



Forum showcases Oman’s capabilities in ports, energy and maritime sectors

Oman Maritime, Ports, Energy Forum saw over 200 participants representing around 70 leading global institutions in the ports and energy sectors



Reflecting its importance as an international platform for exchanging insights and expertise, the forum sees a wide participation from over 200 participants representing around 70 leading global institutions in the ports and energy sectors. Its programme includes seven specialised papers addressing key innovations and challenges in the energy and ports sectors, along with topics on digital transformation and investment in national talents.

Asyad Group, the strategic partner, is taking center stage at the forum showcasing its advanced solutions in ports, maritime transport, clean energy, and smart logistics services, reinforcing Oman's position as a global provider of integrated logistics services. The group will also showcase its strategic partnerships with different international organisations in the sustainability sector, including innovative projects for generating clean energy using wave power in Sohar and Duqm, as well as invest-

ments in green hydrogen, supporting the transition towards a sustainable energy future.

The forum comes as Asyad Group continues to enhance its global presence as a leading provider of integrated logistics solutions through tangible achievements and strategic investments in 2024. These achievements include increased handling of general and liquid cargo, as well as container volumes, outstanding operational performance in shipping and dry dock services, and a reduction in carbon emissions from its maritime fleet. This reflects the group's firm commitment to transitioning to clean energy and reducing the environmental impact of its operations, in line with the goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. Asyad Group was ranked fourth as the largest sustainable transport and logistics company in the region according to the Middle East and North Africa Sustainability Leaders List by Forbes Middle East. Additionally, Salalah Port



was ranked as the second-best global port in container handling efficiency over the past three years. The group also ranked 18th globally in crude oil tanker ownership, 21st in LNG and oil transport, and 51st in container transport, highlighting its efforts and pursuit of excellence by adopting global technologies and practices across its business units.

Commenting on the forum and Asyad Group's participation,



Omar Mahmoud Al Mahrazi, CEO of Asyad Ports and Free Zones, emphasized the Group's strategic partnership with the forum embodying its commitment to realising Oman's vision for developing the maritime and logistics ecosystem. He noted that the forum serves as an important platform for exchanging expertise and discussing key challenges and future opportunities amid rapid global transformations.

Lesley Bankes-Hughes, Managing Director of ship.energy, said: "This important event highlights Oman's leadership and innovation in the maritime and energy sectors. We hope the conversations that begin this week will continue long after the Forum and will lead to new and fruitful collaborations between Omani and international companies."

The forum's programme includes a series of panel discussions covering the prospects of energy in the Middle East, the development of port infrastructure, changes in the marine fuel market, and topics on innovation, growth, partnerships, and building national workforce capacities. A specialised workshop on marine fuel measurement technologies and the role of digital solutions in improving operational and commercial efficiency in fuel supply chains was held on the sidelines of the forum.

The forum will conclude with a visit to the fuel supply ship "Margherita Cosulich," equipped with mass flow meters, providing participants with a practical and interactive experience that combines knowledge exchange and exposure to the latest technological innovations in the maritime sector.

This extensive international presence and close cooperation between the organising entity (ship.energy) and Asyad Group underscore the forum's significance as a platform highlighting Oman's pivotal role in the future of the energy and shipping sectors, opening new horizons for investment and partnership, thereby enhancing its competitiveness on the global economic map. — ONA



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MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE



Indian delegation visits MSC

MUSCAT: A delegation from the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) of the Republic of India on Tuesday visited the Maritime Security Centre (MSC).

The visiting delegation is headed by Vice Admiral S Paramesh,

Director General of the Indian Coast Guard. Upon their arrival at the Centre, they were greeted by the Acting Head of the MSC.

Members of the visiting delegation were briefed on the tactical roles and tasks carried out by the

centre in the safety of the Omani maritime environment.

They also toured the centre's facilities and viewed its latest equipment and technologies used in carrying out its national duties.

— ONA



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MEETING

Musandam Municipal Council discusses service projects

KHASAB: The Municipal Council in Musandam Governorate reviewed a proposal to allocate an investment plot for a veterinary quarantine project in the Wilayat of Dibba, as well as the establishment of bicycle lanes alongside the dual carriageway in Dibba.

Al-Saybah and Bani Sand route

During its meeting on Tuesday, chaired by Ahmed Mohammed Al Kamzari, Deputy Chairman of the Municipal Council, the council also discussed a request to alter the route of the road leading to the Al-Saybah and Bani Sand areas (from the Al-Nahda entrance) in the Wilayat of Khasab.

Additionally, they examined a proposal to allocate a site for constructing shaded parking spaces for fishing and leisure boats in Khasab.

The council was briefed on the "Develop Your Neighbourhood" initiative, presented by the Directorate General of Housing and Urban Planning.

— ONA

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Forum discusses expanding scope of insurance markets

The symposium serves as a platform for dialogue on enhancing regional cooperation and exploring opportunities linked with developments in insurance sector



MUSCAT: Represented by the Financial Services Authority (FSA), the Sultanate of Oman is hosting the 3rd joint regional symposium titled “Expanding Insurance in the Middle East and North Africa: Key Challenges and Market Development Opportunities”.

The two-day event, which kicked off in Muscat on Tuesday, is being held in cooperation with Supervisory Authority of Insurance and Social Welfare of the Kingdom of Morocco, with the participation of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)

The symposium is attended by representatives of regulatory bodies, insurance companies and industry experts from Arab states and countries in the region.

The symposium serves as a platform for dialogue on enhancing regional cooperation, exchanging expertise, addressing challenges and exploring opportunities linked with develop-

ments in insurance markets, amid rapid ongoing economic and technological developments.

The programme of the first day of the symposium included sessions and specialised workshops on upgrading the regulatory framework of insurance to keep pace with global updates.

The programme also elaborated on the role of actuaries in enhancing financial stability, means of exploring opportunities for digital innovation and its use to drive the growth of the insurance sector, ways of developing oversight of market behaviour and options for expanding insurance cover to reach broader segments. — OMA

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OMAN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

OIA launches an employment initiative to develop local talent

MUSCAT: Oman Investment Authority (OIA) has announced the opening of registration for the third edition of its Graduate Employment and Development programme “Mu’tamad”.

This reaffirms OIA’s commitment to developing and employing Omani graduates while bridging labour market gaps through job creation and enhancing Omanisation rates by upskilling national talent.

The programme targets graduates in accounting, finance, cybersecurity, information security, computer science, and IT.

This edition introduces a new cybersecurity track, offering specialised certifications to align with growing labor market demands in cybersecurity and modern applications, alongside the existing finance and accounting track.

A total of 50 candidates qualified in the programme’s first two editions, successfully meeting all requirements to obtain accredited certifications in finance and accounting.

The initiative is part of OIA’s efforts to empower national competencies, equipping participants with skills and knowledge in accounting, finance, taxation, auditing, business management, investment, cybersecurity, and information security.



It also provides technical expertise to help them excel in diverse roles.

The programme uniquely combines training with employment opportunities upon certification.

Fahmi Zahir Al Mazroui, Acting Head of Human Resources and Change at OIA, stated that launching the third edition of Mu’tamad reflects OIA’s ongoing efforts to develop national capabilities and enhance workforce readiness.

He added that Mu’tamad is a further step towards enabling nationals to obtain globally recognized certifications, boosting efficiency in finance, accounting, and cybersecurity sectors, increasing

productivity, and creating job opportunities that support employment and Omanisation goals.

Eligibility requirements include holding a bachelor’s degree in finance or accounting (for CFA or ACCA certifications) or in cybersecurity, information security, computer science, or IT (for cybersecurity certifications).

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.7, be Omani nationals, and registered as job seekers in the labour system.

Registration for the third edition is open from 28 April to 15 May 2025, after which shortlisted candidates will proceed to written exams and interviews for final selection. — **ONA**

BANGLADESH EMBASSY HOSTS NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION

The Embassy of Bangladesh in the Sultanate of Oman hosted a reception on Monday evening to commemorate the country’s Independence Day and National Day. The event took place at the Sheraton Oman Hotel and was attended by a distinguished gathering of guests, including senior Omani officials, heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Sultanate, and representatives from Oman’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.. — **ONA**



IN MALAYSIA

Qualifiers to represent Oman at ITEX 2025 announced

SOHAR: The Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation yesterday announced the names of the three qualifiers who will represent the Sultanate of Oman at the International Invention, Innovation, and Technology Exhibition (ITEX 2025), scheduled to take place at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Malaysia.

The announcement ceremony was held at Sohar University under the patronage of Mohammed Suleiman Al Kindi, Governor of North Al Batinah, in the presence

of Dr. Saif Abdullah Al Haddabi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation for Research and Innovation.

The three selected participants include Yousra Yousuf Al Ghadani for her project “Squid Ink Water Filter”, Malak Khalifa Al Harthy, for her innovation “Portland Cement Reinforced with Carbon Nanosheets as a Dental Filling” and Badr Salim Al Muqbali for his project “Remote Control Device for Ring Main Unit Operation”.

— **ONA**

TEJARAH TALKS



Oman’s first sports app to be launched

< FROM A1 “Sabco Sports is set to launch the country’s first dedicated sports app that will centralise all sporting activities. It’s going to be a game-changer in how Omanis interact with sports at all levels.”

Joe Rafferty from Oman Sail stressed the importance of building a comprehensive ecosystem to support Oman’s sports economy.

“We already host world-class events. But now we need greater collaboration and a stronger infrastructure to move to the next level.”

Rafferty also pointed to Oman’s human capital as its greatest strength.

“The power of the people is Oman’s biggest asset. With the right support and coordination, we can build something truly world-class.”

The panel strongly agreed that developing a culture of sport must begin in schools.

Khimji emphasised the need to introduce a structured sports curriculum, ensuring that sport becomes an integral part of growing up in Oman.

He spoke about a pilot programme, conducted by Oman Cricket, which introduced over 700 Omani children aged 8–12 to organised cricket over four semesters — a powerful example

of how early exposure can spark long-term engagement.

“We must start young, build infrastructure, and develop the mindset. Sports must be seen as a viable career and a national asset,” Khimji said.

Ajmi and Rafferty echoed this, with Rafferty adding:

“If we want to be world-class in the future, we need to embed sport in everyday life — starting with schools.”

The panellists also noted that sport can bring wide-ranging societal benefits — from reducing healthcare costs to strengthening community bonds — and called for a national strategy that integrates infrastructure, talent development, and public-private partnerships.

Organised by the Oman Business Forum in collaboration with MoCIIP, and supported by MHD, Nortal, Invest Oman Lounge, and Oman FM, the session explored not only the trillion-dollar global sports economy but how Oman’s unique landscape, and youthful population can position it as a sought-after sports destination.

At the end of an engaging session, one sentiment echoed loud and clear from panellists and the audience alike: With vision, planning and ambition, Oman can take its rightful place on the global sporting map — even as a future Formula One host.

JAZEERA STEEL حديد الجزيرة

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – 31ST MARCH 2025

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, enclosed herewith are the financial statements for the three months ending March 31, 2025.

Highlights of the performance for the first three months can be summarized as follows:

Particulars	Group			Parent		
	Jan-Mar 2025	Jan-Mar 2024	Growth %	Jan-Mar 2025	Jan-Mar 2024	Growth %
Production in MT	120,854	122,140	-1%	120,854	122,140	-1%
Sales in MT	136,839	115,932	18%	137,094	118,619	16%
Sales Value in RO	40,321,750	36,186,587	11%	40,076,215	36,369,257	10%
Net Profit in RO	2,111,939	1,815,900	16%	2,234,408	1,811,402	23%

Business in Q1 internationally remained impacted by speculations on tariffs and reciprocal tariffs across various countries. Futures markets were driven mainly by news and sentiments, rather than real demand. Raw material and semi-finished goods prices reacted to futures and prices fluctuated rapidly leading to massive volatility in prices. Buyers and financial markets in the region were tentative as they awaited the tariff declarations from the US administration.

Logistics costs for export destinations like Europe and the western hemisphere continued to remain high due to geopolitical challenges faced in the Middle East region.

Despite several global challenges, the GCC continued to be positive in construction project awards. The value of GCC contracts awarded in 2024 has increased to \$264 Bln, a 6% jump over 2023, and stands at the highest ever since last 10 years. In February 2025, the GCC announced over \$23 Bln in new projects, with Saudi Arabia alone contributing \$9 Bln, reflecting a 142% year-on-year increase.

While the project segment performed well in Q1- 2025 , Oil prices dropped by about 13% over the last couple of months. This could be a dampener for future investments – even though currently there is a good pipeline of already awarded projects.

After successfully getting American Petroleum Institution (API) approval for use of its monogram, the Company has undergone auditing by PDO team, a pre-requisite for supply to PDO. We await the final approval from PDO. This is expected to open the Oil & Gas sector in Oman for the Company, where we had not been present earlier. With the API monogram, the Company has the possibility to export API Pipes to other markets and reduce dependence on the commercial pipe segment.

Despite various headwinds, the Company has been performing consistently above the budget, as we have been close to market players, engaging with customers, diversifying our product lines as per the needs of the market. Net profit has grown 23% in Q1- 2025 compared to a similar period in 2024.

The Company, as a corporate policy, continuously invests in human resources and provides training to its employees to develop their skills at various levels. Local employment is encouraged, and we have achieved 43% Omanisation in our workforce.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Company and the Board of Directors, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq for the encouragement and support given by his government to the industrial development in Oman. Also, I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders and very importantly our employees and the management team for the support and cooperation extended, which in turn reflects the confidence placed in the Company.

On Behalf of the Board

Amal Suhail Salim Bahwan
Chairperson of the Board of Directors
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Condensed consolidated and separate statement of financial position as at 31st March 2025

	Group		Parent Company	
	31 Mar 2025	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025	31 Dec 2024
	Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Audited
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	40,348,061	35,188,707	21,274,574	21,509,139
Right-of-use assets	12,037,391	12,129,682	2,745,282	2,780,953
Intangible assets	240,630	245,821	237,420	245,821
Investment in subsidiaries	-	-	7,310,936	6,072,663
Deferred tax assets	351,382	223,328	186,137	77,273
Total non-current assets	52,977,464	47,787,538	31,754,349	30,685,849
Current assets				
Inventories	21,295,409	27,209,359	19,932,876	25,877,812
Trade and other receivables	42,171,997	38,071,198	40,041,631	35,916,061
Prepayments	498,836	420,725	384,704	291,821
Bank Deposits	672,128	669,557	611,066	608,495
Cash and cash equivalents	7,821,491	7,182,785	7,282,102	6,516,915
Total current assets	72,459,861	73,553,624	68,252,379	69,211,104
Total assets	125,437,325	121,341,162	100,006,728	99,896,953
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity				
Share capital	12,489,796	12,489,796	12,489,796	12,489,796
Share premium	13,856,484	13,856,484	13,856,484	13,856,484
Legal reserve	4,166,344	4,166,344	4,163,266	4,163,266
Retained earnings	22,950,915	26,191,144	22,995,211	26,139,333
Equity attributable to owners	53,463,539	56,703,768	53,504,757	56,648,879
Non-controlling interest	1,681,512	1,398,306	-	-
Total Equity	55,145,051	58,102,074	53,504,757	56,648,879
Non-current liabilities				
Bank borrowings	11,118,523	7,543,554	-	-
Employees' benefit liabilities	2,871,771	2,759,104	2,774,595	2,672,674
Lease liabilities - non-current portion	13,418,669	13,457,617	3,062,773	3,065,418
Other Long Term Liabilities	50,822	60,428	-	-
Total non-current liabilities	27,459,785	23,820,703	5,837,368	5,738,092
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	20,476,281	20,595,245	18,882,156	19,173,499
Bank borrowings	19,706,318	16,787,084	19,706,318	16,787,084
Lease liabilities - current portion	776,203	687,357	207,059	205,654
Income tax payable	1,873,687	1,348,699	1,869,070	1,343,745
Total current liabilities	42,832,489	39,418,385	40,664,603	37,509,982
Total liabilities	70,292,274	63,239,088	46,501,971	43,248,074
Total equity and liabilities	125,437,325	121,341,162	100,006,728	99,896,953
Net assets per share	0.428	0.454	0.428	0.454

Condensed consolidated and separate interim statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the three month period ended 31 March

	Group		Parent Company	
	1 Jan 2025 to 31 Mar 2025	1 Jan 2024 to 31 Mar 2024	1 Jan 2025 to 31 Mar 2025	1 Jan 2024 to 31 Mar 2024
	Unaudited	unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited
Revenue from contract with customers	40,321,750	36,186,587	40,076,215	36,369,257
Cost of revenue	(34,285,224)	(31,469,006)	(34,212,083)	(31,882,458)
Gross profit	6,036,526	4,717,581	5,864,132	4,486,799
Other income	826,544	1,020,042	826,544	1,020,042
	6,863,070	5,737,623	6,690,676	5,506,841
Expenses				
Selling and distribution expenses	(2,536,144)	(1,930,758)	(2,480,358)	(1,890,940)
General and administrative expenses	(1,568,674)	(1,312,675)	(1,337,216)	(1,130,340)
Other operating expenses	(7,521)	(10,204)	(7,521)	(10,204)
Release of (allowance for) expected credit losses on trade receivables	(24,159)	68,256	(26,151)	60,895
	(4,136,498)	(3,185,381)	(3,851,246)	(2,970,589)
Operating profit for the period	2,726,572	2,552,242	2,839,430	2,536,252
Finance income	41,918	32,938	41,918	32,938
Finance cost	(254,663)	(455,080)	(230,479)	(429,276)
Net profit before tax for the period	2,513,827	2,130,100	2,650,869	2,139,914
Income tax (expense) / reversal	(401,888)	(314,200)	(416,461)	(328,512)
Net profit after tax for the period	2,111,939	1,815,900	2,234,408	1,811,402
Net Profit attributable to:				
Parent Company	2,138,301	1,830,473		
Non-controlling interest	(26,362)	(14,573)		
Basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to shareholders of the Parent Company (RO)	211,939	1,815,900		
	0.017	0.015	0.018	0.015

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KHAREEF DHOFAR 2025

‘Several new tourism and hotel facilities will open this year’

FROM The municipality is expanding events to include coastal Wilayats affected by the autumn season, with diverse cultural, sports, and commercial activities. Development projects—such as enhancing natural viewpoints, tourist sites, road paving, and urban beautification—have been implemented in collaboration with government and private entities to improve visitor experiences and tourism infrastructure, he further added.

On his turn, Azzan Qasim Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for Tourism, affirmed the ministry's readiness to promote “Khareef Dhofar 2025” through various programmes under a coordinated plan with relevant authorities.

He added that several new tourism and hotel facilities will open this year in Dhofar, where 83 licensed hotels—offering 6,537 rooms—are already prepared to welcome visitors.

The ministry has launched promotional campaigns for the season, starting with its participation at the Arabian Travel Market in Dubai, including a press conference to announce key events. Marketing efforts include media campaigns, social media promotions, direct outreach in Gulf and regional markets, digital ads, and familiarisation trips for travel agencies, media delegations, and



influencers, he pointed out. He explained that special tourism packages have been designed in collaboration with local and international travel companies to enhance visitor experiences and boost inbound tourism by connecting Omani tourism entities with global markets.

Government and private entities prepare annually to receive tourists during Khareef Dhofar, providing necessary services and facilities.

According to the National Centre for Statistics and Information, visitor numbers to Dhofar during the 2024 khareef season rose by 9%, reaching approximately 1.048 million tourists.

Notably, Dhofar is also distinguished by two other seasons—Al-Sarb and winter—which attract nearly half a million visitors from various world countries. — OMA

Shura Council reviews ministerial responses

The Cabinet's response to the Council's proposal concerning the current status of housing cities in the Sultanate of Oman was also discussed



and optimising the use of land and resources, in line with the National Urban Development Strategy 2040.

The Bureau also reviewed a proposal submitted by the Economic and Financial Committee regarding the initial outcomes of recent public offerings of government-owned companies and their implications for the investment landscape of the Muscat Stock Exchange. The committee's report included a preamble outlining the context and justifications of the proposal, a summary of responses from invited entities such as the Oman Investment Authority, the

Muscat Stock Exchange, and the Capital Market Authority, and concluded with the committee's opinion and recommendations.

The members of the Bureau reviewed the response of the Secretariat General of the Tender Board regarding a parliamentary inquiry into facilitating procurement opportunities for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

The response outlined the various mechanisms adopted for allocating government procurements and tenders to SMEs, based on circulars issued by the Tender Board and the Ministry of Finance. It also included a report with statistical data on SME allocations in government procurement.

The meeting also discussed the response of the Minister of Education to an inquiry concerning the Centre for Educational Measurement and Evaluation.

The Minister affirmed the Ministry's commitment to developing the educational assessment system in accordance with global standards and leading international systems. The response detailed efforts to improve and update assessment tools across new curricula and revise previous evaluation frameworks in collaboration with international expertise. It also addressed the delay in approving the center's structure and its affiliation, in addition to outlining the center's roadmap for enhancing assessment mechanisms.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

Respected Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Oman Cement Company (SAOG), it gives me a great pleasure to present you the Company's performance during the three months period ended on 31st March 2025. Company has made its efforts to contain the cost of sales and succeed to lower the cost of packaging materials consumption, and lower consumption of stores, spares and consumables to overcome the adverse impact of rise in prices of some major elements of cost, and extensive efforts have been made in this direction in the current period with better cost management and sustained efforts to improve efficiency and productivity. The Company continues to be an ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 certified Company. It has also API Spec 10A (American Petroleum Institute) quality monogram certification for manufacturing and sale of Oil Well Cements. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted the Company a license to export Oil well cement, Class G.

1. PRODUCTION

(i) **Clinker Production:** The company produced a total quantity of 829,231 MT of Clinker during the period as against 655,690 MT during the previous period, being higher by 173,541 MT (26.47%).

(ii) **Cement Production:** The company produced 864,340 MT of Cement during the period as against 871,871 MT produced during the previous period, being lower by 7,531 MT (-0.86%).

2. TURNOVER & PROFIT

(i) Company achieved sales of 865,417 MT of Cement during the period as against 862,314 MT sales during the previous period, being higher by 3,103 MT (0.36%). In terms of value, the Company achieved sales of OMR 17.929 million Cement during the period as against OMR 17.879 million sale during the previous period, being higher by OMR 0.050 million (0.28%).

(ii) The Company also achieved sales of 17,048 MT of Clinker and in terms of value, sales of OMR 0.261 million during the period in its efforts to diversify the product mix.

(iii) During the period, the Company achieved profit before tax of OMR 3.515 million as against OMR 3.961 million during the previous period, being lower by OMR 0.446 million (-11.27%). Reduction in interest on fixed income deposits, higher lease rentals on lease hold lands, increase in fuel and electricity cost are the major contributors for reduction in profit before tax during the period. However, savings in costs of packaging materials consumption and lower consumption of stores, spares and consumables have offset the above expenditures during the period.

(iv) The Company has earned profit after tax of OMR 2.986 million during the period as against OMR 3.368 million during the previous period, being lower by OMR 0.383 million (-11.36%).

3. INVESTMENTS

The company has continued to place its surplus funds in fixed income instruments of call deposit accounts with commercial banks.

4. ASSOCIATE COMPANY

Mondi Oman LLC
The company's share of profit after tax in associate company amounting to OMR 43,738 during the period as against OMR 46,905 during the previous period, as reported by the associate company, has been suitably accounted for in the financial statements of the Company.

5. DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION

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

During the period, the Company has distributed 90% of the paid-up capital as dividends to the shareholders out of retained earnings as at 31 December 2024 as approved by the annual general meeting held on 20th March 2025.

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

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

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Dividend on paid-up capital	10%	10%	10%	120.89%	90%

6. MARKET DEMAND & FUTURE OUTLOOK

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

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

7. EXPANSION, MODERNIZATION & UPGRADATION

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

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

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

(iii) The company decided to connect the power from the 132KV grid station. Technical Consultant has been appointed, EPC bids have been evaluated and negotiation with the final bidder is in progress.

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

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

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

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

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

Xu Gang
Chairman of the Board of Directors

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

P.O. Box 560, Ruwi, Postal Code 112, Sultanate of Oman
Tel. # 00968 24437070 ext. 102, Fax # 00968 24437777

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	31 Mar 2025 RO	31 Mar 2024 RO	31 Dec 2025 RO
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	84,736,938	88,380,429	85,975,440
Right-of-use assets	10,534,245	608,052	572,286
Intangible assets	246,055	218,826	169,585
Investment in an associate	1,540,460	1,581,676	1,496,722
Total non-current assets	97,057,698	90,788,983	88,214,033
Current assets			
Investments at fair value through profit or loss	89,903	87,740	89,823
Bank deposits	-	14,962,194	-
Inventories	11,696,105	14,264,366	12,750,805
Trade and other receivables	10,293,398	10,271,511	9,661,997
Cash and cash equivalent	5,596,987	44,756,850	32,222,941
Total current assets	27,676,393	84,342,661	54,725,566
TOTAL ASSET	124,734,091	175,131,644	142,939,599
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Share capital	33,087,271	33,087,271	33,087,271
Share premium	6,724,145	6,724,145	6,724,145
Legal reserve	11,029,090	11,029,090	11,029,090
Voluntary reserve	16,543,635	16,543,635	16,543,635
Fair value reserve	(692,847)	(692,847)	(692,847)
Retained earnings	30,084,694	49,125,121	56,877,528
Total equity	96,775,988	115,816,415	123,568,822
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	8,447,549	611,335	593,242
Deferred tax liabilities	7,145,760	7,301,696	7,211,731
Employees' end of service benefits	1,061,873	1,034,306	1,068,866
Total non-current liabilities	16,655,182	8,947,337	8,873,839
Current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	1,231,628	28,451	76,766
Trade and other payables	7,234,805	48,449,814	8,178,527
Current tax liabilities	2,836,488	1,889,627	2,241,645
Total current liabilities	11,302,921	50,367,892	10,496,938
TOTAL LIABILITIES	27,958,103	59,315,229	19,370,777
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	124,734,091	175,131,644	142,939,599
Net assets per share	0.292	0.350	0.373

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	31 Mar 2025 RO	31 Mar 2024 RO	31 Dec 2025 RO
Revenue	17,929,204	17,878,821	68,075,604
Cost of sales	(13,790,419)	(13,842,474)	(53,631,232)
Gross profit	4,138,785	4,036,347	14,444,372
General and administrative expenses	(973,582)	(944,460)	(3,672,978)
Reversal of allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets	61,259	(17,025)	60,613
Operating profit	3,226,462	3,074,862	10,832,007
Finance income	376,113	835,705	1,890,404
Finance costs	(152,347)	(4,282)	(32,422)
Other income	20,614	7,608	140,848
Share of profit of an associate	43,738	46,905	236,179
Profit before tax	3,514,580	3,960,798	13,067,016
Taxation	(528,870)	(592,338)	(1,946,149)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	2,985,710	3,368,460	11,120,867
Earnings per share			
Basic and diluted earnings per share (annualized)	0.036	0.041	0.034



Oman Qatar Insurance Company SAOG
PO Box 3660, PC 112, Al Khuwair, Sultanate of Oman.
Tel: +968 2476 5333 Fax: +968 2476 5399 Email: contact@oqic.com
www.oqic.com

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Oman Qatar Insurance Company S.A.O.G. ("OQIC" the company), I am pleased to present the company's unaudited Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2025 prepared in accordance with IFRS 17 accounting standards. The company achieved a Profit after Tax of RO 782K, compared to RO 163K in the corresponding period of Q1-2024.

Business Environment

Global output growth has remained resilient in 2025. Global GDP growth is projected to moderate from 3.2% in 2024 to 3.1% in 2025 and 3% in 2026, with further trade barriers in several G20 economies and increased geopolitical and policy uncertainty weighing on investment and retail spending (OECD Interim report, March 2025). Recent "reciprocal" tariff decision by US Govt has also bolstered the global economic uncertainty.

Economic growth in GCC region is expected to be around 4% in 2025 against estimated growth of 1.8% in 2024. Oil production in the region is expected to increase from this quarter due to the decision of OPEC+ to boost the oil sector's growth. The downside risk to this projection includes any probable escalation in geopolitical tension in the region and fallout of the tariff issue.

Oman's economic outlook remains favorable, with S&P's forecast of 2% growth of real GDP in 2025-2028 period, driven by increased gas production and sustained diversification efforts in both oil and non-oil sectors, including efforts to further improve the business environment, support the role of SMEs in the economy and accelerate investments in renewable energy and green hydrogen. S&P has affirmed the Sultanate of Oman's long-term sovereign credit rating at 'BBB-' with a Stable Outlook, citing the country's ongoing fiscal reforms and its favorable investment environment as well as prudent fiscal management. This rating indicates a safe investment environment as the first level of investment grade according to Standard & Poor's credit rating scale. The agency also underlined the improved resilience of the Sultanate's fiscal position, which has improved mainly as a result of effective policy execution.

Company Performance

The Omani insurance market continued to experience intense competition throughout 2025. The increase in the loss ratio across non-life business segments was primarily driven by unsustainable price competition and a significant rise in motor and medical claims. These challenges have adversely impacted on the underwriting income of insurers. Additionally, Oman's geographic vulnerability to natural catastrophes has contributed to rising reinsurance costs and tighter capacity, further pressuring the industry.

Amidst this competitive and price-sensitive environment, Oman Qatar Insurance Company successfully maintained a strong market presence, underpinned by a performance-driven and customer-centric approach.

OQIC recorded a Gross Written Premium (GWP) of RO 27.62 million in Q1-2025, compared to RO 28.90 million in Q1-2024, reflecting a marginal decline of 4%. Despite this, the Company secured the third position in terms of GWP market share in Oman, based on preliminary figures published by the Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) for Q1-2025. Insurance revenue declined by 9% to RO 14.60 million, from RO 15.97 million in Q1-2024. Notably, the retail line of business registered a robust 26% growth, which partially offset the reduction in other segments. The Property & Casualty lines contracted by 2% due to steep competition among peers. Medical lines also contracted by 9%, primarily due to selective non-renewal of accounts where pricing pressure compromised profitability, in line with the Company's disciplined underwriting strategy.

The Company reported a negative insurance service result of RO 118K in Q1-2025, mainly due to enhancing the reserves compared to a positive result of RO 137K in Q1-2024. To address this, OQIC has implemented targeted measures aimed at enhancing portfolio profitability, including tighter underwriting controls and strengthened claims management practices. However, the net insurance service result improved to a positive RO 35K, compared to a negative RO 7K in Q1-2024, largely supported by higher commission earnings during the period.

Net investment and other income surged to RO 1.17 million, reflecting a 79% increase over RO 0.65 million in Q1-2024. This growth was fueled by higher yields on fixed income instruments and strong performance of the Company's equity and mutual fund portfolios in the GCC region. As a result, profit after tax rose significantly to RO 782K, marking a 379% increase from RO 163K in Q1-2024. This remarkable growth was primarily driven by the strong returns from the Company's equity investment portfolio during the quarter.

Shareholders Returns

Positive results achieved by the company have generated attractive returns for investors. Net Asset Value (NAV) per share as on 31st March 2025 was 234 Balzas on 161,218,570 equity shares. Market capitalization stood at RO 34.98 million as of 31st March 2025.

Appreciation

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and the Financial Services Authority for their continued guidance and support. We also affirm our gratitude to our clients and partners for their trust in us, to our shareholders for their strong confidence, and to the company management and staff for their continued efforts.

We would like to extend our sincere best wishes to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq, and we pledge our constant support and commitment for the economic development of the Sultanate for achieving the strategic directions and goals of Oman Vision 2040. We pray to the almighty Allah to protect His Majesty and help Oman continue its progress and transformation under His Majesty's wise leadership.

Salem Khalaf Al-Mannai
Chairman

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2025 (IFRS 17)

	31 March 2025 (Unaudited)	31 Dec 2024 (Unaudited)
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,612,583	4,929,728
Bank deposits	30,516,278	30,090,315
Reinsurance contract assets	50,956,003	51,140,072
Insurance contract assets	51,436	3,331
Other receivables and prepayments	477,906	608,037
Financial investments	35,200,718	33,224,762
Property and equipment	594,117	604,435
Investment property	348,945	348,944
Right-of-use assets	111,972	111,972
Intangible assets	1,542,750	1,573,000
Total assets	123,412,708	122,634,596
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	21,998,840	21,998,840
Legal reserve	2,436,138	2,436,138
Contingency reserve	12,061,436	12,061,436
Insurance finance reserve	(133,669)	(119,322)
Fair value reserve	(5,315)	(108,360)
Retained earnings	1,442,363	1,547,018
Total equity	37,799,793	37,815,750
Liabilities		
Insurance contract liabilities	73,776,238	75,699,105
Reinsurance contract liabilities	2,785,939	2,942,352
Other liabilities and accruals	9,050,738	6,177,389
Total liabilities	85,612,915	84,816,846
Total equity and liabilities	123,412,708	122,634,596

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF P&L AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025 (IFRS 17)

	31 March 2025 (Unaudited)	31 March 2024 (Unaudited)
Insurance revenue	14,603,416	15,969,527
Insurance service expenses	(9,231,278)	(8,089,776)
Net expenses from reinsurance contract	(5,499,402)	(7,742,327)
Insurance service results	(118,264)	137,424
Insurance finance (expenses)/income for reinsurance contracts held	(559,946)	(974,936)
Net insurance financial results	714,164	830,929
Net investment income	35,954	(6,583)
Rental and Other Income	1,168,191	640,553
Total investment & other income	5,304	14,292
TOTAL INCOME	1,209,449	648,262
Operating and administrative expenses	(310,315)	(358,687)
Depreciation	(57,535)	(69,030)
Profit / (loss) for the period before taxation	841,599	220,544
Income tax expense	(59,552)	(57,345)
Profit / (loss) for the period after tax	782,047	163,200
Other comprehensive income / (expense)		
Net change in fair value of financial assets	103,044	(39,206)
Net income/(expense) from insurance and reinsurance contracts held	(14,347)	(16,871)
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the period	870,744	107,122
Earnings / (loss) per share-basic	0.005	0.001

Note: The complete accounts are available with Muscat Stock Exchange. However, the same will be sent by mail to any shareholder, who requests them at the above address, in either Arabic or English, as requested within 7 days of receipt of such request.

ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

Four arrested for hunting wild animals

MUSCAT: The Environment Authority (EA) has arrested four citizens for hunting a number of wild animals in Dhofar. EA said: "The Environment Authority in Dhofar, in cooperation with the Royal Oman Police, arrested four citizens for violating wildlife by hunting a number of wild animals. The offenders were referred to complete legal proceedings."



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

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

DHO FAR BEVERAGE AND FOOD STUFF COMPANY SAOG
P.O. Box 390, Postal Code 211, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman, Tel.: 23225705, Fax: 23225706

CHAIRMAN REPORT	Statement of financial position as at 31st March' 2025																																																																																																																			
Dear Shareholders: On behalf of the Board of Directors, I have a pleasure to review the unaudited Profit & Loss Account and the Financial Position of your company for the First quarter of the year 2025. The total turnover revenue of the period under review amounted to RO. 1,100,706 /- compare with the revenue of RO. 1,068,895/- pertaining to the same period of the last year 2024, which showed an increase of RO.31.811 (i.e.2.98%). The Company has achieved a gross profit of RO. 455,051/- (gross profit of last year 2024 RO. 434,718 registering an increase of RO. 20,333 (4.67%) over the same period of the last year. The Company has incurred an operating loss of RO. 48,841/- compare to an operating loss of RO. 43,131/- during same period of the last year 2024. The MSM has disparege in the Industrial sector during this period, fair value of the portfolio as at 31st March 2025 was reduced by RO.15,828 as against the appreciated fair value of RO.129,516 during same period of the last year 2024 and dividend income realized by RO.25,425 during 1st Qtr. of 2025, there was no dividend income in 1st Qtr. of 2024. However, the final result of the period under review showed a net loss of RO. 39,245/- compare to last year net Profit of RO. 86,385.	<table><thead><tr><th>31/03/2025 RO.</th><th>31/03/2024 RO</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>3,339,443</td><td>3,147,764</td></tr><tr><td>189,297</td><td>23,577</td></tr><tr><td>3,528,740</td><td>3,171,341</td></tr><tr><td>Current Assets:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cash and Bank Balances</td><td>59,410</td></tr><tr><td>Trade Receivables</td><td>696,689</td></tr><tr><td>Trade and Other Receivables-Related Party</td><td>9,287</td></tr><tr><td>Inventories</td><td>779,445</td></tr><tr><td>Investments</td><td>481,517</td></tr><tr><td>Other Assets</td><td>340,654</td></tr><tr><td>Total Current Assets</td><td>2,367,002</td></tr><tr><td>Total Assets</td><td>5,895,742</td></tr><tr><td>Liabilities:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Trade Payables</td><td>581,957</td></tr><tr><td>Trade and Other Payables-Related Party</td><td>39,367</td></tr><tr><td>Deferred Tax for Land Revaluation</td><td>306,227</td></tr><tr><td>Other Payables</td><td>620,004</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Borrowings</td><td>1,556,495</td></tr><tr><td>Total Liabilities</td><td>3,104,050</td></tr><tr><td>Net Assets</td><td>2,791,692</td></tr><tr><td>Shareholder's Equity:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Share Capital</td><td>2,000,000</td></tr><tr><td>Share Premium</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Legal Reserve</td><td>8,638</td></tr><tr><td>General Reserve</td><td>46,203</td></tr><tr><td>Land Revaluation Reserve</td><td>1,735,289</td></tr><tr><td>Retained Profit/Loss</td><td>(950,555)</td></tr><tr><td>Profit & Loss A/c (2025)</td><td>(39,245)</td></tr><tr><td>Total Shareholder's Equity</td><td>2,791,692</td></tr></tbody></table> <table><thead><tr><th>Statement of income for the quarter ended 31/03/2025</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td></td><td>31/03/2025 RO.</td><td>31/03/2024 RO.</td></tr><tr><td>Sales</td><td>1,100,706</td><td>1,068,895</td></tr><tr><td>Cost of Sales</td><td>(645,655)</td><td>(634,177)</td></tr><tr><td>Gross Profit</td><td>455,051</td><td>434,718</td></tr><tr><td>Other Income</td><td>895</td><td>(613)</td></tr><tr><td>Selling and Distribution Expenses</td><td>(277,413)</td><td>(274,153)</td></tr><tr><td>General and Administrative Expenses</td><td>(189,849)</td><td>(166,087)</td></tr><tr><td>Finance Charges</td><td>(26,923)</td><td>(17,866)</td></tr><tr><td>Directors Remuneration</td><td>(10,602)</td><td>(19,230)</td></tr><tr><td>Operating Profit</td><td>(48,841)</td><td>(43,131)</td></tr><tr><td>Dividend Income</td><td>25,425</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Investment income (Realized)</td><td>(4,081)</td><td>65,353</td></tr><tr><td>Fare value of Investments</td><td>(11,747)</td><td>64,163</td></tr><tr><td>Net Profit for the year</td><td>(39,245)</td><td>86,385</td></tr><tr><td>Tax Expense</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Profit for the month after tax</td><td>(39,245)</td><td>86,385</td></tr><tr><td>Earnings per share (Fair value RO.0.100 Each</td><td>(0.020)</td><td>0.043</td></tr><tr><td>Net Profit /Loss Margin</td><td>-3.57%</td><td>8.08%</td></tr></tbody></table>	31/03/2025 RO.	31/03/2024 RO	3,339,443	3,147,764	189,297	23,577	3,528,740	3,171,341	Current Assets:		Cash and Bank Balances	59,410	Trade Receivables	696,689	Trade and Other Receivables-Related Party	9,287	Inventories	779,445	Investments	481,517	Other Assets	340,654	Total Current Assets	2,367,002	Total Assets	5,895,742	Liabilities:		Trade Payables	581,957	Trade and Other Payables-Related Party	39,367	Deferred Tax for Land Revaluation	306,227	Other Payables	620,004	Bank Borrowings	1,556,495	Total Liabilities	3,104,050	Net Assets	2,791,692	Shareholder's Equity:		Share Capital	2,000,000	Share Premium		Legal Reserve	8,638	General Reserve	46,203	Land Revaluation Reserve	1,735,289	Retained Profit/Loss	(950,555)	Profit & Loss A/c (2025)	(39,245)	Total Shareholder's Equity	2,791,692	Statement of income for the quarter ended 31/03/2025		31/03/2025 RO.	31/03/2024 RO.	Sales	1,100,706	1,068,895	Cost of Sales	(645,655)	(634,177)	Gross Profit	455,051	434,718	Other Income	895	(613)	Selling and Distribution Expenses	(277,413)	(274,153)	General and Administrative Expenses	(189,849)	(166,087)	Finance Charges	(26,923)	(17,866)	Directors Remuneration	(10,602)	(19,230)	Operating Profit	(48,841)	(43,131)	Dividend Income	25,425	0	Investment income (Realized)	(4,081)	65,353	Fare value of Investments	(11,747)	64,163	Net Profit for the year	(39,245)	86,385	Tax Expense	0	0	Profit for the month after tax	(39,245)	86,385	Earnings per share (Fair value RO.0.100 Each	(0.020)	0.043	Net Profit /Loss Margin	-3.57%	8.08%
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Trade Payables	581,957																																																																																																																			
Trade and Other Payables-Related Party	39,367																																																																																																																			
Deferred Tax for Land Revaluation	306,227																																																																																																																			
Other Payables	620,004																																																																																																																			
Bank Borrowings	1,556,495																																																																																																																			
Total Liabilities	3,104,050																																																																																																																			
Net Assets	2,791,692																																																																																																																			
Shareholder's Equity:																																																																																																																				
Share Capital	2,000,000																																																																																																																			
Share Premium																																																																																																																				
Legal Reserve	8,638																																																																																																																			
General Reserve	46,203																																																																																																																			
Land Revaluation Reserve	1,735,289																																																																																																																			
Retained Profit/Loss	(950,555)																																																																																																																			
Profit & Loss A/c (2025)	(39,245)																																																																																																																			
Total Shareholder's Equity	2,791,692																																																																																																																			
Statement of income for the quarter ended 31/03/2025																																																																																																																				
	31/03/2025 RO.	31/03/2024 RO.																																																																																																																		
Sales	1,100,706	1,068,895																																																																																																																		
Cost of Sales	(645,655)	(634,177)																																																																																																																		
Gross Profit	455,051	434,718																																																																																																																		
Other Income	895	(613)																																																																																																																		
Selling and Distribution Expenses	(277,413)	(274,153)																																																																																																																		
General and Administrative Expenses	(189,849)	(166,087)																																																																																																																		
Finance Charges	(26,923)	(17,866)																																																																																																																		
Directors Remuneration	(10,602)	(19,230)																																																																																																																		
Operating Profit	(48,841)	(43,131)																																																																																																																		
Dividend Income	25,425	0																																																																																																																		
Investment income (Realized)	(4,081)	65,353																																																																																																																		
Fare value of Investments	(11,747)	64,163																																																																																																																		
Net Profit for the year	(39,245)	86,385																																																																																																																		
Tax Expense	0	0																																																																																																																		
Profit for the month after tax	(39,245)	86,385																																																																																																																		
Earnings per share (Fair value RO.0.100 Each	(0.020)	0.043																																																																																																																		
Net Profit /Loss Margin	-3.57%	8.08%																																																																																																																		

RAYSUT CEMENT COMPANY (SAOG)
P.O. Box: 1020, P.C. 211, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman

SEALED TENDER REQUEST

Tender Code	RCC/PRO/2025-004- MINING WORK - WADI NAAR LIMESTONE & TRANSPORTATION
Tender Title	DRILLING & BLASTING FOR THE WADI NAAR LIMESTONE QUARRY MINING WORK. LIMESTONE QUARRY & TRANSPORTATION TO RCC PLANT QUARRY SITE.
Collection Start date	01.05.2025
Collection End date	11.05.2025
Closing Date	11.05.2025 @ 15.00 hrs.
A. DRILLING & BLASTING FOR THE WADI NAAR. B. LIMESTONE QUARRY & TRANSPORTATION TO RCC PLANT QUARRY SITE. AS PER BELOW SCOPE. TENDER FEE: Nil Scope of Work: A. Drilling and Blasting: 1. Carry out Drilling and blasting to produce 400,000 Ton/Month (can be +/-10%) of limestone from Wadi Naar quarry. 2. Ensuring all the time at least 60,000 Ton of blasted material is available all the time for loading at two loading faces. 3. Output size of the rock after blast required less than 800 mm. 4. Manage all ROP-related fees, legal formalities. 5. RCC will provide NOC for blasting & Quarry Permit from the relevant Ministries and government bodies. 6. Comply with all the relevant legislative requirements with regard to storage, handling, transport and usage of explosives. 7. Transportation of explosives by road with ROP escort guard fee etc. is contractor scope. 8. Usage of NONEL nonelectric bottom initiation system. 9. Monitor noise and ground vibrations. 10. Ensure blasting vibration is less than 3 mm/sec and sound less than 120 Db at 500 M distance. 11. Ensuring face cleaning for drilling block and cleaning the face after blasting. 12. Maintain the smooth floor level by maintaining proper drilling depth. 13. Deploy a surveyor for leveling work, which can be surveyed once or twice a month, as the area will be hand over back in proper level to the government concern department. 14. Comply with all the health and safety regulations, ensure drilling and blasting activity is carried out safely without any undesired incidents and complaints. 15. Ensure the quarry faces are systematically mined, and the floor is kept levelled as the areas need to be hand over to ministry for Housing with evenly levelled floor. 16. Ensure the blasting procedure meets ROP regulations and other government norms. 17. Location of drilling and blasting to be decided with the advice from mining officials. 18. Submission of blasting reports to Quarry Officials after every blast is completed. 19. Diesel & Water for drilling equipment's are contractor scope. 20. Food & accommodation for drilling & blasting personnel are contractor scope. 21. Price offered should be in per ton basis inclusive of all expenses like manpower, fuel, lube, maintenance of the vehicle etc. 22. RCC will provide NOC & Quarry Permit from the relevant Ministries and government bodies. RCC will provide the followings:- RCC will provide NOC & Quarry Permit from the relevant Ministries and government bodies. RCC will grant the contract as per both party mutual agreement basis only. Contractors are independent to choose the mode of extractions. i.e., Drilling & Blasting, Usage of special equipment's like Surface Miner, Trencher, Bandsman, Drags-man, Barrow -man etc., RCC is not liable for the extraction of special equipment's reliability or any additional investment if any. B. Loading and Transportation: 1. Carry out loading and transportation of limestone from Wadi Naar Quarry and unloading the limestone at crushers site at RCC plant. 2. Distance from Wadi Naar Quarry to RCC Crushers is 6-8 KM. (Interested party can inspect the site to understand the workings at Wadi Naar and unloading point at Crusher site with distance before offering the Quote.)	

Tender Brief

3. Achieve the loading and transport quantity of 15,000 Tons/Day (+/-10%).
4. The maximum size of the loading material should not be more than 800 mm.
5. Excavation of the Blasted materials and clearing of Free-Faces for the next round of Drilling.
6. Maintain the smooth floor level by maintaining proper excavation and engage dozer and rock breakers after excavation/loading for proper leveling.
7. The work timings will be from 7AM to 7PM, 6 days a week, Friday off. Work should continue in public holidays as per company requirement at the same rate.
8. Engaging suitable size of equipment's for loading and transportation of limestone from Wadi Naar Quarry.
9. Loading of limestone on the trucks with maximum gross weight of 110 Ton per vehicle. The Contractor has to control the maximum tonnage and ensure that the loaded truck on the weighbridge is not more than 110 Tons.
10. Ensure that no overload of materials in the edge trucks body, to avoid material fall in the roads which may cause accidents. Material should be in proper and safe way in the truck body.
11. Maintenance of the graded roads and making approaches in the quarry is under contractor scope.
12. Weighment of each truck will be at the existing quarry weighbridge at RCC plant site.
13. Price offered should be in per ton basis inclusive of all expenses like manpower, fuel, lube, maintenance of the vehicle etc.
14. Contractors should maintain the vehicle in good condition with good reliability.
15. The vehicle should be operated in safe manner following all rules and regulations of ROP.
16. All equipment's shall have all the needful permits as per ROP rules.
17. Site office, workshop, water, electricity will be under contractor scope.

RCC will provide the following:-

- RCC Entry pass, Weighbridge availability etc.,
- RCC will grant the contract as per both party mutual agreement basis only.
- Contractor is independent to choose the mode of transportation equipment's.
- RCC is not liable for the transportation of special equipment's reliability or any additional investment if any.

Contract period: ONE YEAR (Start up from 01.06.2025)

Commercial Terms & Conditions:

1. Price: Prices be quoted on delivery at our site DDP/ CIF Salalah site basis.
2. Payment: 30 days open credit.
 1. Any tender received beyond the above closing time and date or not being supported by a bid bond will not be considered.
 2. Suppliers can offer both drilling, blasting and transportation as complete package.

Email: purchasing@raysutcement.com.om

Tel: (968) 23220600 -Extn 509
Raysut Cement Company. Salalah
Raysut Industrial Area, Post Box : 1020. Postal Code : 211. Salalah – Sultanate of Oman
Procurement Department: Office hours 7:00-15:00 hours.



Oman’s cultural heritage in focus

The dialogue session spotlighted Oman’s pioneering experience in cultural pluralism and peaceful coexistence

MUSCAT: The Cultural Committee of the Muscat International Book Fair organised a dialogue session titled “Cultural Diversity and Identity” as part of Fair’s activities.

The session highlighted Oman’s

cultural heritage and its role in solidifying national identity and fostering a sense of belonging.

The discussion, led by Dr. Nader Kazem (a writer and former professor of cultural studies at the University of Bahrain), examined the significance of cultural diversity as a fundamental element in shaping a unifying national identity, as well as strategies to preserve it amid rapid regional and global changes.

Dr. Kazem emphasised that multiculturalism and the coexistence of diverse identities within a single society require high levels of tolerance, acceptance, and respect for others—a theme that has persisted throughout history but gains new relevance in the context of modern nations.

Dr. Kazem noted that globalisation, emerging decades ago, has increased interconnectivity among societies, influencing lo-

cal cultural distinctiveness and giving rise to standardised global cultural patterns in areas such as architecture, cuisine, and fashion.

The session spotlighted Oman’s pioneering experience in cultural pluralism and peaceful coexistence, showcasing tangible examples from its cultural, artistic, and literary heritage as key contributors to national identity.

An open discussion followed, featuring academics, intellectuals, and cultural figures who explored the importance of cultural diversity in building a cohesive national identity and strategies to sustain it amid regional and global transformations.

The session concluded with recommendations calling for continued efforts to preserve cultural heritage and promote initiatives that highlight Oman’s authentic identity on the global stage.

— ONA

INAUGURAL EVENT

Meeting of endowment institutions

MUSCAT: The first meeting of endowment institutions in Oman, organised by the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs in Muscat on Tuesday, addressed the challenges facing endowment institutions and compliance standards. It was attended by Ahmed Saleh Al Rashdi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs.

The Undersecretary stated that this inaugural meeting serves as a crucial platform bringing together all endowment institutions,

both public and private. In a statement to Oman News Agency, he noted that the meeting, attended by 35 institutions, discussed challenges and solutions for endowment entities, along with implementation strategies.

He highlighted the ministry’s launch of the Endowment Institutions Readiness Assessment initiative, which evaluates institutions across governance, regulation, compliance, board formation, executive management, and investment. Each criterion car-

ries a different weight in determining overall readiness.

Al Rashdi emphasised that the average readiness of endowment institutions reflects their maturity, noting that Oman’s endowment history spans over a thousand years and remains active today. He explained that modern endowment institutions operate professionally, with structured boards, executive management, educational committees, and risk, legal, and investment departments. — ONA



الشرقية لتحلية المياه
Sharqiyah Desalination

P.O. Box: 685, Jibroo - 114, Sultanate of Oman.
Tel.: +968 24693890, Fax: +968 24693845,
<http://sharqiyahdesalination.com>

Board of Directors report and unaudited financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2025

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Sharqiyah Desalination Company SAOG (the "Company"), I am pleased to present the unaudited financial statements of the company for the period ended 31st March 2025.

Operational Highlights

The Sur Independent Water Plant (the "Plant") has produced and delivered volumes of water amounting to 6,182,254 m3 compared to 8,278,112 m3 in the same period (1st January to 31st March) of the last year, which is a decrease of 25.32% due to lower dispatch instructions. However, the contractual arrangement with the O&M contractor protects the company's profitability even with any reduction in the water dispatch.

The average scheduled plant availability for the year reached 97%. This consistently high availability is the result of a strict maintenance program followed and implemented by the operation & maintenance team, as well as improved coordination with Nama Water services. The Company continues to maintain its excellent reputation as a provider of potable water to the Sharqiyah region.

On March 12, 2025, the Plant successfully completed the Annual Performance Test for the contractual year 17 (CY17). The demonstrated water capacity during the test was equal to 5,493.225 m3/h. The Solar Farm project was set in commercial operation on 16 April 2023 and contributes to reducing our carbon footprint. The Project is designed to save around 32 Millions Kwh per year corresponding to a saving of 27,200 Metric Tons CO2 Equivalent (equal to 6,000 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for one year).

Financial information

Revenue is RO 2.8 million compared to RO 3.1 million for the same period of previous year which has decreased by 11.85% (RO 372,746). This is mainly due to lower finance income and water output.

The cost of sales has decreased by 12.15% as compared to the same period of previous year RO 262,469 mainly due to lower water output and electricity cost. Current year profit after tax reached RO 108,212 that represents 3.90% of the revenue (compared to 3.88% the last year of the same period).

The total cash received from customers during the period (1st January to 31st March) was RO 4.1 million compared to RO 4.4 million and net cash generated from operation was RO 1.7 million compared to RO 1.8 million in the same period 2024.

Internal Control and Corporate Governance

The Management of the Company believes in a strong internal control system, overseen by our Internal Auditor in compliance with regulations prescribed by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) and The International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF).

The Company has in place high standards of corporate governance overseen by our Compliance and Governance Officer, which are compliant with the Code of Corporate Governance promulgated by the FSA.

Acknowledgements

As Chairman of the Board, I would like to thank our shareholders, not only for their confidence, but also for their continued support and for the expertise they bring to the Company.

The Board of Directors expresses its gratitude to NPWP, OWWSC (Nama Water Services), the Authority for Public Services Regulation, Muscat Clearing and Depository, the Financial Services Authority and the Government of Oman for their tremendous support in regulating and developing the water sector, and for their assistance, which comforts the smooth functioning of our operations.

Finally, we would like to extend our deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tark bin Taimour for his wise leadership; we pray to Almighty to shower him with blessings, keep him in good health and give him a long life.

Thank you and kind regards,

Mr. Denis Le-Maout
Chairman

Statement of financial position as at 31 March 2025 (Unaudited)

	Unaudited 31 Mar 2025 RO	Audited 31 Dec 2024 RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	292,521	324,767
Intangible assets	92,917	98,081
Finance lease receivable	46,253,908	47,361,992
Right-of-use assets	4,337,202	4,833,936
Derivative financial instruments	991,070	1,272,927
Total non-current assets	51,967,618	53,494,241
Current assets		
Derivative financial instruments	315,129	404,750
Finance lease receivable	4,306,500	4,216,042
Trade and other receivables	1,528,580	1,618,871
Amount due from related parties	114,941	81,258
Cash and cash equivalents	1,960,354	1,841,767
Total current assets	8,225,504	8,162,688
TOTAL ASSETS	60,193,122	61,656,929
LIABILITIES		
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	9,780,216	9,780,216
Share reserve	2,745,561	2,734,740
Retained earnings	1,909,246	3,278,887
Cumulative changes in fair values	857,819	1,199,669
Total equity	15,272,842	16,993,512
Liabilities		
Non-current liabilities		
Long term loan	30,024,709	30,001,239
Derivative financial instruments	243,200	202,055
Deferred tax liability	3,728,156	3,833,936
Deferred revenue	246,389	250,289
Employees' end of service benefit	33,726	33,726
Lease liabilities	4,264,277	4,264,277
Total non-current liabilities	38,540,457	38,585,524
Current liabilities		
Share capital	3,473,179	3,473,179
Derivative financial instruments	77,330	64,247
Trade and other receivables	12,966	12,132
Lease liabilities	245,347	325,725
Trade and other payables	1,498,102	1,134,453
Taxation	100,488	34,548
Amount due to related parties	972,411	1,033,609
Total current liabilities	6,379,823	6,077,898
Total liabilities	44,920,280	44,663,417
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	60,193,122	61,656,929
Net asset value per share (RO)	0.156	0.174

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the period ended 31 March 2025 (Unaudited)

	Unaudited 31 Mar 2025 RO	Unaudited 31 Mar 2024 RO
Revenue	2,771,586	3,144,332
Cost of sales	(1,897,519)	(2,159,987)
GROSS PROFIT	874,067	984,345
Administrative and general expenses	(153,686)	(187,770)
Reversal of expected credit loss		
PROFIT FROM OPERATION	720,381	796,575
Finance costs	(597,813)	(661,101)
Finance income	9,659	9,475
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	132,227	144,949
Taxation	(24,015)	(22,969)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	108,212	121,980
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME, NET OF TAX		
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Fair value of the cash flow hedge adjustment - gross	(273,872)	(154,763)
Reclassification to profit or loss - gross	(151,834)	(153,585)
Deferred tax on fair value adjustment	63,856	46,252
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD, NET OF TAX	(361,850)	(262,096)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	(253,638)	(140,116)
BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE (RO)	0.001	0.001



مصانع مسقط للخيوط ش.م.ع
MUSCAT THREAD MILLS SAOG



The preferred source

P.O. Box 122, P.C. 124, Rusayl, Sultanate of Oman, Ph. No. 24446806, Fax: 24446807

UN-AUDITED CONDENSED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

MANAGEMENT'S REPORT FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The company continued its focus on domestic segment by expanding product range and geographical coverage within Oman and neighbouring countries. This has helped in hedging the risk against volatile export segment. The company is closely monitoring possible impact of recent developments of levying of tariffs by different countries on international businesses and looking into various strategies to safeguard its operations. Our continued result-oriented efforts in Industrial apparel (B2B) segment have resulted in achieving remarkable growth in overall business of the company. With right strategy in place your company is optimistic of realizing stable revenue during the year.

Financial Results:

Revenue for the current period grew by twenty-two percent to OMR 1,260,425 as against the revenue of OMR 1,029,970 achieved during the same period of last year. The three-month period ended with a net profit of OMR 148,176 after taxes, as against a net profit of OMR 104,021 achieved during the similar period of last year.

Shareholders' fund:

Shareholders' fund as of 31 March 2025 was at OMR 2,219,534 as against OMR 1,973,764 as of 31 March 2024.

Operations:

During the three months of the current year, the company produced 414 metric tons of sewing thread as against 317 metric tons of sewing thread produced during same period of the last year, growth of thirty-one percent. Export sales accounted for about eighty-one percent of total revenue (last year seventy-nine percent).

Organization & training:

Company is committed towards employment of Omani youths and awarding suitable training for their overall growth.

Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and employees of the company, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tark for his wise leadership and generous support to the private sector.

On behalf of all the employees and Management, I also express our sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors for their guidance and support to the Management.

I would also like to place on record our gratitude to all employees for their dedication and hard work. We also thank the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment promotion, other government authorities/ministries, the Financial Services Authority, Muscat Stock Exchange, Muscat Clearing & Depository Co., and our bankers for their support.

Mithilesh Kumar Singh
Chief Executive Officer

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT

	Amount in OMR		
	31 Mar 2025	31 Mar 2024	31 Dec 2024
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	763,428	601,248	731,595
ROU assets	153,652	164,286	156,279
Deferred tax assets	53,556	56,879	51,932
Total non-current assets	970,636	822,413	939,806
Current assets			
Inventories	1,521,735	1,306,140	1,553,880
Trade & other receivables	995,019	997,892	953,066
Bank and cash	1,399	117,086	148,748
Total current assets	2,518,153	2,420,918	2,655,694
Total assets	3,488,789	3,243,331	3,595,500
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Share capital	1,762,366	1,639,411	1,639,411
Legal reserve	258,872	222,316	258,872
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts	27,900	5,200	21,500
Retained Earnings	170,396	106,837	315,516
Total shareholders' equity	2,219,534	1,973,764	2,235,299
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Employees' end of service benefits	153,285	157,930	164,139
Non-current portion of lease liability	181,730	186,411	183,137
ROU Assets	335,015	344,341	347,276
Total non-current liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	777,649	707,564	895,615
Bank borrowings	27,123	12,223	12,737
Current maturities of term loans	-	-	-
Current maturities lease liability	5,368	4,721	5,289
ROU Assets	124,100	56,280	99,284
Income Tax payable	934,240	925,226	1,012,925
Total current liabilities	1,269,255	1,269,567	1,360,201
Total liabilities			
Total equity and liabilities	3,488,789	3,243,331	3,595,500
Net assets per share	0.126	0.120	0.136

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED

	Amount in OMR	
	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Turnover/Revenue	1,260,425	1,029,970
Cost of Sale	(865,819)	(708,468)
Gross profit	394,606	321,502
Other Income	3,898	779
Distribution expenses	(169,292)	(124,628)
Administration & general expenses	(56,364)	(56,710)
Provision for slow moving inventories	7,403	(13,023)
Allowances for credit losses	(2,513)	5,779
Profit from operations	177,738	133,699
Finance expenses	(6,367)	(11,003)
Profit/(loss) for the period before income tax	171,371	122,696
Taxation	(23,195)	(18,585)
Total comprehensive income/ (loss) for the period	148,176	104,021
Earning per share	0.009	0.006

Note: The company does not have any items under other comprehensive income.

Note: The complete accounts are available on MSX website. If required, the same can also be provided by email or post in Arabic or English, in seven days, on receipt of written request from the shareholder.



GULF HOTELS (OMAN) COMPANY LIMITED SAOG

P O Box: 1455, P C 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman

C.R. No. 1059459

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Dear Shareholders,

The company has recorded total revenue of RO 2.371 Million (31st March 2024: RO 2.452 Million) and net profit after tax of RO 0.477 Million (31st March 2024: net profit after tax RO 0.529 Million) for the first quarter ended 31st March 2025.

During the period under review the total revenue saw a decrease of 3.3% and net profit after tax decreased by 9.9% as compared to the same period last year. This was mainly due to advancement of Holy month of Ramadan into March month this year. We hope the performance of the hotel will be better in the month of April.

The company has awarded main contract for hotel renovation project for RO 3.326 Million. The total renovation project cost for rooms renovation, MEP facilities, sewage pipeline etc.. is currently estimated between RO 3.8 to 4 Million, to be funded through a bank term loan of RO 3 Million and balance from company's internal accruals. The hotel will be closed for a period of approximately three months from June to August 2025 for renovation.

Due to the closure of the hotel for renovation project, the revenue and profitability will be impacted during the year 2025. However once completed, we expect the hotel to withstand market competition and bring in long term benefits to the shareholders.

We express our deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said for His Majesty's inspiring leadership and wise policies. We pray to the Almighty Allah to bless His Majesty with good health and strength to lead our nation to progress and prosperity. We would also like to thank the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for implementing right policies to encourage growth in tourism sector in the Sultanate of Oman.

Ali Ahmed Abdullah Al Najjar
Chairman

NOTE:

The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder or other interested party, who requests them either in Arabic or English, within 7 days from the receipt of request at company's address: Gulf Hotels (Oman) Co. Ltd. SAOG, P O Box: 1455, P C 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

	RO 31st March 2025	RO 31st March 2024	RO 31st Dec 2024
Assets:			
Non-current assets:			
Property plant and Equipment	28,295,182	28,432,907	28,349,409
Current assets:			
Inventory	75,274	71,265	77,443
Trade and other receivables	697,729	648,250	559,600
Term Deposit	-	-	500,000
Cash and bank balances	2,122,523	1,318,427	1,303,743
Total current assets	2,895,526	2,037,942	2,440,786
Total assets	31,190,708	30,470,849	30,790,195
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	3,428,322	3,428,322	3,428,322
Share premium	58,574	58,574	58,574
Statutory reserve	1,142,774	1,142,774	1,142,774
Revaluation reserve	18,619,520	18,619,520	18,619,520
Retained earnings	2,356,107	1,535,820	1,879,375
	25,605,297	24,785,010	25,128,565
Liabilities			
Non-current provisions and borrowings:			
Staff terminal benefits	436,868	441,718	418,075
Deferred tax liabilities	3,690,849	3,647,266	3,691,849
	4,127,717	4,088,984	4,109,924
Current provisions and borrowings:			
Borrowings current	1,887	289,491	46,332
Trade and other payables	1,351,227	1,307,364	1,486,017
Current tax liabilities	104,580	-	19,357
	1,457,694	1,596,855	1,551,706
Total Liabilities	5,585,411	5,685,839	5,661,630
Total Equity and liabilities	31,190,708	30,470,849	30,790,195
Net Assets per share (R.O.)	7.469	7.229	7.330

INCOME STATEMENT AND STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE 3 MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	RO 3 months period from 01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025	RO 3 months period from 01.01.2024 to 31.03.2024
Total Revenue	2,370,707	2,451,623
Cost of materials consumed	(406,825)	(418,000)
Service expenses	(344,744)	(353,328)
Employee benefit expenses	(676,466)	(668,899)
Depreciation	(109,390)	(106,538)
Other operating expenses	(286,515)	(286,003)
Profit from operating activities	546,767	618,855
Finance income	13,692	8,814
Finance cost	-	(5,194)
Provision for ECL (reversal)	496	(323)
Profit before income tax	560,955	622,152
Income tax and deferred tax	(84,223)	(93,224)
Net profit for the period	476,732	528,928
Total comprehensive income for the period	476,732	528,928
Basic earnings per share	0.139	0.154

SPORTS

Suryavanshi, 14, becomes youngest T20 centurion



The Rajasthan Royals batter blasted a breathtaking 101 off 38 balls to also record the fastest IPL hundred by an Indian

JAIPUR: Fourteen-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi announced himself to the cricketing world in spectacular fashion on Monday, becoming the youngest centurion in men's T20 cricket and recording the fastest IPL century by an Indian.

His knock along with Yashaswi Jaiswal's innings helped Rajasthan Royals (RR) keep their playoff hopes alive, chasing down Gujarat Titans' (GT) 209-run target in just 15.5 overs to win by eight wickets.

In just his third appearance for Rajasthan Royals (RR), the prodigious right-hander hammered a breathtaking 101 off 38 balls against Gujarat Titans (GT), including a 35-ball hundred that

left even seasoned bowlers shell-shocked.

Only Chris Gayle's 30-ball blitz in 2013 stands ahead of Suryavanshi's milestone in terms of IPL speed, while Yusuf Pathan's 37-ball century in 2010 — previously the fastest by an Indian and by a Rajasthan Royals player — now takes a back seat. His century included joint-most sixes - 11 - for an Indian in an IPL innings, highest boundary percentage in a T20 ton, with 94 of his runs coming in boundaries.

"It feels really good. It was my first century in the IPL in my third innings," said a beaming Suryavanshi after collecting the Player-of-the-Match award. "What I've been

practicing for the last three-four months, the result is showing. I don't see the ground so much, just focus on the ball."

Suryavanshi reached the three-figure mark with a commanding pulled six off stand-in GT captain Rashid Khan, shortly after tearing into debutant Afghan all-rounder Karim Janat for a 30-run over.

By the time he was bowled by Prasidh Krishna, Rajasthan had effectively sealed the chase of 210. His opening partner Yashasvi Jaiswal (70* off 40 balls) and captain Riyan Parag (24*) completed an eight-wicket win with 25 balls remaining.

"Batting with him [Jaiswal] gives me confidence because he keeps very positive and gives me advice, so it becomes easy," Suryavanshi added.

"It is like a dream to score a century in the IPL. No, no fear. I'm not thinking about all that [bowlers targeting him]. I am just focusing on playing."

Rajasthan Royals batting coach Vikram Rathour was effusive in his praise: "He's got a



great downswing. That helps him generate this kind of power. And today, he just showed everybody how good he is."

Rathour also offered a glimpse into the teenager's fearless mindset at training. "He is one guy who takes on Jofra [Archer] in the nets. Jofra is maybe one of the toughest bowlers to face because he is so awkward and quick. But Vaibhav bats against him and really takes him on."

Suryavanshi might not have even featured in the playing XI if not for a freak abdominal injury to regular captain Sanju Samson.

Royals gun down 210 to keep season alive

JAIPUR: Rajasthan Royals (RR) delivered a must-win performance in Jaipur, chasing down Gujarat Titans' (GT) imposing total of 209 with remarkable ease, sealing an eight-wicket win in just 15.5 overs on Monday.

The record-breaking chase was built around a whirlwind 101 from 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi, who stitched an opening stand of 144 with Yashasvi Jaiswal (70* off 40). The target, which many deemed out of reach at halfway, was overhauled with 25 balls to spare—marking the fastest successful chase of 200-plus in IPL history.

Earlier, GT had looked in control after posting 209/4. Shubman Gill gave them a flying start with 84 off 45 deliveries, including five sixes, while Jos Buttler accelerated late to finish unbeaten on 50. Sai Sudharsan (39) kept things steady despite a patch of tight bowling from Wanindu Hasaranga, who bowled three boundaryless overs.

However, a late surge, including 19 runs off Jofra Archer in the 18th over, pushed GT past 200. Even then, few expected the Royals to respond with such dominance.



Jaiswal provided the steady hand through the chase, as RR made short work of a quality attack. Riyan Parag added the finishing touches with a brisk 32*. GT tried everything, from pace variations by Prasidh Krishna to spin from Rashid Khan and Washington Sundar, but nothing proved effective. Suryavanshi's innings may be grabbing headlines, but for RR, this was a complete top-order statement under pressure. With the win, they stay in contention in a tightly packed points table.

Brief scores: Rajasthan Royals 212 for 2 (Suryavanshi 101, Jaiswal 70*, Parag 32*), Rashid 1-24) beat Gujarat Titans 209 for 4 (Gill 84, Buttler 50*, Theekshana 2-35) by eight wickets. - Agencies

TENNIS

Purcell accepts 18-month anti-doping breach ban

LONDON: Australian tennis player Max Purcell has accepted an 18-month suspension for breaching anti-doping regulations, describing the prolonged case as one that "seriously affected my quality of life."

The 27-year-old, a two-time Grand Slam doubles champion, was provisionally suspended in December 2024 and has now admitted to the "use of a prohibited method" after receiving intravenous vitamin infusions exceeding permitted limits on two occasions — December 16 and 20, 2023.

Under the World Anti-Doping Code and the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (TADP), intravenous infusions of more than 100ml within a 12-hour period are not allowed unless received during hospital treatment or through a declared therapeutic use exemption. Purcell did not test positive for any banned substances.

His suspension will run until June 11, 2026, with time already served during the provisional suspension taken into account. The ITIA confirmed that Purcell must forfeit all results and prize money from the date of the first violation on December 16, 2023, through to his next clean doping control sample on February 3, 2024. - Agencies



SECOND TEST



Shadman's ton gives Bangladesh slender lead against Zimbabwe

CHATTOGRAM: A composed century by opener Shadman Islam gave Bangladesh a narrow upper hand over Zimbabwe on Day Two of the second Test in Chattogram, but late breakthroughs ensured the visitors stayed within striking distance.

Shadman, who registered his second Test hundred, laid the foundation for Bangladesh's first-innings reply with a fluent 120 off 181 balls, steering the hosts to 291/7 at stumps — a 64-run lead with three wickets in hand. He added 118 runs with fellow opener Anamul Haque and another 76 with Mominul Haque before Zimbabwe clawed back.

Debutant leg-spinner Vincent Masekesa was the standout among Zimbabwe's bowlers, finishing the day with 3 for 44, including the prized scalp of Shadman and two key middle-order wickets. Support came from Blessing Muzarabani, Wellington Masakadza and Brian Bennett, who took a wicket each.

Earlier, Zimbabwe were dismissed on their overnight total of 227, with No.11 Muzarabani lasting just one delivery in the morning.

Bangladesh's reply began assertively, with Shadman finding his rhythm early through elegant straight and cover drives. Anamul, making a comeback after more than two years, supported well with a measured 39 off 80 balls before being trapped lbw by Muzarabani shortly after lunch.

Mominul added a brisk 33, but fell pulling to deep midwicket. The momentum shifted when Bennett had Shadman lbw the very next ball, ending a composed knock that featured 12 boundaries and a six.

Mushfiqur Rahim (40) and Najmul Hossain Shanto attempted to rebuild. But the middle-order effort faltered with Shanto holing out, Jaker Ali falling to a return catch, and Mushfiqur run out after a mix-up. Nayeem Hasan edged Masekesa to slip to give the leg-spinner his third.

At stumps, Mehidy Hasan Miraz (16*) and Taijul Islam (5*) were at the crease.

Brief scores: Bangladesh 291/7 (Shadman 120, Mushfiqur 40; Masekesa 3-44) lead Zimbabwe 227 (Williams 67, Welch 54, Taijul 6-60) by 64 runs. - Agencies

NO NEW FRANCHISES

BCCI eyes expanded 94-match IPL from 2028, says Dhumal

MUMBAI: The Indian Premier League (IPL) could expand to a 94-match season from 2028, IPL chairman Arun Dhumal has revealed, though no new franchises are on the cards in the near future.

The IPL moved to a 74-match format in 2022 following the addition of Gujarat Titans and Lucknow Super Giants.

An intermediate expansion to 84 matches, initially considered for 2025, has been shelved due to scheduling constraints and concerns from broadcasters about viewer fatigue and excessive double-headers. However, the idea of a longer tournament remains very much alive.

Speaking to *ESPNCricinfo*, Dhumal said the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is seriously considering a shift to a full home-and-away format — which would necessitate 94 matches — in the next media rights cycle beginning 2028.

"Definitely, that might be an opportunity," Dhumal said. "We've been discussing it within the ICC and internally at the BCCI. Given how fan interest is shifting to bilateral and ICC events to franchise and T20 cricket — we'll have to look more seriously at how we can maximise value for all stakeholders."

The IPL currently runs from mid-March to the end of May, a window locked into the ICC's Future Tours Programme (FTP) for the next two years. Extending this window for a longer season would require further negotiation and cooperation with other national boards, especially to make space



in the crowded international calendar. "Ideally, we'd want a larger window, or to go from 74 to 84 or even 94 games at some point. A 94-game season would allow every team to play each other home and away," Dhumal said.

"But given our commitments to bilateral series and ICC events, this might not be possible immediately. Still, the cricketing landscape is evolving, and expansion remains a strong possibility in the medium term."

Dhumal cited the intense cricketing schedule — including India's tours and ICC events — as a key reason for deferring the move to 84 matches in 2025. The upcoming edition will span nine weeks, including 12 double-headers, with broadcasters cautious about viewer drop-off in the latter half of the tournament.

Despite growing investor interest, Dhumal reiterated there are no immediate plans to increase the number of franchises. "Ten is a good number for now," he said.

"Our focus is on maintaining the quality of cricket. That's paramount. We'll revisit the idea depending on how the overall landscape evolves."

Reflecting on the ongoing season, Dhumal praised the competitive balance among teams and the rise of promising young Indian talent. He also expressed hope that the 2025 edition could crown a new champion.

"Every year, the league has grown — in terms of reach, fan engagement, and broadcast viewership," he said. "This being the 18th edition, it's special. If we get a new champion this year, which would be great for the league."

Delhi Capitals, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Punjab Kings, and Lucknow Super Giants — all of whom have yet to lift the IPL trophy — remain in contention for a playoff berth. "If teams like DC, PBKS, or RCB reach the final and we end up with a first-time winner, I'll be very happy for the tournament," Dhumal said. - Agencies

OMAN OIL PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by June 2025 reaching \$65.30, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$2.04 from the price of Monday, which was \$67.34. -OMA

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,297.82 points, up by 0.14% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.34% at 402.59 points. National Aluminium, up 27.78%, was the top gainer while, Takaful Oman, down 4.17%, was the top loser.

Agreement inked to drive energy efficiency in Oman’s industrial hubs

This initiative is part of efforts to reduce carbon emissions in economic zones, free zones and industrial cities, and to support the implementation of the national strategy to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with OQ Alternative Energy (OQAE) to implement an Energy Excellence Programme.

This initiative is part of efforts to reduce carbon emissions in economic zones, free zones and industrial cities, and to support the implementation of the national strategy to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. The memorandum also aims to explore potential cooperation opportunities in identifying and implementing energy efficiency initiatives and related certifications.

The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed on behalf of Opaz by Eng. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Dheeb, Deputy Chairman of Opaz,

and on behalf of OQAE by Najla Al Jamali, CEO of OQAE.

Consultancy services

The areas of cooperation under the memorandum include providing support and consultancy services for energy efficiency assessments and decarbonisation of certain technical and non-technical assets owned by the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones; identifying and implementing energy efficiency improvement projects through performance contracting if both parties wish; supporting and advising the Authority on obtaining ISO 50001 certification in energy management; and providing consultancy services for developing an energy strategy for Opaz.

Eng. Mazinbin Mansour Al Balushi, Head of the Technical Studies Section at the Public Authority,



stated that the Authority places great importance on environmental preservation and carbon emission reduction across the economic zones, free zones, and industrial cities under its supervision. The implementation of the Energy Excellence Programme comes in line with these objectives.

He emphasised that the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation reflects the Authority’s

commitment to achieving Oman Vision 2040 objectives under the priority area of environment and natural resources.

He pointed out that in recent years, the Authority has signed numerous agreements and memoranda of cooperation to establish projects in green hydrogen, green ammonia, green steel, and direct reduced iron, reflecting the Authority’s dedication to

promoting environmental sustainability in line with national sustainability goals.

He further explained that the Energy Excellence Programme will contribute to improving energy usage in the economic zones, free zones and industrial cities, and will have a positive impact on enhancing innovation and developing human capital in the areas under the Authority’s supervision.

OQAE provides a range of consulting services and solutions in energy efficiency, decarbonisation, and renewable energy for various companies under the OQ Group as well as external clients. Energy Excellence Programmes are among the environmental sustainability initiatives that are receiving growing global attention due to their significant economic and environmental benefits.

STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Tamani partners with Lulu Holdings to enhance Mall of Muscat operations



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Tamani Global has entered into a strategic collaboration with Lulu International Holdings Limited (LIHL) to support the operational development and asset performance of Mall of Muscat. The agreement was signed on April 27 with the presence of key officials.

This partnership reflects Tamani Global’s commitment to strengthening Mall of Muscat’s market position through enhanced operational practices and strategic advisory. Leveraging Lulu Holdings’ extensive regional experience in retail and shopping mall envi-

ronments, the collaboration is focused on sharing best practices and implementing targeted initiatives to improve efficiency, tenant alignment, and customer engagement.

Spanning over 1 million square feet of gross leasable area and home to more than 170 retail outlets — including the renowned Oman Aquarium, the first of its kind in Oman — Mall of Muscat stands as a premier destination for both residents and tourists. The partnership aims to reinforce the mall’s positioning as a lifestyle and entertainment hub by aligning its operations with evolving market trends.

Abdulaziz Salim Al Mahruqi,

Board Member of Tamani Global, stated: “Our collaboration with Lulu Holdings is a strategic move to benefit from their insights and experience in optimizing retail destinations. Their strategic role will be instrumental in supporting our long-term vision to ensure sustainable value at Mall of Muscat.”

Ananth A.V., Director at Lulu International Holdings, added: “We are pleased to work alongside Tamani Global in this strategic capacity. Our goal is to provide operational input and strategic guidance that will enhance the mall’s performance and deliver long-term value for all stakeholders.”

GLOBAL ONLINE TRADING

CFI extends record growth streak with \$1.279 trillion trading volume in Q1 2025

Times News Service

DUBAI: CFI Financial Group, a leading global online trading provider, is proud to announce the continuation of its exceptional momentum into 2025, posting a landmark first quarter fueled by innovation, client trust, and strategic expansion.

Building on the breakthroughs of 2024, the Group has further solidified its leadership position, setting a new standard in global online trading.

Q1 2025: A New Benchmark in Trading Performance

In Q1 2025, CFI achieved an all-time high with a trading volume of \$1.279 trillion, representing a 13.5% increase from Q4 2024 and a staggering 129% surge compared to Q1 2024.

This continued growth reaffirms the company’s robust infrastructure, client-first philosophy, and commitment to empowering traders and investors worldwide.

Client growth remained a core highlight of the quarter:

- Funded accounts grew by 5.5% compared to Q4 2024 and by an impressive 75% compared to Q1 2024, reflecting strong year-over-year growth.
- Active accounts rose by 7.4% compared to Q4 2024 and achieved a 92% year-over-year increase compared to Q1 2024, driven by enhanced acquisition efforts and



personalized retention strategies.

- Funding transactions saw exceptional momentum, increasing by 54% from Q4 and a remarkable 148% from Q1 2024, demonstrating growing confidence and engagement.

Strategic Market Growth & Leadership

CFI’s focus on expansion, innovation, and service excellence translated into tangible milestones in Q1:

- Official Opening of CFI Azerbaijan: Marking a major milestone in CFI’s regional expansion strategy, bringing world-class trading services to a dynamic new market.
- Launch of CFI Prime: A new

division designed to cater to institutional and professional traders, offering specialized services and cutting-edge technology.

Award Recognition: CFI was honored with two prestigious titles at the iFX Expo, “Best CFD Broker MEA” and “Best Mobile Trading App MEA”, reaffirming its leadership in both technological innovation and service excellence.

High-Impact Strategic Partnerships

Q1 2025 also marked a series of high-impact partnerships that elevated brand visibility and community engagement:

- Ya Hala Festival: As a strategic partner of Kuwait’s premier shop-

ping event, CFI showcased its regional leadership and support for local initiatives.

Saadiyat Nights: through a partnership with the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi, supporting the UAE’s premier entertainment festival featuring global stars like Jennifer Lopez, Christina Aguilera, Omar Khairat, and more.

Kayan Wellness Festival: Supporting wellness and innovation, CFI expanded its presence in the lifestyle and wellbeing space in Abu Dhabi.

Official Partner of Kuwait Basketball Association: Strengthening its presence in the sports sector and deepening community

engagement in Kuwait and in the Gulf region.

Looking Forward

Reflecting on Q1’s achievements, Hisham Mansour, Co-Founder and Managing Director of CFI, stated: “Q1 2025 sets the tone for a landmark year ahead for CFI. Surpassing new records once again is a testament to the passion of our global teams and the trust of our growing client base. As we continue to build on this momentum, our focus remains clear, pushing the boundaries of innovation, expanding our global presence, and empowering traders and investors with world-class experiences.”

As CFI continues its journey

through 2025, we are scaling innovation, setting new standards for client experience, and forging impactful partnerships, redefining what excellence means in the world of online trading.

About CFI: CFI Financial Group, established in 1998, is MENA’s leading online trading broker with over 25 years of experience. Operating from key locations like London, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Cape Town, Baku, Beirut, Amman, and Cairo, CFI provides seamless access to both global and local markets. Offering diverse trading options across equities, currencies, commodities, and more, CFI delivers superior conditions, including zero-pip spreads, no commission fees, and ultra-fast execution.

AI-driven tools

The company is a leader in AI-driven tools, offering intuitive and advanced solutions for traders of all experience levels. CFI fosters financial literacy through multilingual educational content and inspires excellence through partnerships with global icons like AC Milan, FIBA WASL, and MI Cape Town cricket team, as well as the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi. With Seven-Time Formula One™ World Champion Sir Lewis Hamilton as Global Brand Ambassador, CFI reflects a shared commitment to innovation and success while supporting cultural and community initiatives worldwide.

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

National Aluminium, up 27.78%, was the top gainer while, Takaful Oman, down 4.17%, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,297.82 points, up by 0.14% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.34% at 402.59 points. National Aluminium, up 27.78%, was the top gainer while, Takaful Oman, down 4.17%, was the top loser. Shares of Oman Arab Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1161 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 4.39 million, with more than 27.13 million shares changing hands. Out of 47 traded securities, 17 advanced, 11 declined, and 19 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net buyers for RO 472K while domestic investors were net sellers for RO 411K, followed by foreign investors for RO 61K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,584.39 points, up 0.3%. Prices of Oman Arab Bank, Oman & Emirates Investment, Al Madina Takaful, National Bank Oman, Bank Muscat were up by 3.57%, 1.59%, 1.32%, 1.03%, 0.39% respectively. Prices of Takaful Oman, Al Anwar Investment, Ominvest, Taageer Finance, National Finance were down by 4.17%, 2.50%, 2.33%, 0.96%, 0.81% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,935.45 points, up 0.95%. Prices of National Aluminium, Oman Flour Mills, Galfar Engineering, Al Anwar Ceramics, Voltamp Energy were up by 27.78%, 3.70%, 2.94%, 1.97%, 0.78% respectively. Prices of were down by respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.05% before closing at 1,533.62 points. Prices of Muscat Gases, Ooredoo, Oman Telecom were up by 2.41%, 1.19%, 0.37% respectively.

— United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,298.08	4,284.68	4,297.82	4,292.01	5.81	0.14
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,584.43	7,554.02	7,584.39	7,561.66	22.73	0.30
Industry Index	5,941.12	5,870.16	5,935.45	5,879.53	55.92	0.95
Services Index	1,536.99	1,531.10	1,533.62	1,532.82	0.80	0.05
MSX Shariah Index	404.17	400.79	402.59	403.96	-1.38	-0.34
MSX TR INDEX	6,353.20	6,333.40	6,352.81	6,344.23	8.58	0.14
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,988.50	8,952.45	8,988.45	8,961.52	26.94	0.30
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	7,300.74	7,213.55	7,293.78	7,225.06	68.72	0.95
SERVICES TR IDX	1,954.34	1,946.84	1,950.05	1,949.03	1.02	0.05
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
27,136,628	4,392,061	1,161	27,116,029,143	17	11	19	47

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 29

REGULAR MARKET

RUN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	1,699,693	258,844	119	0.156	0.157	0.148	0.155	0.152	0.003	1.974	0.155	0.157	0.155	0.100	34,100,000
OM0000001881	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	30,000	1,925	5	0.064	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.063	0.001	1.887	0.064	0.063	0.064	0.100	7,800,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	67,321	5,144	11	0.076	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.076	0.001	1.316	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.100	13,470,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	80,375	13,672	18	0.168	0.171	0.168	0.170	0.168	0.002	1.189	0.170	0.155	0.170	0.100	110,660,519
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	21,445	6,326	1	0.285	0.285	0.285	0.285	0.282	0.003	1.027	0.285	0.288	0.285	0.100	479,654,175
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	3,753,773	953,560	51	0.254	0.255	0.253	0.255	0.254	0.001	0.394	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.100	1,914,131,251
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	24,832	20,284	9	0.817	0.818	0.817	0.818	0.815	0.003	0.368	0.818	0.817	0.826	0.100	613,500,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	100	37	1	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.000	0.000	0.370	0.360	0.370	0.100	46,212,245
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	6,719	376	2	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.000	0.000	0.056	0.056	0.000	0.100	19,943,129
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIYA INVESTMENT HO.	155,300	11,197	10	0.072	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.073	0.000	0.000	0.073	0.070	0.073	0.100	6,570,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	62,512	18,030	8	0.288	0.289	0.288	0.289	0.289	0.000	0.000	0.289	0.287	0.289	0.100	68,322,490
OM0000003286	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	2,990,972	313,204	32	0.131	0.132	0.131	0.132	0.132	0.000	0.000	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.100	873,478,508
OM0000004735	SEMOCORP SALALAH	6,303	599	1	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.094	0.095	0.100	90,684,335
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	96,298	6,455	10	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.100	47,865,225
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	674,656	156,532	34	0.232	0.233	0.231	0.233	0.233	0.000	0.000	0.233	0.233	0.232	0.100	179,456,600
OM0000008072	QOGAS NETWORKS	3,659,322	486,119	57	0.128	0.129	0.128	0.129	0.129	0.000	0.000	0.129	0.128	0.129	0.100	558,653,486
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	34,000	2,313	5	0.069	0.069	0.068	0.068	0.069	-0.001	-1.449	0.068	0.068	0.070	0.100	45,892,345
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	1,181,951	248,457	60	0.215	0.215	0.210	0.215	0.215	-0.005	-2.326	0.210	0.209	0.210	0.100	196,499,435
OM0000000781	MUSANDAM POWER	18,850	4,713	9	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.258	-0.008	-3.101	0.250	0.245	0.250	0.100	17,597,500
Total	19	14,143,524	2,516,795	443												

Parallel Market

OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	58,800	27,423	22	0.459	0.478	0.459	0.477	0.460	0.017	3.696	0.477	0.468	0.477	0.100	78,883,875	
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	4,135,367	591,434	34	0.140	0.145	0.140	0.145	0.140	0.005	3.571	0.145	0.143	0.150	0.100	242,064,450	
OM0000000521	GALFAR ENG'G & CONTRACTING	790,818	55,420	68	0.068	0.071	0.068	0.070	0.068	0.002	2.941	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	14,209,051	
OM0000001230	ASWAD SHIPPING	429,871	44,935	35	0.105	0.109	0.105	0.109	0.105	0.004	2.857	0.109	0.108	0.109	0.000	962,544,283	
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	34,190	2,745	4	0.081	0.085	0.080	0.085	0.083	0.002	2.410	0.085	0.081	0.087	0.100	2,550,000	
OM0000008908	QOBASE INDUSTRIES (SF2)	3,876,451	399,582	157	0.103	0.104	0.102	0.104	0.103	0.001	0.971	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.040	359,877,048	
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	16	10	1	0.650	0.650	0.650	0.650	0.645	0.005	0.775	0.650	0.610	0.699	0.100	60,848,555	
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	48,000	3,410	7	0.073	0.073	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.070	0.071	0.100	6,035,000	
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	10,749	1,569	2	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.000	0.000	0.146	0.140	0.160	0.100	2,373,055	
OM0000002549	BANK DHOOFAR	831	123	1	0.148	0.148	0.148	0.148	0.148	0.000	0.000	0.148	0.148	0.148	0.100	449,890,183	
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	92,772	18,553	27	0.201	0.201	0.195	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.199	0.210	0.100	11,000,000	
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,315	79	2	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.058	0.060	0.100	87,756,088	
OM0000007407	DHOOFAR GENERATING	1,380	71	1	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.052	0.054	0.100	11,556,480	
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	42,555	3,279	2	0.078	0.078	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.077	0.079	0.100	39,164,610	
OM0000008975	QO EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	2,001,279	540,787	225	0.270	0.271	0.267	0.270	0.271	0.001	0.369	0.269	0.245	0.269	0.010	160,000,000	
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	410	30	1	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.123	-0.001	-0.813	0.122	0.118	0.122	0.100	74,191,438	
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	96,630	20,686	22	0.215	0.215	0.214	0.214	0.216	-0.002	-0.926	0.214	0.214	0.214	0.100	42,722,018	
OM0000003281	TAAGEER FINANCE	5,917	609	1	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.104	-0.001	-0.962	0.103	0.102	0.104	0.100	28,759,991	
OM0000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	13,000	1,703	2	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.133	-0.002	-1.504	0.131	0.130	0.134	0.100	12,812,083	
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	557,180	90,922	47	0.160	0.165	0.158	0.162	0.165	-0.003	-1.818	0.162	0.157	0.162	0.100	6,940,565	
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	620,012	48,831	22	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.078	0.080	-0.002	-2.500	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.085	0.100	22,391,470
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	40,160	1,927	5	0.048	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.048	-0.002	-4.167	0.046	0.046	0.050	0.100	11,500,000	
Total	22	12,852,683	1,854,150	688													

ENHANCE ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Omani-Tanzanian Business Forum explores investment opportunities



MUSCAT: Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) organised the Omani-Tanzanian Business Forum to enhance economic cooperation and open new investment prospects for business owners in the Sultanate of Oman and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The event was held on the sidelines of a visit by a Tanzanian delegation led by Dr. Hashil Twibo Abdullah, Permanent Secretary of Trade and Industry in the United Republic of Tanzania.

The forum highlighted available investment opportunities in both countries, along with key incentives and benefits offered to investors, while also reviewing the economic environment.

It included a roundtable meeting with Omani business owners interested in investing in Tanzania, where both sides discussed prominent investment and trade opportunities, ways to strengthen joint cooperation, and the exchange of expertise. They also explored mechanisms to overcome potential challenges, contributing to building effective and fruitful partnerships and enhancing the presence of Omani investments in Tanzania's promising markets. Dr. Hashil Twibo Abdullah emphasized that the delegation's visit to Oman included meetings with several public and private sector officials, as well as discussions on promoting investment in Oman. -GNA

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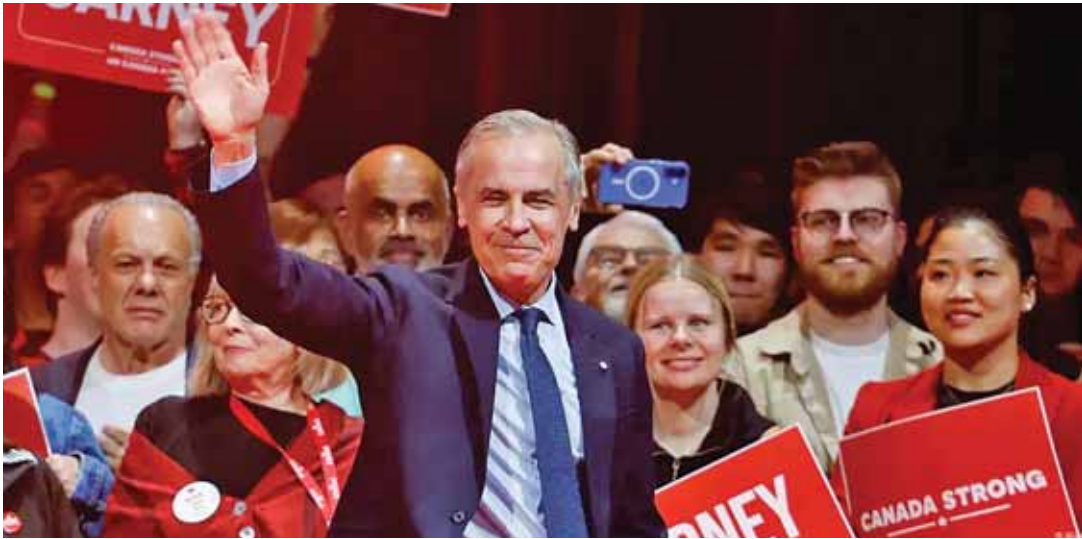
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BRANDING

Canada’s PM Mark Carney wins poll as opposition concedes defeat

Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre conceded defeat after failing to bring an end to the dominance of the Liberal Party

OTTAWA: Prime Minister Mark Carney’s Liberal party won Canada’s federal election, according to Tuesday projections by Canadian broadcasters CTV and CBC News. Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre conceded defeat after failing to bring an end to the dominance of the Liberal Party, but did not suggest he would step down saying that the Conservatives had increased their number of seats by more than 20. It was not yet clear if the Liberals would secure the 172 out of 343 electoral seats needed for a majority, reported CBC. The Liberals were leading in 161 districts with the Conservatives leading in 150. CTV news predicted Carney would not get the majority he wanted to better negotiate trade deals with Trump. This marks a comeback for the Liberals, whose popularity had suffered before former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stepped down in January this year. The Bloc Quebecois, a separatist



party that seeks independence for Quebec was projected to come in third.

What did Carney say after his election win? Following his victory, Carney told his supporters that Canada will “win this trade war” with the US. “We are over the shock of the American betrayal, but we should never forget the lessons,” Carney said, warning that there were challenging days ahead. “As I’ve been warning for months, America wants our land, our resources, our water, our country,” Carney said. “These are not idle threats. President Trump is trying to break us so America can own us.” “That will never ... ever happen. But we also must recognize the reality that our world has fundamentally changed.”

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen congratulated Carney on his victory and said the bond between Europe and Canada was growing stronger. “The bond between Europe and Canada is strong — and growing stronger. I look forward to working closely together, both bilaterally and within the G7. We’ll defend our shared democratic values, promote multilateralism, and champion free and fair trade,” she posted on X. **Prime Minister Keir Starmer** Britain’s Prime Minister Keir Starmer also expressed his congratulations in a statement. “Our partnership is based on shared history and values, with a shared sovereign, and I look forward to strengthening our ties,” he said, calling their two nations “the closest of allies, partners and friends.”

Why did Carney call a snap election? Carney was elected by the Liberals to replace Trudeau, but called for an election just nine days after taking office to seek a “strong, positive mandate” amid the general unpopularity of his party. He was facing off against Conservative Pierre Poilievre who had been high in the polls before Trudeau stepped down. However, a series of factors, perhaps most significantly antagonism from Canada’s powerful neighbor, gave Carney a historic boost of popularity. Around 29 million Canadians voted in the country’s snap election. The first polling stations to open in the massive G7 country that spans six time zones were in the Atlantic province of Newfoundland and Labrador. A record 7.3 million votes were

Indian PM congratulates Mark Carney on his victory

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Mark J. Carney on his election as the Prime Minister of Canada, extending warm wishes to the Liberal Party for their electoral victory. Posting on X (formerly Twitter), PM Modi wrote, “Congratulations Mark J Carney on your election as the Prime Minister of Canada and to the Liberal Party on their victory. India and Canada are bound by shared democratic values, a steadfast commitment to the rule of law, and vibrant people-to-people ties. I look forward to working with you to strengthen our part-

nership and unlock greater opportunities for our people.” Canadian news outlet CTV News has projected that Carney and the Liberal Party will retain power, winning enough seats in the 45th federal election to form the government. Carney had taken over the leadership from Justin Trudeau, who resigned towards the end of his term after losing the confidence of his party. The election took place against the backdrop of tariff threats and repeated attacks from US President Donald Trump, who referred to Canada as the “51st state of the United States.” —ANI

cast before election day. The country has been facing a cost-of-living crisis, and Trump’s threats to impose tariffs look likely to hit the country’s economy even further.

Free trade deal With 75% of Canada’s exports going to the US, both candidates said they would accelerate efforts to strike a free trade deal between the country and its southern neighbour.

Trump statements take centre-stage The statements by Trump about Canada becoming the US’ 51st state have played a role during the campaign. Trump also repeated the call on election day. “Look how beautiful this land mass would be. Free access with NO BORDER,” Trump posted on his Truth Social account. Canadian Prime Minister Carney has repeatedly rejected the idea. —aw

PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION

Will serve yoga community in Kuwait, GCC, says Padma awardee Sabah

NEW DELHI: Padma Shri awardee Ali Jaber Al-Sabah said that she was thankful to the Indian government for recognising her work in the yoga community. Sabah said that she loved India and had visited the country often. “I’m honoured to be here in Delhi to receive the Padmashri Award. I was very surprised and very honoured because I feel like all the work that I’ve done to serve the yoga community, especially in Kuwait and the GCC was recognised, so I’m very grateful for that and thankful,” she said. Sabah told ANI that after receiving the award, she would want to serve the yoga community and the GCC even more. “I would like to thank the government of India and I love India and I come here often. So for me it feels like home. I’m very happy. I’m very grateful. We will serve the yoga community in Kuwait



and the GCC even more, hopefully with far reaching effects,” she said. Reminiscing about her initial days in the field, she said that she learnt yoga from her grandfather and father. She started practicing it after she gave birth.

“I learned about yoga from my late grandfather. He used to be a yoga practitioner and into alternative therapies, and my father as well, it was always in the periphery. However, once I gave birth to my firstborn, I was introduced to yoga, and I felt that the health

benefits for my body and my mind were immense, and it’s just a life-long learning experience. You never stop. You’re always a student of yoga,” she said. President Droupadi Murmu on Monday presented the prestigious Padma Shri award in the field of Yoga to Ali Jaber Al-Sabah. Sabah is the founder of Daratma for Yoga Education, Kuwait’s first officially licensed yoga studio. In a post on X, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said, “President Droupadi Murmu presents Padma Shri in the field of Yoga to H.E. Shkha. Shaikha Ali Jaber Al-Sabah. She is a keen yoga practitioner. She is the founder of Daratma for Yoga Education, Kuwait’s first officially licensed yoga studio. “She has been working for bridging cultural gaps and bringing people together through her charitable activities.” —ANI

EXTREMIST VIOLENCE

26 killed in Nigeria IED explosion

RABAT: At least 26 people were killed and three others injured in north-eastern Nigeria after two vehicles detonated an improvised explosive device (IED), TASS reported, citing Reuters and local residents. The incident unfolded on Monday along a road linking the towns of Rann and Gamboru Ngala in Borno state, a region that has long been plagued by extremist violence. According to residents, the vehicles struck the hidden explosive while traveling between the two towns, causing a blast that claimed dozens of lives. The injured survivors were quickly transported to the nearest hospital for urgent medical treatment, though details on their conditions have not been released, TASS reported. The International Safety Organisation, which provides security services for foreign non-govern-



mental organisations operating in Nigeria’s northeast, confirmed the incident in an internal memo seen by Reuters. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the explosion. However, Borno state has remained a stronghold for militant groups like Boko Haram, who have carried out numerous attacks over the years, continuing to destabilise the region and endanger civilian lives. —ANI

180-DEGREE TURNS

100 days of President Donald Trump: US in a ‘whirlwind’

NEW YORK: The inauguration on January 20, 2025, marked the start of Donald Trump’s second presidency. Since he took office, so much has changed in US politics that it’s hard to believe it’s only been 100 days, during which numerous 180-degree turns have occurred. Whether it’s fundamental shifts in US foreign policy or putting tariffs on the world’s imports, there has hardly been a single day when the White House hasn’t been a source of urgent “breaking news.” “No matter what side of the aisle you’re sitting on, I think most people would agree that it’s been relatively busy,” said Patrick Malone, a professor in the department of public administration and policy at American University in Washington, DC. **There’s a strategy behind all the action, experts say** Time Magazine calls it “a blitz of power grabs, strategic shifts, and direct attacks” that leaves opponents at home and abroad stunned. American citizens who disagree with Trump’s new direction are unsure of where to begin when it comes to mounting any kind of protest. Should they demonstrate against Trump’s complete disregard for climate change and his plans to increase drilling for oil?



Or protest his undermining of the separation of powers, as the administration deports immigrants in violation of court orders made by federal judges? Or maybe it’s the restrictions being placed on a free press in the US, as certain outlets Trump considers undesirable are banned from White House press conferences, that require protest first? Or maybe it’s the clampdown on freedom of expression as universities and researchers are cut off from federal funding? This second Trump administration is dividing the country as never before. Yet even as that is happening, many are asking: How

many of the promises that Trump made to his followers before the election last November has the US president actually kept? **Ending the war in Ukraine** In May 2023, at an event in New Hampshire, Trump said that if elected, he would end the war in Ukraine immediately. “They’re dying, Russians and Ukrainians. I want them to stop dying. And I’ll have that done — I’ll have that done in 24 hours,” he said. But the war is still going, and Trump has had to acknowledge that he wasn’t able to end the conflict. The Trump administration is

working unilaterally on some sort of solution, but without the support of the US’s traditional allies, and with compromises that seem to favor the Russians over the Ukrainians. Even during this first phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Trump seemed to make far-reaching concessions to Russian arguments, even though it was Russia that invaded Ukraine. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy received a drubbing from Trump and Vice President JD Vance when he visited the White House for being “ungrateful.” As a result of the fracas, military aid to Ukraine was put on hold, although it has since been started up again. Recently, President Trump criticised Ukraine for insisting that Crimea be considered part of Ukrainian territory, instead of simply surrendering the peninsula to their enemy, to facilitate a quick peace. In Ukraine, locals impacted by the ongoing war have been shocked at the abrupt about-face of their most important supporter. It’s not just Ukraine either. America’s Western partners are also concerned about where Trump’s allegiances lie. He has questioned American participation in the NATO military alliance. He has even said that he might not defend NATO countries who he

thinks don’t spend enough on their own defense, should Russia attack them. He did take that back eventually, but it has become abundantly clear to European nations that they can no longer rely on the US the way they used to. **Trump: ‘Kick out bloodthirsty criminals’** Immigration policy was one of Trump’s favorite campaign issues. At an event in New York in October 2024, he promised that if elected, he would launch the largest deportation program in US history. Trump said he would “put these vicious and bloodthirsty criminals in jail, then kick them the hell out of our country as fast as possible.” In fact, so far at least, Trump’s deportation program has not been particularly quick. In February, Trump’s first full month in office, the US government deported around 11,000 migrants. In February 2021, the first month of Joe Biden’s administration, that number was around 12,000. However, NBC News has reported that fewer people are crossing the southern border with Mexico into the US under Trump. Trump has definitely made immigration more difficult, says Malone. “Some would consider that a success, some would con-

sider that not consistent with American values.” **Economy: ‘America is back’** Trump campaigned on the promise that the US economy would boom under his leadership. One of his slogans was “make America affordable again” — prices would fall on the first day of his presidency, he promised — much like he said he would end the war in Ukraine within 24 hours of coming into office. This has happened for some products, such as gasoline. Prices for flights and hotel stays also decreased, as did overall inflation. Meanwhile, the average prices for goods excluding the highly volatile costs of gasoline and food were 2.8% higher in March than a year earlier, the lowest increase in almost four years, according to the AP news agency. “President Trump’s policies are working at keeping inflation at bay, keeping inflation down,” Stephen Miran, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, the White House’s economic advisory team, said in an interview with CNBC. “Between that and what’s going on with trade — America is back.” However, for many Americans, shopping at the supermarket remains as expensive as it was at the beginning of Trump’s term. —aw

SPORTS

Al Rawahi primed for MERC showdown in Saudi Arabia

Currently third, the Omani driver will aim to close the gap behind the wheel of his Autotek Škoda Fabia RS Rally2, this time with British co-driver Ross Whittock

MUSCAT: Oman's rally ace Abdullah Al Rawahi is set to take on uncharted terrain this week as he resumes his 2025 FIA Middle East Rally Championship (MERC) campaign at the all-new Rally Saudi Arabia, a landmark event marking the Kingdom's return to the regional rallying stage after 15 years.

Round three of the championship runs from May 1 to 3 and is based out of the Jeddah Corniche Circuit, with a route stretching over 824km, including 192.24km of competitive gravel stages.

With 29 crews entered across categories and nine Rally2 cars in contention, the event promises fierce competition and crucial championship points.

Currently third in the overall MERC standings with 43 points, Al Rawahi trails championship leader Nasser Saleh Al Attiyah (70 points) and Saudi's Rakan Al Rashed (48 points).

The Omani driver will be looking to narrow the gap aboard his Autotek Škoda Fabia RS Rally2, this time co-driven by Ross Whittock of Great Britain.

"Saudi Arabia is a new rally for everyone, and that levels the playing field to some extent," said Al Rawahi.

"We don't know the stages yet, so adapting quickly will be key.



Ross and I have worked together in the WRC before, and we're confident in the car setup. We aim to push for the win, though the competition will be tough."

The rally's return is more than just a MERC round - it also serves as Saudi Arabia's official candidate event ahead of its debut in the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) later this year.

Six new gravel stages will be tackled twice over the two legs, with Saturday's 9.34km Thahban

Power Stage closing the event.

Besides Al Attiyah and Al Rashed, Al Rawahi will face pressure from former MERC champion Abdulaziz Al Kuwari (Citroën C3), Nasser Khalifa Al Atya (Ford Fiesta), and Juho Hänninen of Toyota Gazoo Racing, who joins the field as a high-profile non-points entrant.

The Oman Rally Team is backed by Al Manar Investments, the Oman Automobile Association, WMS, Zamakan, OQ, Strike, Size,

the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture, and National Finance.

With four rounds remaining in the 2025 championship, including this week's Saudi showdown, Al Rawahi knows that every stage will count as he chases his first outright regional title after sharing top honours last year.

Top 3 MERC standings after Round Two: 1 Nasser Saleh Al Attiyah (QAT) – 70 pts, 2 Rakan Al Rashed (KSA) – 48 pts, 3 Abdullah Al Rawahi (OMN) – 43 pts.

RALLY SAUDI ARABIA

Oman's Al Zubair, Al Amri to battle out for glory in Group N category

MUSCAT: Oman's Abdullah Al Zubair is gearing up for a crucial challenge at this weekend's Rally Saudi Arabia, the third round of the 2025 Middle East Rally Championship (MERC), which will be held for the first time in Jeddah.

Alongside him, Zakaria Al Amri will also represent Oman in the Group N category, but all eyes are on Al Zubair as he aims to bounce back from a difficult rally season and continue his push for a top spot in the standings.

Al Zubair, co-driven by Taha Soomar in his Subaru Impreza N14, is determined to improve his position after facing setbacks in the Qatar International Rally.

Having shown promise with a strong performance in the 2025 Oman International Rally in Suhar, Al Zubair is focused on securing valuable points in Saudi Arabia and making a strong push in the Group N category for the remainder of the season. The rally will feature six stages, including new



routes near Jeddah, with three stages held on Friday and repeated twice, while Saturday will see three more fresh stages.

The competition is expected to be intense, with Nasser Al Attiyah, Abdullah Al Rawahi, and Abdulaziz Al Kuwari among the front-runners. However, Al Zubair's focus remains squarely on the task at hand: using the new terrain to his advantage and push-

ing for a solid result. "I'm looking forward to the challenge," he said.

"The stages in Saudi Arabia are new for everyone, but we're ready to push hard and make up for the points lost in Qatar. It's all about continuing to improve and getting the best result possible."

Zakaria Al Amri and Mohammed Al Mazrui will also be aiming for strong finishes in the Group N category.

ASTON VILLA FORWARD

Rashford likely to miss rest of season

LONDON: On-loan Aston Villa forward Marcus Rashford is expected to miss the rest of the season with a hamstring injury.

The extent of the problem, which kept Rashford out of the FA Cup semi-final defeat by Crystal Palace on Saturday, is still being assessed.

It is not completely out of the question that the 27-year-old, who is on loan from Manchester United, could return before the end of the Premier League campaign.

However, it is more likely he will focus on recovering in time for England's matches in June - a World Cup qualifier against Andorra and a friendly against Senegal.

If he does return before then, Rashford's final league appearance of the season would be against Tottenham on 18 May because he is not eligible to play in Villa's final match of the campaign against United on 25 May.

Rashford was at Saturday's



high-profile boxing fight between Chris Eubank Jr and Conor Benn at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

He has already decided not to speak to any clubs about his future until later in the summer.

Rashford's contract at United runs to 2028 but he does not expect to play for the club again while Ruben Amorim is manager.

He was recalled by England in Thomas Tuchel's first squad as manager in March, having been omitted from the Euro 2024 squad. - Agencies

130 PRO GOLFERS TOOK PART

Farr triumphs as Al Mouj Golf hosts spectacular Clutch Pro Tour event



MUSCAT: Al Mouj Golf, ranked among the world's Top 100 golf courses, further cemented its reputation as a premier global sporting venue by hosting the Clutch Pro Tour earlier this month.

The prestigious event, part of Europe's leading development golf circuit, attracted 130 professional golfers from more than 20 countries and delivered three days of top-tier competition, culminating in a nail-biting finish.

The tournament marked the Clutch Pro Tour's debut in Oman, spotlighting the Sultanate's growing stature as a regional hub for international sporting events.

Widely regarded as a key feeder circuit to the European Challenge Tour and DP World Tour, the

Clutch Pro Tour offers vital world ranking points and a competitive platform for both emerging stars and seasoned professionals.

England's Callum Farr delivered a composed and consistent performance across the three-day event, carding rounds of 68, 68, and 69 to finish 11-under-par—securing his second Clutch Pro Tour title of the season by a single stroke.

James Ashfield of Wales finished runner-up, while Reis Stuart and Egor Eroshenko tied for third in a closely fought contest that kept fans on edge until the final putt dropped.

Nasser Al Sheibani, CEO of Al Mouj Muscat, said: "Welcoming the Clutch Pro Tour to Al Mouj Golf was an important moment

for us—not just as a course, but as part of Oman's broader efforts to grow its presence on the global sports stage. It was a privilege to see top talent compete here. We will continue to support events that inspire the next generation of athletes and shine a spotlight on Oman as a hub for world-class competition."

The success of the Clutch Pro Tour event adds to Al Mouj Golf's impressive résumé, which already includes hosting the Oman Open and numerous regional tournaments. Its award-winning Greg Norman-designed course continues to attract the attention of global tours, reaffirming Oman's ability to deliver exceptional international sporting experiences.

COPE DEL REY FINAL

Real's Rudiger undergoes knee surgery

MADRID: Real Madrid defender Antonio Rudiger faces a long spell on the sidelines after having knee surgery on Monday.

Rudiger was forced off in extra time on Saturday as Real lost the Copa del Rey final to Barcelona and was later diagnosed with a partial tear of the external meniscus in his left knee.

Real did not give a timescale for his recovery but Spanish media reports say he could be out for between six and eight weeks, which would rule him out of the rest of the domestic season. - Agencies

HUNGER-FREE WORLD INITIATIVE



Malabar Group to provide 10,000 meals daily to students in Zambia

DUBAI: In a major stride towards combating global hunger and food insecurity, Malabar Group has officially launched its groundbreaking Hunger-Free World initiative in Zambia.

The initiative was unveiled by the Douglas Syakalima, Zambia's Minister of Education at an event held at John Laing Primary School in Lusaka. Abdul Salam K.P, Vice-Chairman of Malabar Group; Gerry Muuka, Zambia Consul General for Dubai; Duncan Mulima, Ambassador of Zambia to KSA; Arif Saeed, Deputy High Commissioner, Indian High Commission in Zambia, other government & school officials, students & well-wishers were in attendance.

This extension is part of Malabar Group's commitment—announced last year during an event at the Malabar International Hub in Dubai—to contribute USD 1 Million in the next 3 years towards providing nutritious mid-day meals to school students in Zambia. With the launch of the program, Malabar Group will now provide 10,000 meals daily across John Laing Primary School, Chingwele Primary School, and Mambilima Primary School in Zambia.

"Malabar Group has always been at the forefront of social welfare initiatives aimed at uplifting society. Through our

Hunger-Free World initiative, we provide meals to thousands of underprivileged individuals in India—a feat we take immense pride in. Over the past year, our ESG wing has been working relentlessly on ground in Zambia to bring this project to fruition and I am confident that our efforts will yield a positive outcome to the students and the future of Zambia. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the President, Hakainde Hichilema; Vice President, Mutale Nalumango and the entire Zambian government for their staunch backing of this transformative initiative", commented M.P Ahammed, Chairman of Malabar Group.

"The launch of the Hunger Free world initiative in Zambia is a remarkable initiative by Malabar Group and represents a powerful collaboration between the government, private sector and the community to improve the lives of children. Quality education is the cornerstone of a child's development and through this school feeding program, we are not only providing nutritious meals but a conducive environment where children can grow & thrive. On behalf of Zambia, I extend heartfelt gratitude to Malabar Group for their generosity and commitment to our children's future", commented Douglas Syakalima, Minister of Education, Government of Zambia.

State-of-art educational studio inaugurated

This pioneering initiative is part of a strategic vision aimed at revolutionising digital medical education across Oman, in a milestone that represents the convergence of industry and academia, innovation and social responsibility

MUSCAT: Sohar Aluminium and the University Medical City celebrated the inauguration of a state-of-the-art educational studio at the Department of Training and Continuing Professional Development at Sultan Qaboos University Hospital.

This pioneering initiative is part of a strategic vision aimed at revolutionising digital medical education across Oman, in a milestone that represents the convergence of industry and academia, innovation and social responsibility.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Al Muthirbin Mohammed Al Kharusi, Board Member of Sohar Aluminium, Eng. Said bin Mohammed AlMasoudi, CEO of Sohar Aluminium, Dr. Siham bint Salem AlSinaniyah, Executive President at the University Medical City, and Sayyid Dr. Mujahid bin Rafi AlBusaidi, Director Gen-



eral of Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, along with other officials from both organisations.

The studio is a fully equipped, cutting-edge facility featuring the latest in video, photography, and audio recording technology. Funded by Sohar Aluminium, this visionary project establishes an exclusive digital platform designed to empower healthcare professionals with enhanced training opportunities in an advanced educational environment.

The studio aims to transform scientific content into interactive, innovative media and deliver flexible training programmes that support distance learning. It will also host both live and recorded scientific seminars, foster research-based and hands-on experience, and integrate simulation and virtual reality technologies into training modules. These efforts will provide healthcare practitioners with modern tools to elevate the quality of care and improve healthcare outcomes in Oman.

Additionally, the studio offers real-time performance assessment tools, enabling immediate feedback and continuous improvement. By bridging academic train-

ing with practical application, it ensures healthcare professionals are informed of the latest best practices within their fields, translating their knowledge directly into improved patient care.

Commenting on this project, Eng. Said bin Mohammed AlMasoudi, CEO of Sohar Aluminium stated: "At Sohar Aluminium, we firmly believe that people are our most valuable asset, and that investing in people is the highest form of investment. That is why we chose to be part of this inspiring educational journey, because building a better future begins with supporting every idea, every healing hand, and every learning mind."

Al Masoudi added: "This project is not only an investment in technology, but also a true investment in a brighter future. It exemplifies our unwavering commitment to social responsibility and transforms vision into tangible reality that benefits the nation and society at large."

Dr. Siham AlSinaniyah, Executive President of the University Medical City, commented: "This studio was never intended to be just a facility; it is a dynamic educational lab that redefines training and teaching methods. It enhances

direct interaction between trainers and trainees, creating a flexible, evolving, and deeply impactful learning experience. It is where technology meets medicine, paving the way for a digital learning journey that keeps pace with global advancements and effectively serves the future of healthcare in Oman."

She added: "We highly value Sohar Aluminium's strong belief in the importance of investing in people and knowledge. This studio marks a turning point in the production and delivery of high-quality digital training and educational content that befits the stature of the University Medical City.

This groundbreaking studio exemplifies Sohar Aluminium's commitment to supporting innovation and human development. Through their funding, they have not only provided cutting-edge technology, but have actively contributed to enhancing the efficiency of healthcare professionals and elevating the standard of healthcare services in the Sultanate. It stands as a testament to how industry can be a vital partner in shaping a promising future, where creativity meets technology, and ambition finds opportunity.



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ROUND-UP

BankDhofar fixed deposit account: A secure and high-return investment

With the flexibility to invest in a range of currencies and for varying time periods - from 1 to 60 months - the account provides customers with the opportunity to secure their financial future, while enjoying attractive interest rates in comparison to regular savings accounts

MUSCAT: Underscoring the importance of securing one's future in today's dynamic financial landscape, BankDhofar reaffirms its commitment to providing a strong foundation of financial security through the Fixed Deposit Account. This account is the perfect solution for those seeking higher returns with guaranteed security.

With the flexibility to invest in a range of currencies and for varying time periods - from 1 to 60 months - the account provides customers with the opportunity to secure their financial future, while enjoying attractive interest rates in comparison to regular savings accounts.

For added convenience, the Fixed Deposit Account offers an auto-renewal facility, allowing customers to seamlessly continue their investment beyond the initial tenure. Those who need access to funds before maturity can also avail themselves of a credit facility by using their fixed deposit as collateral. The account is available in multiple currencies, including US Dollars, Euros, British Pounds, Swiss Francs and Australian Dollars, in addition to Omani rials, providing flexibility for both local and international investors.

Commenting on the account Amjad Iqbal Hassan Al Lawati, Chief Retail Banking Officer at



BankDhofar representative stated, "Our Fixed Deposit Account continues to be a trusted option for customers looking to secure their savings and earn higher returns. We strive to provide safe, flexible, and rewarding financial solutions that meet the needs of both local and international investors. We

are committed to helping our customers grow their wealth while offering them peace of mind through guaranteed returns."

Opening a BankDhofar Fixed Deposit Account is quick and easy. Eligible customers - Omani nationals and expatriates residing in the country - can open an ac-

count in under a minute through the BankDhofar mobile app. The account holder must be aged 18 or above, and able to make a minimum deposit of RO 1,000. The interest rate, based on prevailing market conditions, remains fixed throughout the deposit's tenure, unless the deposit is prematurely withdrawn. In case of early withdrawal, a penalty of 1 percent will apply, and customers will earn interest only for the duration the deposit was maintained at the prevailing market rate.

With a strong focus on growth, innovation, and customer satisfaction, BankDhofar achieved a net profit increase of 12.5% in 2024, reaching OMR 43.6 million compared to OMR 38.7 million in 2023. The bank continues to lead in digital transformation, being one of the first in Oman to introduce Apple Pay and Samsung Pay.

Its commitment to modernization is further reflected in the deployment of wholesale cash deposit machines and the launch of Easy Biz, a digital collection and settlement platform. Additionally, BankDhofar continues to make significant strides in cybersecurity, reinforcing its dedication to safeguarding customer transactions and data.

BankDhofar remains committed to providing a comprehensive range of banking solutions tailored to all segments of society, including Ladies, youth, minors, children's, and high-net worth customers. With a network of 131 branches across Oman including Dhofar Isalmic, the bank ensures accessibility and superior service for its diverse clientele.

INTERACTIVE PLATFORM



Sohar International participates as strategic partner at Advantage Oman Forum 2025

MUSCAT: Reaffirming its position as a catalyst for national progress and sustainable economic transformation, Sohar International participated as the Strategic Partner of the Advantage Oman Forum 2025 - an exclusive, high-level gathering held recently at the St. Regis Al Mouj Resort in Muscat.

The two-day event was graced by the presence of His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, and was organized by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion in collaboration with Invest Oman. The opening ceremony was attended by Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Mursihidi, Chief Executive Officer of Sohar International, along with other members of the bank's executive management team - further emphasizing the bank's leadership presence and strategic involvement in national initiatives.

Bringing together over 250 prominent figures, including senior officials, decision-makers, and regional and international investors, the forum underscored Oman's position as a promising investment destination. It convened a distinguished cohort of senior government representatives, global investors, and influential business leaders to explore Oman's dynamically evolving investment landscape and examine the global mega trends shaping the nation's future economic trajectory. By aligning with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, Sohar International underscores its commitment to advancing Oman's strategic vision and enhancing the country's global investment appeal.

Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Mursihidi, Chief Executive Officer of Sohar International remarked, "Our involvement in the Advantage Oman Forum reflects Sohar

International's deep-rooted belief in the power of strategic dialogue to influence real-world outcomes. While capital mobilizes projects, it is foresight, knowledge exchange, and collaborative ambition that turn visions into impact. These forums serve as catalysts for precisely that—bringing together change-makers, innovators, and decision-makers who are reimagining what's possible for Oman and the wider region. At Sohar International, we view our role not just as financial facilitators, but as active partners in the nation's economic evolution—championing fresh perspectives, incubating bold ideas, and creating the conditions for sustained, inclusive growth."

As part of its participation at the forum, Sohar International hosted a dedicated stall, offering an interactive platform to engage with stakeholders, investors, and delegates on the bank's latest initiatives, financial solutions, and strategic vision. Adding further depth to the bank's involvement, Abbas Al Lawati, Executive Vice President - Investment Banking, FIG, and International Operations at Sohar International, delivered a presentation titled "Banking Beyond Lending" highlighting how the banking model is evolving from basic transactional services to globally integrated, tech-driven solutions - a shift that enables banks to diversify offerings, boost efficiency, and drive sustainable growth.

As Oman continues to amplify its global investment appeal through world-class infrastructure, investor-friendly regulations, and a progressive development policy, Sohar International remains steadfast in supporting the nation's ambitions, advancing opportunities that create shared value for people, partners, and the economy at large.

HEALTHCARE

Aster DM recognised as 'Great Place To Work in Oman and other GCC countries'

MUSCAT: Aster DM Healthcare, one of the largest integrated healthcare providers in the GCC, has been certified as a Great Place to Work® in the Middle East - including the Sultanate of Oman, UAE, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Qatar. This recognition reflects Aster's commitment to cultivating a workplace culture where employees feel valued, empowered, and proud to contribute to the organization's mission.

Guided by its core values - Passion, Compassion, Integrity, Excellence, Unity, and Respect, Aster DM Healthcare places its people at the heart of its success. Aster's commitment to its brand promise, "We'll Treat You Well," goes beyond patients to include its employees as well. By recognizing their achievements, investing in skill development opportunities, and fostering open communication, Aster has cultivated an inclusive and supportive environment where employees thrive. The organization's culture of listening allows feedback from frontline staff to shape policies and enhance the work environment continuously. With these initiatives, Aster remains steadfast in its dedication to nurturing a work-



place that empowers its people to deliver the best care.

Aster has an employee base of 15,000+ across the GCC, one of the largest in the region here. A total of 76% of Aster's workforce rated the organization as a great place to work. This statistic highlights the strong sense of community and the inclusive, nurturing environment that has been built over the last 38 years. In Oman, the organization has 3 hospitals, 5 clinics, and 5 pharmacies.

Commenting on the recognition, Alisha Moopen, Managing Director & Group CEO, Aster DM Healthcare said, "Our people are our greatest strength, and this

This is just the beginning as we remain committed to nurturing their well-being and empowering their professional journeys."

"Great Place To Work Certification is a highly coveted achievement that requires consistent and intentional dedication to the overall employee experience," says Sarah Lewis-Kulin, the Vice President of Global Recognition at Great Place To Work. She emphasizes that Certification is the sole official recognition earned by the real-time feedback of employees regarding their company culture. "By successfully earning this recognition, it is evident that Aster DM Healthcare stands out as one of the top companies to work for, providing a great workplace environment for its employees."

With a workforce of over 1,100+ in Oman alone, Aster DM Healthcare is united by individuals who embody its mission of providing accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare. The company plans to continue expanding career opportunities for Oman nationals, implementing leadership development initiatives, and supporting local health campaigns aligned with the Sultanate's vision for a healthier future.

MILESTONE

Sayarti awarded ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certification under United Kingdom Accreditation Services

MUSCAT: Sayarti Rental, a key division within the Mobility & Equipment Sector of The Zubair Corporation and a leader in Oman's transportation and equipment rental industry, has been awarded the prestigious ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System Certification by United Registrar of Systems (URS), an internationally accredited certification body. This milestone underscores Sayarti's unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality services in line with global best practices.

The official certification ceremony took place at The Zubair Corporation's headquarters in Azaiba, where Aziz Sulaiyam Al Rahbi, Marketing Manager at Sayarti, received the certificate on behalf of the company from Mr. Bashir Al Salem, General Manager of URS. The event was attended by senior executives from The Zubair Corporation and The Zubair Automotive Group.

Commenting on the achievement, Aziz Sulaiyam Al Rahbi stated: "We are proud to have earned the ISO 9001:2015 certification, which reflects our team's collective dedication to service excel-



lence, customer satisfaction, and maintaining a professional and safe working environment. This accomplishment is a direct result of the culture of innovation and continuous improvement that Sayarti Leasing and Used Car Sales embraces across all its operations."

He added, "Receiving this prestigious certification, alongside being recognised among the 'Most Powerful Brands in Leasing and Car Sales 2025,' affirms the quality and diversity of our offerings. We remain committed to provid-

ing vehicles that meet the stringent standards set by the Oman Society for Petroleum Services (OPAL), while continuing to expand our fleet to meet the evolving needs of individuals, businesses, and the oil and gas sector."

Basheer Al Salem, Managing Director of URS, remarked, "Awarding Sayarti the ISO 9001:2015 certification is a testament to the company's excellence in managing service quality. Sayarti has shown a strong capability to implement an effective

management system that drives performance improvement and sustainability. We commend their dedication to delivering innovative, internationally compliant transportation solutions that enhance customer experiences."

He further noted, "Since its establishment, Sayarti has solidified its reputation as a leading player in Oman's vehicle leasing and sales sector. Today, the company continues to advance its leadership by fostering innovation, maintaining high standards of quality, and building lasting trust with customers across multiple industries."

Established in 1992 as Al Zubair Leasing, Sayarti has grown into a premier provider of vehicle rental and used car sales services in the Sultanate. Its commitment to aligning with international standards and best practices, including compliance with Oman Energy Association (OPAL) requirements, continues to strengthen its market leadership. Focused on customer satisfaction, operational excellence, and innovation, Sayarti remains dedicated to offering high-quality transportation solutions that cater to the diverse needs of individuals and organisations alike.



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