner.

Dr Baby Saamuel is the Vice-Chairman, Knowledge Oman and is Ex-Chairman, Indian Schools in Oman. You can contact him at mail@babysam.biz for queries or suggestions.

Beef burger

with fries and soft drink



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MM/04/648/2021

DAY OF PEACE

Celebrating the International Day of Peace

EACH YEAR the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21st September. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

In 2021, as we heal from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are inspired to think creatively and collectively about how to help everyone recover better, how



to build resilience, and how to transform our world into one that is more equal, more just, equitable, inclusive, sustainable,

and healthier.

The pandemic has been accompanied by a surge in stigma, discrimination, and hatred, which only cost more lives instead of saving them: the virus attacks all without caring about where we are from or what we believe in.

The 2021 theme for the International Day of Peace is "Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world".

NOTE



Rural Areas Electricity Company (S.O.A.C) announces to modify the last date of collecting tender document, extend the closing date for following Tender as below details:

Tender No.	Tender Description	Grade	Last Date of Tender Collection	Closing Date
Tanweer - 36/2021	Replacement of Potentially Hazardous of LV Overhead Line Service Connections - Al-Wusta Governorate (Phase One)	C and Above	27/09/2021	07/10/2021

- Interested and Specialized Companies which registered with Tender Board (valid certificate), Tanweer and Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) (valid certificate) may obtain the Tender documents from Procurement & Contracts Department, against non-refundable amount of RO (48/=). The fees for the tenders shall be deposited on Tanweer account 0423010783090041 – Bank Muscat and for more information please contact via email address i.e. tender.purchase@tanweer.nama.om, or call us on phone number: 24250824.
- The Completed Tender should be deposited in the Tender Box at the Rural Areas Electricity Company (S.A.O.C) Main Office at Wilayat Al Seeb, before 12:00 P.M on the last date of submission.

For more information, please contact: 80077787



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OMAN



BELIZE

HM sends cable

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Froyla Tzalam, Governor-General of Belize on her country's Independence Anniversary.

In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to the Governor-General and the friendly people of Belize. — **ONA**

REAL ESTATE MARKET

<FROM **A1**Usufruct rights is transferable

They can also transfer usufruct rights to their legal heirs.

The decision to sell residential properties under the usufruct scheme does not affect the privacy of Omani society. The areas chosen for usufruct were determined keeping the privacy needs of society in mind, taking into account the makeup of society, with these locations primarily selected for investment purposes.

RANKED FIRST GLOBALLY

Innovation index

MUSCAT: The Sultanate jumped 19 spots in innovation outputs as it came first globally in the ratio of science and engineering graduates out of the total number of graduates. The Sultanate also came tenth globally in the Higher Education indicator.

The report of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) showed that the Sultanate has advanced 8 spots in the Global Innovation Index (GII) for the year 2021, and is now ranked 76th globally.

The index also indicated that the Sultanate advanced 19 ranks in the Innovation Output Sub-Index and one rank in the Innovation Input Sub-Index. — **ONA**

FOOTBALL

<FROM **A1** Oman lifted Gulf Cup twice

“The next stage of our work is important, as we seek to be professional in all our efforts towards developing and organising football in the Gulf countries,” said Al Rumaihi.

The Gulf Cup is normally held every two years, and features eight teams: the six countries of the GCC (Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates) as well as Yemen and Iraq.

Most successful team

Kuwait is the most successful team in the history of the Gulf Cup — first held in 1970 — having won the tournament 10 times. Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Qatar have all won it thrice, while both the UAE and Oman have each lifted the trophy on two occasions.

Current champions Bahrain won their first and only Gulf Cup when they beat Saudi Arabia 1-0 in Doha in 2019.



شركة إسمنت عمان
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TENDER

The company invites offers for the following tenders:

Sl. #	Tender No.	Description	Tender Fee	Deadline for Purchasing of Tenders	Deadline for Submission of Offers
1.	25/2021/OCC	Reconditioning Of Titan Rotors	RO. 52.500	7th October, 2021 5 PM	12th October, 2021, 11 PM
2.	26/2021/OCC	Tender For Switchgears 6.6kv For Cement Mill-1&2	RO. 52.500	7th October, 2021 5 PM	12th October, 2021, 11 PM
3.	27/2021/OCC	Tender For Hot Vulcanizing Machine 2 Meter Width	RO. 52.500	7th October, 2021 5 PM	12th October, 2021, 11 PM
4.	28/2021/OCC	Tender For Replace Dome#1,2&3 Extraction Chutes	RO. 52.500	7th October, 2021 5 PM	12th October, 2021, 11 PM
5.	29/2021/OCC	Tender For Install Rodgates At Domes Extract Chute.	RO. 52.500	7th October, 2021 5 PM	12th October, 2021, 11 PM

1. All specialized and interested companies that are registered with the Tender Board participate and get the specifications and conditions of the tender from the website; <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>.

2. Tenders should submit their bids online on the given website Signed and sealed. The Tenderer should enclose a scanned copy of a temporary insurance in the form of a bank guarantee or a check certified by a bank, operating in the Sultanate of Oman of not less than (1%) of the Tender Value, valid for (90) days from the offers submission date, addressed to Chairman of the Tender Committee.

3. The original bank guarantee should be submitted to the OCC's Tender Box located at the reception area of the Administration Building at Al Misfah West factory Site not later than the time and date of the submission of tenders.

4. OCC is not bound to accept the lowest or any other bid, and reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without giving reason

For Clarifications on e-Tendering, you may contact via
Telephone : 24402200 / Email Id: etenderhd@mtc.it.gov.om

FISHING IN DUQM

12 expats arrested

MUSCAT: 12 expats have been arrested by the Fisheries Control Team for fishing in Duqm, Al Wusta Governorate

The Fisheries Control Team in Al Wusta Governorate arrested 12 expatriate workers for fishing in Duqm, four unlicensed boats were also seized.



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Corporate Office - New Delhi
Notice Inviting e-RFP

RFP No. : AESD/WtE/NDMC/GTE/01/2021-22

Name of work: Selection of Concessionaire for Processing and Disposal of municipal solid waste (mixed waste) by establishing Waste to Energy Plant at Ranikhera or alternate suitable municipal land, New Delhi.

Downloading Period:
09/09/2021 to 25/10/2021 @ 1400 hrs. Indian Standard Time

Contact Person :
Sh. Bijay Kumar, General Manager (AE).
Ph: +91 (11)-71726004, 24360282
Email: bijaykumar1@indianoil.in

Note: The above RFP is in electronic mode only. Submission of Bids shall also be in Electronic Mode only. The bidder to submit their quote/ bid in soft copy only to the secure email addresses specified below:
Part - A: Submit Technical (Un-priced Part) Bid to the email address. AESD_Technical@indianoil.in.

Bids in physical form shall NOT be accepted. Any corrigendum, pre-bid clarification if required to be issued, shall also be issued in Electronic Form only. Visit <https://www.ioel.com/suppliers-notices> for downloading relevant documents and participation

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Integrated Services Company S.A.O.C (DISC)
“Electricity Service” invites reputable contractor for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.

Tender Reference	DISC/E/Tender/2021/100
Subject	Emergency & Maintenance and Housekeeping Services for 33/11 kV Primary / Grid Substations
Tender Fee	RO. 105.000 Inclusive VAT (5%) Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DISC's office or send an e-mail to below mentioned mail id's for tender document.
Experience	Contractors participating shall have at least 3 years experience in emergency and maintenance Services for 33/11 kV primary substations 2 x 20 MVA indoor equipment's , 3 x 20 MVA indoor equipment's and grid stations 33kV gas insulated switchgears
Pre-qualification	Contractors participating in the tendering process shall be registered electrical contractor with Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) Grade – A Apart from the above, the Contractors participating in the tendering process shall have Competent Electrical Person (CEP) certified by DISC and copy of the valid CEP certificate shall be submitted along with bid without which the bids will not be considered for evaluation. Further, Tenderers will be evaluated as per the HSE qualification criterion specified in the Tender documents.
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 5 th October 2021
Site Visit	10:00 AM on 6 th October 2021
Last date for seeking pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 11 th October 2021
Last date for providing pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 14 th October 2021
Last date for submission of bids	02:00 PM on 21 st October 2021
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, prurchase@disc.nama.om

Tenderers are requested to note that the bids accompanied with Tender Bond (2% of the quoted bid price and having 150 days validity) shall only be considered for evaluation.



شركة ظفار للخدمات المدمجة
Dhofar Integrated Services Company

شركة ظفار للخدمات المدمجة
شركة ظفار للخدمات المدمجة
مركز صلالة العربية الصحي - صلالة - محافظة ظفار
P.O. Box: 2609, P.C.: 211, 23rd July Street, behind West Salalah Health Center
Salalah, Sultanate of Oman - Toll Free: 80077700
info@disc.nama.om www.disc.nama.om





MUSCAT MUNICIPALITY

Advertisement No. 39 /2021

Muscat Municipality invites interested companies to the following tenders:

Serial	Tender No.	Tender description	Document Fee	Deadline for inquires submission	Deadline for obtaining Tender Docs.	Deadline for Submission
1	51/2021/MM/PA-12	Supply of AC's Spare Parts	25/- OMR	10/10/2021	26/10/2021	31/10/2021
2	52/2021/MM/PA-13	Supply Lubricant of Oils	25/- OMR	10/10/2021	26/10/2021	31/10/2021
3	53/2021/MM/PA-14	Supply of Stationary for Muscat Municipality	25/- OMR	10/10/2021	26/10/2021	31/10/2021
4	54/2021/MM/PA-15	Supply of Printer Inks	25/- OMR	10/10/2021	26/10/2021	31/10/2021

Specialized Companies with a valid registration certificate from Tender Board can obtain tender documents from the website through the following link: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>. Starting from the date of this announcement until the end of deadline mentioned above.

Bidders shall submit their offers electronically through the link shown above accompanied with an electronic copy of a bond issued by any local bank in Oman addressed to Muscat Municipality. The details of bond (amount & validity) must be as per tender's terms and conditions in the etendering Website starting from the date of bids submission. The original copy of the bond shall be submitted as the table below:

Tender at The Serial	The box's location for Tender Bonds
1 , 2	First floor at The Directorate General of Quantity Surveying & Contracts in Muscat Municipality, Head Office, Darsait
3, 4	Third floor at The Directorate General of Quantity Surveying & Contracts in Muscat Municipality, Head Office, Darsait

Tender not accompanied by a tender bond will be rejected.

Note:
1. For any inquiries regarding tenders, please contact us through e-tendering website: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)
2. For technical support of e-tendering system, please send an email to (etenderhd@mtc.gov.om) or call (+96824402200).

Website: www.mm.gov.om



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MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS AND YOUTH

Ministry maps out creative industries project

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth mapped out a project on creative industries of art-related sectors.

The project is the first systematic step to introduce and measure creative industries by collecting data and analysing it using international methods.

The project will disseminate in-depth understanding about the sector. The move will enhance the role of the ministry's Directorate General for Arts in offering services and providing legislations and facilities, thus boosting these sectors at the local and international levels.

Ahmed Al Busaidi, Acting Direc-



tor General for Arts in the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth said that the map will contribute in increasing dialogue and knowledge exchange on policies, best practices, and the measures neces-

sary to strengthen creative sectors.

Al Busaidi added that the map will identify indicators of creativity required to support a cultural strategy based on evidence.

The project will contribute in

developing a competitive environment in line with Oman Vision 2040 and meeting aspirations of creative Omani youths, Al Busaidi said.

Nehad Ali Al Hadi, Head of the team responsible for mapping out the project said that the methodology of outlining the map was based on a scientific and research analysis of international experience.

Al Hadi added that the team seeks to harness international experiences that are suitable with the nature of Omani society by utilizing research tools including surveys, interviews, databases, and seminars with practitioners of creative field. — **OMA**



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5,000 PEOPLE EVACUATED

Volcanic eruption on Spanish island

MADRID: Around 5,000 people have been evacuated from areas close to the erupting volcano on the Spanish island of La Palma, the country's Civil Guard said.

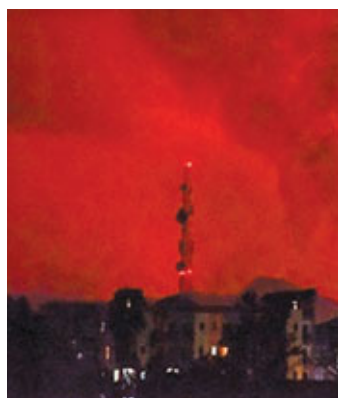
"So far 5,000 people have been evacuated to the Los Llanos de Aridane soccer field. The airspace is open, the airport is operating as normal," the Civil Guard said on Twitter on Sunday.

Earlier on Sunday, the Volcanology Institute of the Canaries (INVOLCAN) confirmed that a volcano had started erupting on the Spanish island of La Palma.

Evacuating people

The Spanish National Geographic Institute had registered seismological activity in the area for about a week before the eruption, so the authorities were able to start evacuating people with limited mobility early.

"We have been working this week to anticipate and know how



to act on La Palma in this situation. We will guarantee the safety of citizens at all times," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said on Twitter after an emergency government meeting on Sunday.

The last time that the island of La Palma saw a volcanic eruption was in 1971, when one man reportedly died. **ANI**

6 killed in shooting at Russia varsity

It is the second mass shooting at an education facility in Russia this year

MOSCOW: A gunman opened fire at a university in the Russian city of Perm on Monday morning, leaving six people dead and several wounded, Russia's Investigative Committee said.

The gunman was later detained, Russia's Interior Ministry and a university spokesman said. Initially, authorities said that the gunman had been killed after the shooting,



but later reported that he had been wounded and taken to a hospital.

It is the second mass shooting at an education facility in Russia this year.

Students and staff locked themselves in the rooms, and the university urged those who could leave campus to do so. Some

reportedly fled through windows.

18-year-old student

The perpetrator, who was an 18-year-old student at the university, used a "traumatic" firearm, according to the Perm State University press service. Such guns are designed to fire non-lethal rubber or plastic projectiles, but can be modified to fire other ammunition.

The student had earlier posted a social media photo of himself posing with a rifle, helmet and ammunition.

"I've thought about this for a long time, it's been years and I realized the time had come to do what I dreamt of," he said on a social media account attributed to him that was later taken down. He indicated his actions had nothing to do with politics or religion but were motivated by hatred. — **DW**

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL

North Korea warns of 'arms race' in France-Australia submarine row

PYONGYANG: North Korea said on Monday that a US-Australia submarine deal, coupled with the new Indo-Pacific defence pact between the US, Australia and United Kingdom, could cause an "arms race."

State media quoted a foreign ministry official as saying: "These are extremely undesirable and dangerous acts which will upset the strategic balance in the Asia-Pacific region and trigger off a chain of nuclear arms race."

Last week, France recalled its ambassadors from the US and Australia, after a decision from Canberra to purchase nuclear-powered submarines from the US.



US President Joe Biden announced an alliance involving Australia and Britain, which would involve the purchase of nuclear-powered submarines from the US. The decision sunk a multi-billion dollar deal Australia had with France.

Under that agreement French

defence contractor Naval Group would build 12 submarines.

The blindsides led to the angry diplomatic response from Paris.

French President Emmanuel Macron and Biden are expected to discuss the matter in the coming days.

Australia's trade minister has

also indicated he would be looking to meet with his French counterpart over the botched deal.

What is the situation on the Korean Peninsula?

The soured relations among Western allies comes amid a number of missile tests conducted by the Korean neighbours.

North Korea test-fired two ballistic missiles last week.

A few days before that state media reported the successful launch of a new long-range cruise missile capable of hitting targets 1,500 kilometres (932 miles). South Korea meanwhile successfully fired a submarine launched ballistic missile (SLBM). — **DW**

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Note

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- ✓ Applicant must be residing in Oman.
- ✓ O & A Level teaching experience shall be preferred. No TADA will be provided.

Applications with complete CV along with scanned copies of educational documents/ experience certificate with a latest passport size photograph need to be sent to the email: hr_psm@pakistanschool.edu.om, latest by September 26, 2021.

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Integrated Services Company S.A.O.C (DISC)
"Electricity Service" invites reputable contractor for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.

Tender Reference	DISC/E/Tender/2021/099
Subject	Emergency & Maintenance Services for 33 kV Systems & Below (Other than PSS) Zone -3
Tender Fee	RO. 105,000 Inclusive VAT (5%) Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DISC's office or send an e-mail to below mentioned mail id's for tender document.
Experience	Contractors participating shall have at least 3 years experience in emergency & maintenance services 33kV systems and below.
Pre-qualification	Contractors participating in the tendering process shall be registered electrical contractor with Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) Grade - B or above. Apart from the above, the Contractors participating in the tendering process shall have Competent Electrical Person (CEP) certified by DISC and copy of the valid CEP certificate shall be submitted along with bid without which the bids will not be considered for evaluation. Further, Tenderers will be evaluated as per the HSE qualification criterion specified in the Tender documents.
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Dhofar Integrated Services Company

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WORLD



BOXING LEGEND FOR PRESIDENT

Manny Pacquiao to run for Philippines’ president in 2022

MANILA: Boxing legend Manny Pacquiao announced on Monday that he would be running for president of the Philippines in 2022. Incumbent Rodrigo Duterte is barred from a second term by the country’s constitution. Pacquiao is currently a sitting senator with Duterte’s center-left PDP-Laban party. He has prom-



ised to root out corruption and tackle poverty. Answering questions about his perceived lack of experience, Pacquiao pointed not only to his five years in the senate, but also to his humble roots that he claims help him better understand the country’s poor. “For those asking what are my

qualifications, have you ever experienced hunger?” he asked the crowd at a political event. “Have you ever experienced having nothing to eat, to borrow money from your neighbours or to wait for leftovers at a food stall? The Manny Pacquiao that is in front of you was molded by poverty.”

Why is Pacquiao’s nomination controversial? Even setting aside his political experience, the former world champ’s is littered with controversy. He was charged with tax evasion in 2013. Pacquiao also supported President Duterte’s brutal crackdown on drug trafficking. **bw**

COVID VACCINE

BioNTech says vaccine safe for children aged 5 to 11

WASHINGTON: Pharmaceutical companies BioNTech and Pfizer said on Monday that their jointly produced coronavirus vaccine is safe and effective for children from the ages of 5 to 11.

What did the companies say? “In participants five to 11 years of age, the vaccine was safe, well tolerated and showed robust neutralizing antibody responses,” Germany-based BioNTech and US pharma giant Pfizer said in a joint statement. The two firms are going to hand over trial data to regulatory bodies in the EU, US and other parts of the world “as soon as possible.” Over 2,200 children took part in the trial. The children in the vaccine trial received two doses of 10 micrograms, spaced 21 days apart. Older age groups typically receive two shots of 30 micrograms. The smaller dosage meant the children experienced fewer side effects, such as sore arms or achiness, than older age groups.



Coronavirus cases surge among children The statement comes as coronavirus cases among children surge in the United States and in other parts of the world. “We are eager to extend the protection afforded by the vac-

cine to this younger population,” Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said, while adding that “since July, pediatric cases of COVID-19 have risen about 240 percent in the US.” The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has already approved BioNTech-Pfizer vaccine for children as young as 12. Other vaccine makers, such as Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, are also testing their jabs on younger children. The vaccine could greatly facilitate the safe return of school children to in-person classes in the US, UK and in other countries.

Many Western nations have been reluctant to give jabs to children due to the lack of available data on safety and efficacy. Israel has already greenlit vaccinations for children aged 5-11 who are at risk of serious illness from the virus. Cuba has vaccinated children as young as two-years-old to reopen schools. Although data may show the vaccine is effective and safe for children, some parents may still be reluctant or hesitant for their kids to receive the jab. This reluctance could pose a major challenge for inoculation campaigns in the US and elsewhere. **bw**

MEETING

Modi, Biden to hold meeting on September 24

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold a bilateral meeting on September 24, the White House said on Monday. **Quad leaders meet** PM Modi will visit the US this week and take part in the first in-person Quad leaders meet and UN General Debate. “The President will participate in a bilateral meeting with Narendra Modi,

Prime Minister of the Republic of India,” a White House statement said. President Biden will host the first-ever-in-person Quad Leaders Summit at the White House with Prime Minister Modi, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Japan Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. The Ministry of External Affairs had said earlier that Quad meeting will focus on deepening

“ties and advancing practical cooperation in areas such as combating COVID-19, addressing the climate crisis, partnering on emerging technologies and cyberspace, and promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific”. It said the leaders will discuss regional issues of shared interest and will also review the progress made since the first virtual summit that was held on March 12 this year. **ANI**

TERRORISM-RELATED CHARGES

Rwanda court finds ‘Hotel Rwanda’ hero guilty of terrorism

KIGALI: A Rwandan court on Monday said Paul Rusesabagina was guilty of terrorism-related charges. Rusesabagina, a prominent opponent of the Rwandan government, was accused by authorities of lending his support from abroad to a rebel group in Rwanda. Prosecutors have sought a life sentence. The 67-year-old was credited with saving hundreds of lives during the 1994 genocide, and his actions inspired Hollywood’s “Hotel Rwanda.” **What were the charges?** Rusesabagina was arrested in August 2020 in mysterious circumstances, after a Burundi-bound plane he boarded from the UAE instead landed in the Rwandan capital, Kigali. The former hotelier was charged with nine offenses, including being a member of a terrorist organization, financing terrorism, murder and armed robbery. The attacks in question, which were carried out by the local National Liberation Front (FLN) killed at least nine civilians throughout 2018. Rusesabagina, who is now a

Belgian citizen, allegedly used WhatsApp from abroad to coordinate arms deals to facilitate the attacks. The former hotelier as an opposition figure Rusesabagina became a global celebrity after the 2004 film “Hotel Rwanda” depicted him as a hero. The Hollywood movie was inspired by Rusesabagina’s role as the former manager of the Hotel des Mille Collines in Kigali, where he sheltered hundreds of guests from ethnic persecution during the genocide. After growing critical of Kagame’s rule in Rwanda, he left the country in 1996, residing first in Belgium and then the US. While abroad, he used his global platform to advocate for political change in Kigali. Rusesabagina founded the Rwandan Movement for Democratic Change (MRCD), an opposition group of which the FLN is seen as the armed wing. Rusesabagina and his family members have repeatedly denied any involvement in the attacks. The trial of Rusesabagina, along with 20 others, began in February, six months after his arrest. **bw**

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Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

**إعلان مناقصة
Tender Notice**

The Internal Tender Committee at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology In Al Khuwair invites for the Following Project:

TENDER NO	TENDER NAME	DATE OF PUBLISHING	LAST DATE TO PURCHASE TENDER DOCUMENT	SUBMISSION DATE	COMPANIES WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS TENDER	DOCUMENT PRICE
33/2021/ MTCIT/HQ-26	RENEWAL OF SOFTWARE LICENSES AND MAINTENANCE & SUPPORT SERVICES	16-09-2021	26/09/2021	28/9/2021	Experienced Companies And Registered With The Tender Board In Service (Excellent and First Class)	(30/-) Twenty Five Omani Rial Non-Refundable

Interested Companies registered with Tender Board 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 document. Tenders should be submitted online on given website. The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee issued by local bank in the Sultanate of Oman for the value of (1%) of the Tender value validity for (90) days, and addressed to (Chairman of the Internal Tender Committee). And hard copy of the same should be submitted manually to the Tenders Section, Tenders and Contracts Department (1st Floor), Ministry of Transport Building at Al Khuwair before 11:00 am on submission date .

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@mtcit.gov.om

INTERNAL TENDER COMMITTEE

 @mtcitoman

www.mtcit.gov.om

SPORTS



England withdraw from Pakistan tour in October

Earlier this year, ECB had agreed to play two additional T20 World Cup warm-up games in Pakistan in October, adding a short women's tour with double headers alongside the men's games

LONDON: England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on Monday announced that they have withdrawn from the Pakistan tour in October. Earlier this year, ECB had agreed to play two additional T20 World Cup warm-up games in Pa-



CRICKET: The ECB Board convened this weekend to discuss extra England Women's and Men's games in Pakistan and we can confirm that the Board has reluctantly decided to withdraw both teams from the October trip.

kistan in October, adding a short women's tour with double headers alongside the men's games. Official Statement from the ECB Board state: "The ECB has a long-standing commitment to tour Pakistan as part of the Men's Future Tours Programme in 2022. The ECB Board convened this weekend to discuss these extra England Women's and Men's games in Pakistan and we can confirm that the Board has reluctantly decided to withdraw both teams from the October trip."

As per the statement, the mental and physical well-being of England's players and support staff remains the highest priority of ECB. "We know there are increasing concerns about travelling to the region and believe that going ahead will add further pressure to a playing group who have already coped with a long period of operating in restricted Covid environments." "There is the added complexity for our Men's T20 squad. We believe that touring under these conditions will not be ideal preparation for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, where performing well remains a top priority for 2021," the statement added. "We understand that this decision will be a significant disappointment to the PCB, who have worked tirelessly to host the return of international cricket in their country. Their support of English and Welsh cricket over the last two summers has been a huge demonstration of friendship. We are sincerely sorry for the impact this will have on cricket in Pakistan and emphasise an ongoing commitment to our main touring plans there for 2022." -ANI

Kohli to step down from RCB captaincy

NEW DELHI: India and Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper Virat Kohli's childhood coach Rajkumar Sharma on Monday said the reason for the batsman to step down as RCB captain after IPL 2021 is nothing but an effort to manage workload. "There is no pressure on him (Kohli), pressure is only of workload, and he wants to improve on workload management so that he can concentrate better on Test cricket and ODIs and country needs him." On the decision to quit as RCB skipper after the season, Rajkumar said it was on Kohli's mind for quite some time. "It has been a great and inspiring journey, captaining a talented bunch of players in the RCB squad. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the RCB management, coaches, support staff, players, and the entire RCB family, who have been instrumental in the growth of the franchise over the years. It wasn't an easy decision but one that has been well thought of and in the best interest of this wonderful franchise," Kohli said in an official statement. -ANI

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP

Chelsea move to top in the Premier League; De Gea the hero for Man Utd

LONDON: David de Gea saved a 95th minute penalty from West Ham's veteran midfielder Mark Noble to give Manchester United a dramatic win in the London Stadium. Manchester United had fought back from a goal down after Said Benrahma had put West Ham ahead after 30 minutes. Cristiano Ronaldo equalised from close range six minutes later after West Ham keeper Lucas Fabianski had saved his original header and Jesse Lingard, who had a successful loan at West Ham last season, curled home the winning goal in the 89th minute. Luke Shaw's handball deep into injury time gave West Ham the chance to level the score, but De Gea saved from Noble, who was brought on specifically to take the penalty. Chelsea went to the top of the table after a dominant display gave them a 3-0 win away to Tottenham in the last game of the weekend. Tottenham threw everything at Chelsea in a high-tempo first half, but all of their efforts were undone when Thiago Silva headed Chelsea ahead following a corner in the 49th minute. N'Golo Kante celebrated his return from an ankle injury by hitting his side's second of the game in the 57th minute with a big deflection off Eric Dier, and Antonio Rudiger rounded off the win with a smart finish in injury time. Earlier in the day Brighton confirmed their excellent start to the season with a 2-1 win over Leicester City thanks to a Neal Maupay penalty and Danny Welbeck's header. Jamie Vardy got a goal back for Leicester on his 250th Premier League appearance, but the visitors were frustrated when Ademola Lookman and Wilfred Ndidi



had goals ruled out for offside. Sadio Mane's 100th goal for Liverpool helped his side to a 3-0 win at home to Crystal Palace that was tougher than the final score suggests. Mane seized on a rebound following Mohamed Salah's header two minutes before halftime, but Liverpool had to wait until the 78th minute for their second of the game when Salah scored following a corner and Nabi Keita added a third in the last minute. Manchester City disappointed in a 0-0 draw at home to Southampton in a game where the VAR played a key role in overturning a decision to give the visitors and penalty and send off Kyle Walker. Martin Odegaard's brilliant free kick was enough to give Arsenal a narrow 1-0 win away to struggling Burnley, who have lost four of their first five games this season. Burnley have one more point than Norwich, whose 3-1 defeat to Watford means they have lost all five games this season. Dennis Bonaventura put Watford ahead in the 17th minute and although Teemu Pukki cancelled that goal out before halftime, two second half strikes from Ismaila Sarr gave the visitors all three points. Aston Villa ended Everton's unbeaten start to the season with a 3-0 win at Villa Park with all the goals coming in a nine-minute spell midway through the second half. Matty Cash opened the scoring in the 66th minute before a Lucas Digne own goal and Leon Bailey's volley assured the win. Brentford continued their fine start to life in the Premier League with a 2-0 win away to Wolves thanks to goals from Ivan Toney and Bryam Mbuemo and they cruised home despite playing the last 25 minutes with 10 men after Shandon Baptiste's sending off. Newcastle United and Leeds United remain winless after a 1-1 draw on Friday night with Allan Saint-Maximin scoring an equalizer for Newcastle after Raphinha had put Leeds ahead in the 13th minute. xinhua

FIFA sets talks with football leaders on biennial World Cup

ZURICH: FIFA will finally start speaking to football clubs, leagues and players' unions during September 2021 in the latest steps announced on Monday in its push to organise a men's World Cup every two years. All 211 member federations have also been invited to online talks on 30 September 2021 as part of consulting on the future of national team football, including a biennial men's World Cup. **World Cup winners** FIFA first sought approval this month from retired players, including World Cup winners who went to Qatar for a two-day conference, and commissioned surveys of fans in selected countries. That process was criticized as flawed by FIFPRO, the global union for active players, which is now set to get a meeting with FIFA. A "new phase of consultation" will start with organizations representing players, clubs, leagues and the six continental governing bodies, FIFA said today in a statement. European football body UEFA has warned it could boycott if the World Cup moves from its historic four-year cycle, and South American counterpart CONMEBOL is also opposed. Their members dominate World Cups on the field, but combine for fewer than one-third of the 211 federations who vote. FIFA argues biennial World Cups will give more players and teams the chance to compete in meaningful games, improve talent globally and raise more money to fuel development programs. Opposition has focused on di-

luting the World Cup's appeal, distorting the balance between domestic and international football and overloading players in a crowded schedule. The prestige of UEFA's European Championship and CONMEBOL's Copa America also risk being hit by playing more World Cups. The World Cup debate has overshadowed an ongoing review of the FIFA-managed International Match Calendars, which mandate when clubs must release players to national teams. The men's calendar expires in 2024 and there is broad agreement the current system is outdated. It requires players to travel for matches in separate windows at least four times during each domestic season. **Smaller tournaments** FIFA has proposed streamlining the calendar with smaller tournament qualifying groups, potentially playing all matches in a single block in October. The women's calendar expires in 2023, when their next World Cup will be hosted by Australia and New Zealand. Women's football could be crowded out by clashes forced by having more men's World Cups, the German football federation said last week. **Arsène Wenger** FIFA's proposed changes are being led by Arsène Wenger, the former Arsenal coach who is now global development director for world football. He has suggested decisions could be made by December 2021, the Associated Press (AP) reported. ONA

LA LIGA

Real Madrid win in Valencia, all rivals slip up

MADRID: Real Madrid came from behind to win 2-1 away to Valencia and open up a two-point gap at the top of La Liga on Sunday night. Carlo Ancelotti's side looked to be heading for defeat in the game between the top two in the table as Valencia's high-pressing game had them on the back foot and trailing after Hugo Duro put the home side ahead in the 66th minute. Duro hit a left foot shot that took a deflection on its way past Thibaut Courtois and the goal sparked more life into Real Madrid and in the last 15 minutes Valencia were guilty of sitting deep and trying to defend their lead. Vinicius Jr leveled for Madrid in the 86th minute with his shot also taking a big deflection to wrong-foot Valencia keeper Giorgi Mamardashvili and the Brazilian



had a hand in his side's second goal two minutes later when he crossed for Karim Benzema to score off his shoulder. Mallorca and Villarreal drew 0-0 on Sunday lunchtime in a game that was more entertaining than the final score suggests, with Villarreal (who have drawn their last four games) having the best chances. Real Sociedad and Sevilla also

failed to trouble the scoreboard in a duel between top-four hopefuls in San Sebastian. Sevilla will probably travel home happier with the points than the home side, who saw Mikel Oyarzabal's poor penalty saved by Sevilla keeper Bono. Leandro Cabrera scored a 97th minute equalizer to save a point for Espanyol in a 2-2 draw away to Betis. Aleix Vidal side-footed Espanyol ahead in the 16th minute, but William Jose and Nabil Fekir turned the score around for Betis before the break. The home side were reduced to 10 men in the 78th minute when German Pezzella was shown a direct red card and in the time added on after that incident Cabrera powered home from the edge of the area. Atletico Madrid dropped two

points on Saturday after being held to a 0-0 draw by an effective and disciplined Athletic Club side that had the best chances to win the match. Atletico Madrid's only chance was a Marcos Llorente shot which bounced off the post in the second half and the visitors would have taken all three points if Inaki Williams (who was making his 200th consecutive league appearance) or Asier Villalibre had hit the target with just Jan Oblak to beat. Atletico's frustration was compounded when Joao Felix was sent off in the 77th minute for insulting referee Gil Manzano. Former Atletico striker Radamel Falcao scored on his debut to round off Rayo Vallecano's 3-0 win over Getafe on Saturday lunchtime. Oscar Trejo's ninth minute penalty opened the scor-

ing and Pathe Ciss's 78th minute header doubled Rayo's lead against a rival that has lost all five games. Alaves are also without a point after losing 2-0 defeat at home to Osasuna, who claimed all three points thanks to a David Garcia header in the 21st minute of the game and a 28th minute penalty from Roberto Torres following a handball in the Alaves area. Elche and Levante drew 1-1 with Jose Luis Morales's 55th minute goal cancelling out Lucas Perez's 33rd minute opener for the home side. The round of matches kicked off as Cadiz won 2-1 away to Celta Vigo thanks to goals from Anthony Lozano and Alfonso Espino, who scored from close range after a penalty. FC Barcelona play Granada on Monday night. xinhua

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by November 2021 reaching \$72.54, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 89 cents from the price of Friday, which was \$73.43. - **ONA**

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MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 3,945.31 points, up 0.08 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.44 per cent at 587.88 points. Oman Education & Training, up 7.73 per cent, was the top gainer while Renaissance Services, down 2.26 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman’s wheat production soars by 19% to reach 2,649 tonnes

The total area of land planted with wheat in the 2020/2021 season amounted to 2,449 acres, constituting a 19.6 per cent rise compared to the last season

MUSCAT: Wheat crop production grew by 19 per cent in Oman during the agricultural season 2020/2021 to reach 2,649 tonnes compared to the 2019/2020 season.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources said that the total area of land planted with wheat in the 2020/2021 season amounted to 2,449 acres, constituting a 19.6 per cent rise compared to the last season. The number of farmers also increased by 5.5 per cent.

The ministry also added that the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah topped the Sultanate’s governorates in terms of the highest cultivated area with 1,109.6 acres, or 45 per cent of the total area of wheat planted in the Sultanate.

Al Dakhiliyah also came first in terms of wheat crop production, with 1,465.6 tonnes or 55 per cent. Al Dhahirah Governorate ranked second in terms of cultivated area, amounting to 576.5 acres and a production of 650 tonnes or

24.5 per cent, followed by Dhofar with a production of 360 tonnes, then the Governorates of North and South Al Batinah with a production of 83.6 tonnes.

The cultivated area in the rest of the governorates was 113.5 acres or 4.6 per cent of the total cultivated area with wheat crop production of 89.8 tonnes or 3.4 per cent of the total production.

The ministry added that the average production during the 2019/2020 season and 2020/2021 season stood at 1.1 tonnes/acre. The Wilayat of Bahla topped the list as the most productive, reaching 710 tonnes, with a cultivated area of 445.6 acres, followed by Ibri, with a production of 437 tonnes and an area of 363 acres, then Thumrait with a production of 360 tonnes and a planted area of 537.6 acres.

Next, the volume of wheat crop production in Nizwa reached 287 tonnes and an area of 225 acres, and the production of Manah reached 239 tonnes with a cultivated area of 225.8 acres.



MINISTRY REPORT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources accords great attention to enhance the wheat crop in cooperation with many international, regional and local organisations and research centres through research and guiding programmes to develop local wheat cultivars and importing others to be tested in the Sultanate. - **ONA**

MOODY’S INVESTORS REPORT

Water stress poses credit risks for coal, mining and power sectors

SINGAPORE: Water management is among the top environmental risks for countries and sectors in Asia, according to Moody’s Investors Service.

Of 25 economies in the region, it identified 10 that have highly negative or very highly negative exposure to water management risks - including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and China.

Moody’s said Asia has among the highest water management risks in the world, on a par with those of arid countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, despite high levels of seasonal rainfall and large river systems throughout the continent that provide ample supply.

The exposure is most pronounced in South and Southeast Asia where water access, scarcity and sanitation are key drivers.

In this subregion, annual freshwater withdrawal amounts to 50 per cent of the available domestic supply and 43 per cent of the population is exposed to unsafe drinking water on average, suggesting weak infrastructure for managing available water resources.

In contrast, average freshwater withdrawals account for only 20 per cent of available supply in Western Europe, and 10 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Moody’s said it considers five



HIGHEST RISK: Moody’s said Asia has among the highest water management risks in the world, on a par with those of arid countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. - **Photo used for illustrative purpose only**

main transmission channels of water management risk for issuers in Asia, particularly for those in industries where access to fresh or clean water is crucial to productivity, or where reducing downstream pollution is critical to reducing secondary effects on public health and mitigating regulatory risk.

These channels include availability, access and consumption; scarcity related to inadequate in-

frastructure; downstream pollution by users; sanitation; and risks stemming from pollution-related regulations. Availability, access and consumption

These factors are among the broadest sets of risks by impact, relating to excess demand on finite water resources that signals mismanagement of existing resources, low freshwater availability (such as in island economies) or diver-

sion of water (through dams).

Even in economies where water is ample, competition over water can intensify between sectors of the economy, said Moody’s.

Affected sectors include agriculture, chemicals, semiconductors, power generation, and industries that use water for cooling such as inland nuclear and thermal coal power stations that have less access to seawater.

Industries that are highly dependent on water naturally tend to be located near sources of water, although increasing competition for those resources from population growth can also reduce access.

In Asia, said Moody’s countries with the highest exposure to water management risks also tend to be large agricultural producers, with those banking systems facing sizable loan exposures to the agriculture sectors. This is the case in India, China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Bangladesh where in many cases credit to agriculture and fisheries is reflective of the sectors’ importance to employment and as a political base, and may often be the by-product of subsidised interest rates and priority sector lending quotas.

However, these risks may present themselves to specific specialised agricultural lenders rather than to banking systems as a whole. - **ANI**

CLIMATE CHANGE

Poorer nations expected to face \$75bn shortfall in climate finance: Oxfam

NAIROBI: Wealthy nations are expected to fall up to \$75 billion short of fulfilling their long-standing pledge to mobilise \$100 billion each year from 2020 to 2025 to help the most vulnerable countries adapt to the dangerous effects of climate change and reduce their emissions, according to estimates released by Oxfam on Monday.

This analysis comes ahead of informal climate talks between world leaders at the UN General Assembly - a key moment to get the target back on track ahead of the COP26 UN Climate Summit in Glasgow in November.

New data

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) released new data on Friday showing that developed countries provided only around 80 billion dollars in climate finance in 2019.

Based on current pledges and plans, Oxfam estimates that wealthy governments will continue to miss the 100 billion dollar goal and reach only \$93 billion to \$95 billion per year by 2025, five years after the goal should have been met.

This means that climate-vul-

nerable countries could miss out on between 68 billion and 75 billion dollars in total over the six-year target period.

Hot and cold temperatures are estimated to kill five million people every year, accounting for more than nine per cent of human deaths globally, and this is expected to increase as heat-related deaths rise due to climate change.

Climate change could trigger economic losses double that of the pandemic, but it is not being treated with the same urgency.

In 2020, the EU, UK, US, Canada, Australia and Japan spent more than 15 trillion dollars on Covid-19 fiscal recovery packages - equivalent to meeting the climate finance goal 151 times over.

At the same time, total global military spending rose by 2.6 per cent since 2019 to just under \$2 trillion - nearly 20 times more than the climate finance goal.

While some countries, including the US, Canada and Germany, have increased their pledges in recent months their efforts have not been enough.

Oxfam also raises serious concerns about how wealthy countries are currently allocating climate finance. - **ANI**

FRESH PLEA

Debt default would ‘permanently’ weaken America: US Treasury Secretary



US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen. - **BNA**

WASHINGTON: US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen issued a fresh plea for Congress to raise the federal debt ceiling on Sunday, arguing a default on US debt would trigger a historic financial crisis.

In a *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece, Yellen said that the crisis triggered by default would compound the damage from the continuing coronavirus pandemic, roiling markets and plunging the US economy back into recession at the cost of millions of jobs and a lasting hike in interest rates.

“We would emerge from this crisis a permanently weaker nation,” Yellen said, noting that US creditworthiness has been a strategic advantage. Yellen did not offer a new timeline for possible default but

described economic damage that would fall on consumers through higher borrowing costs and lower asset prices.

She has said previously that a default could come during October when the Treasury exhausts its cash reserves and extraordinary borrowing capacity under the \$28.4 trillion debt limit. “We can borrow more cheaply than almost any other country, and defaulting would jeopardise this enviable fiscal position. It would also make America a more expensive place to live, as the higher cost of borrowing would fall on consumers,” Yellen wrote. “Mortgage payments, car loans, credit card bills - everything that is purchased with credit would be costlier after default.”

Republicans have refused to support raising or suspending the \$28.4 billion. US Senator Bill Cassidy from Louisiana said earlier on NBC’s “Meet the Press” programme that Democrats want to increase the borrowing cap to fund trillions of dollars in “Democratic wish list” spending.

Yellen argued the debt ceiling is about paying for past spending obligations and said waiting too long to lift the debt ceiling can still cause damage, citing a 2011 debt ceiling crisis that pushed the federal government to the brink of default that prompted a credit rating downgrade.

“This led to financial-market disruptions that persisted for months. Time is money here, potentially billions of dollars. Nei-

ther delay nor default is tolerable.”

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, in a statement, cited Yellen’s past remarks on the issue and noted that Congress addressed the debt ceiling on a bipartisan basis three times during the Trump administration.

“When we take up the debt limit this month, we expect it to be bipartisan once more,” Pelosi said.

Still, House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn on Sunday said that Democrats may have to pass the debt ceiling hike without Republican support. “I think we ought to do what’s necessary and message to the American people exactly who is trying to destroy this great democracy that we hope to keep in place,” he told CNN. - **BNA**

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Filipino, with over 21 years of experience (airport, seaport, infra, buildings) Working as a consultant since 2010 Having Oman D/L and NOC.

Contact: +96899075683
allirod1975@gmail.com

SR CIVIL ENGINEER / PROJECT MANAGER

Graduate male over 23yrs exp in Oman & India Handled Ministry & Pvt Projects looking for suitable job. DL & NOC available.

Mob: +919150861939
email: sanja_bala@yahoo.co.in

Senior Management

Indian Male, 45 Yrs. MBA Marketing, having 20+ years experience (7 yrs Gulf) looking for suitable Senior Management position in Purchase, Contracts, Supply Chain Management. Oman DL & NOC available.

Contact No. 97228393

Chemical Engineering

Knowledge of quality control, process control, simulation, refinery operations with GCC resident visa and a valid GCC D/L. Currently doing Nebosh IGC course seeks suitable placement.

Contact: 72201210/93379169
Email: waasifkaruthedath@gmail.com

Chemist (Quality Controller) (BSC. Chemistry)

25 Years Exp in Testing and analysis of raw, intermediate & finished products, Calibrating lab instruments, compiling reports. Looking suitable placement. Having Oman driving licence.

Contact No. Oman-96359802, India+91 9400032844,
Email: mollythomas53@rediffmail.com

GROUP FINANCE MANAGER

with 20 yrs+ experience seeks suitable placement

Contact 92578435
Email: 1974KSD@gmail.com

Projects Manager

Indian Male, having 12 years of Experience in Oman, presently working as Projects Manager, NOC available.

Contact 92636569
Email: nisarg_shah35@yahoo.com

ACCOUNTANT

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

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

Business Management

Syrian Female seeking suitable placement with Bachelor in Business Management, 6 years experience in Accounting, Finance, Administration, Office Coordinator with excellent communication skills in Arabic & English. Family Visa with valid D/L.

Pls contact 91917771

FINANCE MANAGER

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

Contact Number # 78556829

PROJECT ADMIN / CEO OFFICE MNGMT / HR / OPS CORPORATE & MKTG. COMMUNICATIONS / ADMIN

Smart Indian, Masters, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman exp in Airport Projects, Hospital. Media in Project Coordination, Corporate & Mktg. Communication, CEO & Chairman Office Mngmt, Operations, Marketing, NOC, Immediate.

CONTACT 99283938

ADMIN / FINANCE

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

GSM: 96974637
Email: goutam14b@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION

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

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

HR & Administration Professional

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

Contact 94948676

HSE Advisor

Omani HSE Advisor, 5 yrs experience seeks placement.

Contact +96879990740
Email: mundhirsaidalrashdi@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

MEDICAL

A Senior general physician with valid MOH licence, data flow, prometric, ACLS BLS certificates looking for a suitable placement in Muscat area. NOC available from current employer. Whatsapp 91465358

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Inventory, purchase, sales Indian male 30, having 8 years experience in retail, F&B operations, accounting and various other skills, NOC available. Contact 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

Indian male, B.Com 11 years purchase & procurement experience in Oman with valid D/L & NOC looking for a suitable position. # 94038075

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ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

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Part time Accounts doing up to finalization seeking Job
Contact 79102100

43 yrs Male B-Com 19 yrs of Exp in Accounts (17 yrs in Oman) until finalisation. Currently working in a reputed company. Contact 95349498

Female ACCA qualified member, 4+ years work experience in Oman, D/L, NOC available, looking to join a finance or accounts team. Contact 95785272

Male, CFA level 2 candidate, 3+ years work experience in Finance sector, D/L, NOC available, looking to join a finance team. Contact 96902962

Indian male Senior Accountant with 18 years of experience in accounts and finance up to finalisation with Tally ERP 9 & Focus, holding a D/L. Contact 99716207

Indian male Accountant with 8 years exp in GCC (4 Years in Oman), doing up to finalization of Accounts, Looking for suitable placement, Oman D/L & NOC available, Mob: 93849217, Email: ishaque150@gmail.com

Accountant, B.com with 6 years experience in Accounts and Logistics in Oman,seeks immediate placement.NOC available.
Please Contact 95308342 or
Email: jithujithin05@gmail.com

Indian Male M.Com with over 19 years of experience in Accounts, Finance and Software implementation is looking for an immediate opening. NOC available. Contact 92334161
Email: sibumat@yahoo.com

Accountant, Indian Male Bcom.26 yrs old, 3yrs experience in Oman. Experienced in tally, now in Employment visa. NOC available. Contact 94601607

Canadian, male, Economics and Finance graduate, 3years experience in Canada as retail manager in a well reputed company. Seeking suitable placement. Contact 94203032
E-mail: abdul.azzu@gmail.com

CPA qualified, ACCA professional level accountant with 7 years experience available for finance/senior accountant position in Muscat, Oman. Contact 99254310
Email: maazsarwar_@hotmail.com

ADMIN/HR

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

Indian male having 20+ years' experience in Oman seeks suitable job in HR/Admin. Contact 95425764

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

Research & Administrative Assistant, Recruiter and Co-ordinator, M.Sc in Sustainable Development with 12 plus years of experience, Female, Indian, looking for employment. Contact 98260708.

Indian Male MBA, working since 16 years in Oman with Tech. Documentation, Leasing / Admin Coordination experiences looking for suitable placement with D/L (Own Car) and NOC. Contact 79859447

Indian female having 14yrs experience to handle Admin/Secretary/ Executive Secretary/Accountant-Office Co-ordinator or any suitable office post.Resume will be send on request. Contact 78548002

Indian Female, Msc. (Mathematics) looking for suitable job position. Ready to join immediately, currently in Oman. Contact 91169195
Email: jeenabino@gmail.com

ENGINEER

B Tech, Mechanical Engineer, 32 Indian Male, having 7+ years experience in Technical Sales, Design and Execution in Oman. Currently on visit visa. Looking for a suitable position. Contact 99654650

Senior Quantity Surveyor Graduated Male (Sri Lanka)10 Years of Experience in Building & Pipeline Projects NOC & DL Available
Mobile: 95324203 / 92014656
Email: nabrisfm@gmail.com

Indian male BE civil engineer 4+ yr experience in site execution, quantity survey, autocad. NOC available. Contact 94194752

B.Tech Mechanical Engineer Graduated (2021) from VIT-Vellore(TN) India looking for suitable job to build a career while contributing to the organisation. Contact 78525667 / 24992407

B.E civil engineer having 13 yrs of Oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact 91731098

Graduate Civil Engineer having 25 yrs+ exp. seeking suitable placement (Consultancy/Contracting firm)-exp in buildings (commercial/residential/head quarters) infrastructure ,waterline, refinery/plant. available to join immediately. Omani D/L & NOC is available. Contact 92671539

B.Tech, Civil & MBA, 4yrs experience in Oman as a service coordinator/sales post. Currently working Oman. Contact 79275813

Structural Engineer 7 yrs consultancy exp. In Oman with D/L. Contact 94340408

DRIVER

Looking for driving job with NOC.
Contact 97095200

Indian Driver (Kerala) looking for driver job. Contact 79896629

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Srilankan with 15 yrs experience in Rotana Dubai as Room attendant seeks job in housekeeping,office boy,helper,roomboy,watchman.Contact 92806514

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IT, Profession MCA, MBA-System & Network Administration with 15 years of GCC experience, looking for suitable openings. Contact 92640206
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14 years experienced Shipping / Logistics professional (operations & documentation) looking for a job in the shipping companies / logistics sector. Contact 71610495.

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WAYS TO STAY BUSY AND ACTIVE IN RETIREMENT

To promote your health and happiness in retirement,
keep your body and mind active and engaged



Many people look forward to their retirement for years. However, once it begins, they may find all the newfound free time overwhelming. If you're planning on retiring soon, having a plan for how you'll spend your time is important for your health and happiness. Here are few ideas for staying mentally and physically active, as well as engaged in your community:

1 Start a walking meet-up
Host a morning walking group in your neighbourhood. A brisk morning walk is a low-impact way to get in shape and keep your heart healthy. Plus, the fresh air and camaraderie is good for your mental wellbeing. To ensure the group's success, keep meet-up times consistent and let participants know in advance the pace and distance you plan to walk. You may even want to start a fun tradition, such as ending every stroll session at a local coffee shop.

2 Volunteer your skills
Many recent immigrants need logistical help getting situated in the United States. If you speak a foreign language, consider volunteering through your local library or community centre. Become a literacy buddy to your new neighbours or help them complete essential paperwork, such as job applications and school enrollment forms.

3 Learn music at your own pace
It's never too late to begin your music education. Whether you're learning to play the piano for the first time or revisiting an old passion, new tools will allow you to hone your skills independently and effectively. Check out Casiotone keyboards, which are portable and well-suited for any level of play, as most of the models have features that will guide you through its built-in songs by either a key-lighting system or an on-screen step-by-step process. With the ability to slow the tempo to aid in practice, or learn melodies individually by selecting left-hand or right-hand parts only, you can quickly master favourite tunes and build your musical confidence.

4 Read the classics
Are there classic books you've always wanted to read but have never gotten around to? Use your abundance of free time to finally make your way through your literary bucket list. Whether it's "Moby Dick" or "Ulysses," consider inviting friends to participate. Challenging titles will be more easily and enjoyably tackled with friends and a discussion schedule. - Statepoint





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Panelists:



Ali Hassan Moosa
CEO
Oman Banks Association



Khalid Al Kayed
CEO
Bank Nizwa



Said Ahmed Safrar
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Oman Investment
& Finance Co. (OIFC)



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& Group Managing Editor
United Media Services

Moderator

SPEAKERS:



Ali Al Jabri
Manager
Payment Systems
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Hassan Abdul Ali
Head - Service Delivery
& Project Management
Office, Oman Data Park



Mujahid Said Al Zadaly
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ROUND-UP

Ahli Islamic introduces dedicated account for its female customers

The ladies savings account presents a comprehensive range of unique benefits and privileges that promise to provide greater fulfilment and satisfying customer experience to this growing segment

MUSCAT: In its bid to constantly offer tailored banking products and services to various market segments and further grow and strengthen its retail banking portfolio, Ahli Islamic recently launched a dedicated account for its female customers.

The bank's newest launch - the ladies savings account - presents a comprehensive range of unique benefits and privileges that promise to provide greater fulfilment and satisfying customer experience to this growing segment.



With the new Sharia-compliant ladies savings account, customers could avail of attractive deals, special offers and discounts from selected merchants using a uniquely designed debit card and through the ahli rewards application. More

benefits await those who transfer their salaries to this account. Each customer will also have the privilege to automatically qualify for the Qitaf weekly, monthly and quarterly prize draws and Omani Women's Day 2021 draws.

Yousuf Al Rawahi, Deputy General Manager and Head of Ahli Islamic said, "As one of the leading players in the Omani banking sector, we are committed to developing and presenting banking solutions that fulfil our customers' personal needs and lifestyles and contributing towards realising their aspirations.

"Our approach towards customising our products and services for various customer segments through an in-depth market study

has led us to recognise that an increasing number of women are joining the national workforce and require financial services to meet their evolving social and economic needs. The Ladies Savings Account takes into account an understanding of the importance of helping our female customers develop their savings and maximise the beneficial returns that the account provides."

Al Rawahi further stated, "Ahli Islamic pursues a growth-oriented strategy in line with the needs of its customers. Over the years, we have introduced products and services that are distinct and for diverse customer segments, reflecting our continuous efforts to ensure long-term service efficiency."

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ominvest supports e-learning at Habraa School in Wadi Al Maawil

MUSCAT: As part of its social responsibility initiatives towards the education sector, Oman International Development and Investment Company (Ominvest) has recently extended support towards the e-enabling of Habraa School; one of the oldest schools in Wilayat Wadi Al Maawil in Al Batinah South Governorate. The school serves around 630 students from Grades I to X.

The contribution included setting up the required infrastructure for internet connectivity across the school premises, in addition to providing electric tablets for students' e-learning.

Dr Hiba Al Baloushi, Principal of Habraa School said, "we are very grateful to the kind support of Ominvest. The first thing they asked



us was how to support the school practically and sustainably. They were attentive to our needs and the challenges we face and went beyond what was requested. They were very much hands-on through the entire process, making sure all internet infrastructure setup and

purchased tablets were compliant with the specifications set by the General Directorate of Education."

Sarah Lashkoo, Company Secretary and Head of Legal and Compliance at Ominvest said, "serving and enriching societies is at the heart of Ominvest's purpose state-

ment. We are glad to extend support to Habraa School in Wilayat Wadi Al Maawil. The school's principal and the team have been very cooperative and swift in responding with the needed arrangement to have the internet connectivity and tablets fully equipped and running before students went back to school."

The initiative comes in response to the significant changes the schooling system has witnessed globally and in the Sultanate since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to the increase in the adoption of online education and e-schooling. This is the second year in a row that Ominvest extends such support to schools; last year the initiative focused on a school in Wilayat Al Suwaiq.

OFFER



Experience exceptional Lincoln luxury with exclusive benefits

MUSCAT: Luxury vehicle customers looking forward to owning a Lincoln vehicle can benefit with service 5 years / 100,000km and 1-year registration. (Conditions apply. For details visit a Lincoln showroom.) The campaign is valid until October 21.

In Oman, the Lincoln range includes the family-size Lincoln Navigator, the Lincoln Aviator and the Lincoln Corsair.

The Navigator combines modern luxury with advanced technology - elevating family travel to first class.





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ROUND-UP

Toyota Supra now with summer surprises offer

The current generation Supra with its stylish design, powerful performance and advanced technologies makes it one of the most exciting and thrilling coupes to own

MUSCAT: The legendary Supra has been one of Toyota's most loved and admired coupes.

The current generation Supra with its stylish design, powerful performance and advanced technologies makes it one of the most exciting and thrilling coupes to own and make the most of.

Enthusiasts looking forward to owning the Supra can benefit from 1-year free insurance (20YM/19PLT). Or cash gift in lieu of insurance OMR450. (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & Conditions apply.) The campaign lasts until October 21.

The Supra is the Toyota global model developed entirely by GAZOO Racing (GR) team. The team has been developing its cars and people through its participation in motorsports with the goal of making 'ever-better' cars ever since first competing in Germany's 24



Hours of Nürburgring endurance race in 2007.

The Supra's 3.0-litre turbocharged engine produces up to 335hp and 51 kg.m. of torque. The torque comes on strong even from very low engine speeds, thanks to a combination of a twin-scroll turbocharger, direct fuel injection, and continuously variable timing on both the intake and exhaust camshafts.

The 8-speed automatic transmission delivers speedy up and down-

shifts, and features paddle shifters for manual control when desired. The Supra's Sport Mode sharpens throttle response, changes steering wheel characteristics and improves transmission shift crispness. Meanwhile, Traction Mode can be activated as part of the Vehicle Stability Control System to provide track-driving capability by reducing the intervention of the traction and stability control functions. Launch Control is available only when the vehicle is in Sport modes.

Nissan Oman's 'book a home test drive' service receives fantastic response

MUSCAT: Nissan Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles (SBA)'s 'book a home test drive' service has earned an excellent response from potential customers. The service empowers prospective customers to schedule their test drives online at their convenience.

Applicable only in the Muscat governorate right now the 'book a home test drive' service is another unique step from Nissan Oman to make car buying more convenient. While customers will be charged OMR 5 for home test drive service, upon sales conversion a sum of OMR 10 will be passed on to them as a cash gift.

Interested customers can schedule a test drive of Nissan models from the comfort of their homes simply by logging on to the official SBA Nissan Oman website. A home test drive can be booked through customer service toll-free number 80050011 as well.

A senior official of Nissan



Oman said, "There's no better way to see if a vehicle is right for customers than to test drive it. To avail our home test drive service, customers must just let us know what model they are interested in, and we will take it to their homes." He added, "All test-drive vehicles are completely sanitised before delivery at customers' homes for test drives. We are following strict safety procedures with regards COVID-19 and we are adjusting our daily operations to fit within the new normal."

PREFERRED CHOICE

Audi offers premium experience for fleet and corporate operators

MUSCAT: Offering a premium experience, the Audi brand continues to be the most preferred choice for corporate and fleet operators in Oman.

The Audi Corporate Programme is tailored to the demanding mobility requirements of diplomats, government officials, corporate executives, and opinion leaders. Everybody eligible for the corporate programme will discover what it means to be part of the Audi culture and ethos. Similarly, Audi's Fleet Programme meets the demanding mobility needs of SMEs and fleet providers such as leasing companies' rent-a-car operators, airport and limousine services, hotel shuttles as well as individual company car drivers.

Corporate members are offered competitive offers, priority vehicle ordering and allocation, offers on accessories and promotional items and invitations to exclusive Audi events.

Christian Nehme, General Manager of Premium Motors Oman said, "Our range has a model for every business need. For drivers, our models offer the latest safety, communications, and driver assistance technologies. And for fleet managers, our cars are also renowned for maintaining strong residual values, with competitive whole-life costs that could help cut operating costs while improving staff benefits package."



SPECIALISED TRAINING

Bank Muscat staff complete immersive learning at Outward Bound Oman

MUSCAT: In line with its pioneering role in the development of Omani human resources, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, has partnered with Outward Bound Oman to provide its employees with specialised training that will further improve their teamwork, critical thinking and effective communication skills.

Two batches of bank employees participated in these training workshops held recently at the headquarters of Outward Bound Oman in Al Khoudh. Outward Bound Oman is well known for its focus on the development of human talent through a unique, intensive and immersive learning environment.

The training workshop for Bank Muscat employees aimed to raise their awareness of the importance of focusing on customers and to introduce them to the importance of work ethics, and how it can be applied in the work environment. It also pointed out the importance of dealing professionally with col-



leagues, managers and the bank's customers. In addition to enhancing the ability of employees to assume new responsibilities and adhere to the highest standards of integrity at work, the workshop also included several assorted activities to enhance their participation and interaction during the training.

Said Salim Al Aufi, Group Deputy General Manager - Human Resources, Bank Muscat, said, "Bank Muscat recognises that its employees are its core strength and the

primary reason for its success and accomplishments. Hence, it continuously invests resources and time to further develop its capabilities. The bank is also closely supporting efforts for further development of Omani youth through specialised programmes and courses to realise national development goals. We thank Outward Bound Oman for their excellent training that focuses on communication, teamwork, confidence, critical thinking and creativity. This will help our employees

unleash their full potential and contribute immensely both to the bank and Omani society in general."

Mohammed Darwish Al Zadjali, Chief Operating Officer, Outward Bound Oman, said, "From school students to job seekers and the emerging talent of leading organisations, Outward Bound Oman courses have helped shape the lives of thousands of people in the Sultanate, helping equip individuals with the right competencies and capabilities to support the ambitious goals of Oman Vision 2040.

We are very happy to partner with Bank Muscat, which is a pioneer in investing in human resources and providing Omani talent multiple ways to innovate, perform and be prepared for the next stage in their careers and lives."

Several Bank Muscat employees who took part in the workshops expressed their happiness and appreciation for the various efforts made by the bank to develop Omani cadres in the banking and financial sector.

ADVENTUROUS COMPANION

JAC T8: Turbocharged partner for all your adventurous trips

MUSCAT: Ever wondered what it feels like to feel limitless? To hit the roads like there is no home and to go on a never-ending drive, a journey that is full of mind captivating views from massive mountains to the plain blue oasis that reminds you of your long-hidden adventurous spirit.

But to experience this, you need an equally adventurous companion who is strong, rigid with beautiful looks, and an interior so comforting that it can take your trip to a whole new level. These are the thoughts of our happy customer Muslem Al Mahrouqi about his new adventure partner JAC T8.

Muslem bought the JAC T8 two months ago from our Nizwa showroom. He has always been a fan of masculine vehicles like JAC T8. While on his next hunt for big cars, he found the T8 to be the most feature-rich Pickup with a significantly low price tag. Muslem also talked about the comfortable interiors that



give him a luxurious and royal feel.

While sharing his experience, the one thing that Muslem loved about the JAC T8 is its Turbocharged engine and the extremely efficient air conditioner. He says, with JAC T8, you experience uninterrupted power even on the rugged roads. Muslem also took this moment to share his joyful experience with the Towell Auto Centre sales team, which guided him at

every step throughout the buying process of the vehicle.

JAC T8 is a turbocharged pickup designed to tackle all the terrains. Be it business or leisure, JAC T8 will always live up to the occasion. The sporty pickup is equipped with a Turbocharged engine generating 290Nm of Torque. With leather seats and soft-touch interiors, the T8 offers elegant comfort and a dash of luxury.

ISLAMIC BANKING

Maisarah conducts on-the-spot weekly draws to enhance customer experience

MUSCAT: To further enhance its customers' experience, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services has been conducting 'on the spot' weekly draws every Monday as part of the Maisarah Prize Account scheme. A sum of OMR 100 is credited instantly to each winner's account soon after the draw.

As per the scheme, three winners from each of the branches in Azaiba, Al Hail, Salalah, Sohar, Birkat Al Mouz, Greater Muttrah, Al Khuwair, Sur, New Salalah and Araqi, win OMR100 in the draws held every week.

Mohammed Ahmed Al Maashani, Head of Distribution Network at Maisarah, said, "We distinguish ourselves by focusing on providing excellent products and customer services. The cash prize is credited immediately to customers' accounts on the spot after the draws to offer a better experience of the prize scheme. Maisarah is working towards making its customers the happi-



est customers in Oman with the Prize Account scheme that rewards existing and new customers who have cultivated the culture of saving. Through our prize scheme, and by providing attractive incentives, we want to inspire our esteemed customers to save."

To open a Maisarah Prize Account, customers need to maintain a minimum balance of OMR 100 in their accounts. For every OMR 100 balance, they get one chance to win, so the more they save, the greater their chances of winning. Maisarah is keen on introducing excellent Islamic banking options for customers and aims to continue to work on rolling out an extensive products range.

The scheme, valid through December 31, offers customers a chance to win big prizes, by just maintaining a minimum balance of OMR 100 over a small period. In addition to weekly prizes, Maisarah is also conducting Year-end Mega Prizes where three lucky winners from across the Maisarah branch network will win OMR 2,000 in the children category, OMR 10,000 in the Standard and Affluent Banking category, and OMR 100,000 in the Priority Banking category.



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