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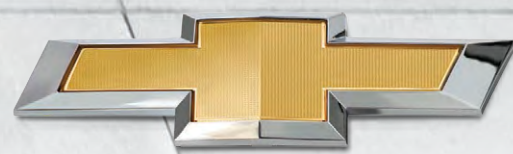


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ROYAL DIRECTIVES



Loan repayment terms of pensioners amended

MUSCAT: With the blessings of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the Central Bank of Oman on Tuesday launched a programme amending terms for the repayment of loans and personal finances granted to retirees from the public and private sectors.

This came in a statement issued by the Private Office reading as follows:

“With the blessings of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and, in implementation of Royal directives to consider the financial conditions undergone by public and private sector retirees, the Central Bank of Oman has launched the ‘Programme of Amending Terms for the Repayment of Loans and Personal Finances Granted to Public and Private Sector Retirees’. The programme is launched in co-operation with the banking sector represented by Oman Banks

Association and in coordination with the Capital Market Authority where it pertains to the insurance sector. The programme will be applied to loans and personal and housing finances granted to retired employees according to the following terms:

1. The maximum loan deduction service must not exceed 30 percent of the monthly pension if it is equal to or less than OMR1,500. If it is more than OMR1,500 the maximum ceiling of deduction must be not more than 35 percent. A retiree may agree with the bank about a greater percentage of deduction service provided the percentage must not exceed 50 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively, of the monthly pension in case of personal and housing loans as stated in previous circulars issued with regard to deduction percentages.

>A3

VAT will help the country fund its development and welfare expenses

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Economic analysts in Oman have welcomed the decision to impose Value Added Tax (VAT) in the Sultanate, as it will provide a permanent, reliable revenue stream for the government to maintain and develop infrastructure to benefit the people and economy.

The arrival of VAT was done through Royal Decree No. 121/2020, which concerns the promulgation of the Value Added Tax Law, which is to be published in the Official Gazette and enforced 180 days after its date of publication.

Bringing in VAT will help provide the country with the funds it needs to expand its economy and provide help to those who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, said Dr Mohammed Al Wardi, an economic analyst in Oman.



“This is a critical time for Oman’s public and private sector, because of the coronavirus, and the decline in oil prices, which has affected spending capabilities,” he said. “This tax is imposed on every stage of the manufacturing and procurement process for a company, but it is not cumulative, so the consumer will only pay the final five percent of the tax rate.

“Manufacturers and merchants will be compensated for the tax for their goods they paid as VAT to their suppliers, also called input tax,” added Al Wardi. “For ex-

ample, to make a bed, a carpenter will buy wood from a supplier, and pay five percent tax on it. When he sells this bed, the customer will pay him five percent VAT, which he will then send to the government, who will compensate him for the tax he pays to the agent.”

Plans to introduce VAT came after the signing of the Unified VAT Agreement which was agreed upon by Oman and the other five members of the GCC: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Kuwait. The agreement acts as a basis for domestic

rules regarding VAT. However, small-scale enterprises will not be immediately affected by it.

“VAT will help supply the state treasury to meet its deficit and debt obligations, help diversify Oman’s income away from oil, and strengthen the Sultanate’s competitiveness levels and raise its sovereign rating,” said Al Wardi.

“This will also lead to reduction of unnecessary domestic consumption and a focus on exports, as these are not taxed under VAT.”

>A2

HEALTH

Lifestyle disease, COVID - a worrying combination

SHEIKHA ALMAQHOUSI
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MUSCAT: A healthy diet and regular exercise are very important during the COVID-19 pandemic to stop the spread of lifestyle diseases, particularly among people with chronic ailments, the Ministry of Health has said.

Dr Shatha Al Raisi, the head of the Non Communicable Diseases Department at the Ministry of Health, said that those who don’t currently have lifestyle diseases could suffer from them if they do not follow proper diet and exercise. According to ministry figures, 15 per cent of Oman’s population report diabetes, while two-thirds of the country are said to have elevated blood pressure levels. 30 per cent are obese, while 35 per cent are overweight.

“We know non-communicable diseases are very common in Oman and around the world,” she told the *Times of Oman*. “With the COVID-19 pandemic, patients



suffering from non-communicable diseases are affected in terms of the disruption of medical services provided to them, and it only gets worse if they are infected with the coronavirus.”

“The strict regulations on movement during the pandemic, as well as reduction of time spent going out, means that people will have less physical activity, which is very important in people with chronic lifestyle diseases,” added Al Raisi.

“It is not easy to follow health diets all the time, so these factors expose them to more complications, while those who do not have chronic ailments could become more vulnerable to them.”

To spread awareness of the importance of sticking to a healthy lifestyle to reduce the onset of non-communicable diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and increased blood pressure, as well as the complications caused to one’s health because of them, the ministry, represented by the Non Communicable Diseases Department, has launched a campaign with global pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca, called ‘Hematuk Maana’ which in Arabic means ‘your protection is with us’.

The main focus of this campaign is to spread awareness among people, regarding managing their own non-communicable diseases, and to know more about the services available to them, as well as the treatment plan they are required to follow.

>A2

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

The national junior football team will continue its internal camp at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Bausher until October 24, as part of its preparations for the AFC Asian Cup to be held in Bahrain in November and December, and for the 2021 World Cup in Peru. —ONA



TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Dar Al Atta’a hands over new houses

1 Dar Al Atta’a Association has handed over three new houses worth OMR90,900 under its “Maskani; Ma’amani” (My Home is My Haven) programme. >A4

WORLD Senate hearings on Trump SC nominee

2 The Senate began hearing on Donald Trump’s Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett, tapped to replace late justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. >A6

MARKET Treasury bills worth OMR57mn issued

3 Oman’s central bank raised yesterday OMR57 million through 28-day maturity treasury bills. >B1

2016-2020

Oman re-exported goods worth over OMR8 billion

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The value of goods re-exported from Oman amounted to more than OMR8 billion between 2016 and the first half of 2020, according to government figures.

The NCST’s annual yearbook for 2020 shows that re-exports in Oman accounted for OMR2.05 billion in 2016, OMR2.1 billion in 2017, OMR1.8 billion in 2018, and OMR1.46 billion in 2019. As of June 2020, the value of goods re-exported this year stood at OMR741.2 million, and developments are already underway to expand Oman’s

ports in anticipation of increased trade over the coming years.

On October 10, ASYAD Group launched the first shipping lines from the ports in Salalah, Duqm and Sohar to Umm Qasr in Iraq, to operate on a weekly basis.

New prospects

“The newly introduced direct line not only will increase the volume of intra-regional trade, but it will also open up new investment prospects between Oman and Iraq,” said a statement from the company. “In addition to enhancing both countries’ re-export capa-



bilities, the new direct operations between Oman ports and Umm Qasr Port will provide various options to businessmen, exporters, importers, and shipping agents for exporting Omani products and importing Iraqi commodities.”

Expansion plans at the Port of Duqm, which will be expected to handle high volumes of cargo, owing to regional developments to make Duqm a hub for Oman’s non-oil economy, include expanding the built-up area of the port to 10,000 square metres, and adding more telecom infrastructure to meet the demands of shipping activity expected to take place in the future.

“Oman Towers Company and the Port of Duqm Company have signed an exclusive agreement to rollout telecom tower infrastructure for mobile operators within the port

concession land,” said a statement from the port management.

Deals have also been signed to process the export and import of fish and related products at Port of Duqm. The first shipment of fish oil from the port was recently sent to Antwerp in Belgium. A few months ago, Duqm also began berthing cargo ships from one of the largest shipping companies in the world.

“It’s a proud and landmark moment for Port of Duqm to receive the first container of COSCO Shipping Line, the world’s fourth largest container operator,” said the

company. “With this milestone achievement, Port of Duqm is now served by the top four shipping lines: MSC, CMACGM, COSCO and Hapag Lloyd.”

Goods most commonly re-exported from Oman are livestock, animal products, fruits and vegetables, edible oils, pre-packaged foods, minerals, chemicals, beverages, tobacco substitutes, items made from rubber, raw hides, goods made from leather and fur, handbags, wood products, clothing, construction materials, jewels and precious stones, and vehicle and aircraft engine parts. >A2



OMAN



PRAYER TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....11:58pm
Asr.....3:18pm
Maghrib.....5:47pm
Isha.....6:57pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....4:48am

#50GoldenYears



Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress

All you need to know about the VAT coming to the Sultanate

VAT rates applied in the Sultanate are among the lowest in the world. With this tax being applied across more than 160 countries, global rates range between five and 27 percent



POSITIVE IMPACT: The application of VAT will have a positive impact on economic and social development and the international competitiveness levels of the Sultanate.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Value Added Tax (VAT) is expected to come into Oman six months from now, as a method for the government to increase its source of income during these testing times, and diversify its revenue streams away from hydrocarbons.

To shed light on how VAT will be enacted in the country, and its effect on business and people, answers have been provided to a wide range of questions they are likely to have, ahead of its enactment, by Oman's Government Communications Centre.

What is Value Added Tax?
VAT is a tax on consumption applied at a basic rate of five percent, to be imposed on goods and services in the Sultanate. It will also be imposed on goods imported into the Sultanate, with specific ex-

emptions provided in the relevant laws and regulations.

This is considered an indirect tax, with the amount taxed to be borne by the final consumer, while taxable businesses must collect and calculate this tax and hand it over to the relevant authorities.

What is the expected impact of VAT on the Sultanate?
VAT rates applied in the Sultanate are among the lowest in the world. With this tax being applied across more than 160 countries, global rates range between five and 27 percent.

The application of VAT will have a positive impact on economic and social development and the international competitiveness levels of the Sultanate, while strengthening its financial position, which

will help contribute to building a sustainable economy, as the tax collected will provide additional financial resources for the state that will enable it to improve public services, and help with continued development of infrastructure in the future.

Value Added Tax will provide an additional resource for the state's public finances that ensure the sustainability and quality of public services, and will also support the achievement of the Sultanate's goals to reduce dependence on oil and other hydrocarbon products as the main sources of its revenue. It will also improve consumer and purchasing patterns of individuals.

Revenues from Value Added Tax will generate more stable and predictable tax income during

both good and difficult economic conditions. The tax is considered an effective form of funds, due to the low costs of administering and collecting it.

What roles does the business sector play with regard to taxation?
The business sector will act as a tax collector in the Sultanate and will bear only the costs of imposing, collecting and claiming value-added tax, and complying with tax obligations under the law and regulations, and the business sector must take several measures.

Firstly, they must register for VAT, and secondly, they must maintain and run an effective accounting and billing system and maintain accurate accounting records relating to value-added tax.

What does Value Added Tax mean for consumers?
Registered establishments are to impose this tax on the taxable goods and services they provide. Therefore, the tax will be borne by the consumer who receives these goods or services, and the basic tax rate of five percent will be applied to most goods and services. A wide list of goods and services that are not included in the tax will be specified, in accordance with the law and regulation.

Here is how VAT is calculated. If the price of a product you want to buy is OMR5 without tax, then the Value Added Tax that will be charged is equal to 250 baisas (5 into 5% = 0.250 OMR). This means that the final price of the product is OMR 5.250 with tax.

What items are exempt from taxation under value added tax?
Basic food commodities, goods and services related to medical care, goods and services pertaining to education, and items used by people with disabilities are all exempt from tax. Furthermore, there will be no VAT added to sales deals involving residential real estate and vacant, undeveloped land.

and natural gas, will also not need to pay VAT.

Will the tax raise the cost of living?
It is expected that the impact of the VAT on the cost of living will be limited, especially as the rate that will be applied in the Sultanate is considered low when compared with those applied in other countries around the world.

This means that the impact of this tax on the prices of goods and services will be limited. It should also be noted that the sectors of healthcare, education, financial services and basic foodstuffs will not be covered by value-added tax.

How will it be ensured that the tax is not used as an excuse to raise prices?
The Value Added Tax will be applied according to regulations and controls through which businesses must clarify the amount of value-added tax the consumer will bear for each good and service at the outlet, and provide the necessary information that helps the consumer to choose the appropriate goods and services. This tax rate is also recorded in the establishment's invoice according to the regulations that control VAT in the country.

Will VAT affect visitors and tourists coming to the Sultanate?
Visitors and tourists will be responsible for VAT on their taxable purchases, and will be entitled to a refund of the tax according to certain conditions that will be specified in the regulations, including the type of goods eligible for refunds, and the minimum refundable value for them.

TAXATION

RISK FACTORS

< FROM A1 VAT in Oman among lowest in world

Dr Syed Mujahid Hussain, the head of the Department of Economics and Finance at the College of Economics and Political Science at Sultan Qaboos University, said the rate of VAT in Oman was among the lowest in the world, and would not affect the cost of living among people all that much.

"I used to previously live in Europe, where the VAT attached to companies was as high as 30 percent, so compared to that, five percent is very little," he said.

"Western countries fund a lot of their public services through taxation, such as income tax, corporate tax, and value-added

tax, so Oman and the other GCC countries are also looking to fund their works through this mode of taxation."

According to Oman's Tax Authority, Oman's VAT rate is at par with the United Arab Emirates, and significantly lower than the tax rates levied in Australia (10 per cent), Egypt (14 per cent), Turkey (18 per cent), Germany (19 per cent), France, and the UK (both 20 per cent).

"VAT is not a direct source of income in that it will be put into the economy, but it will be used by the government to fund their services and their programmes, some of which will be used for so-

cial and economic development," added Hussain. "This might affect people's spending habits a bit, because some of them will feel the pinch VAT puts on them, but even then, it is far lower than it is in other countries, so the impact felt won't be that high.

"What this will do is provide the government a steady and guaranteed stream of income," he said.

GCC countries
"This will decrease their dependence on revenue made from economic exports. Many of the GCC countries receive their primary source of income through the export of fossil fuels such as oil and

gas, so this provides one of many possible alternative revenue streams."

Adding to this, Dr Haider Al Lawati, an economic researcher, said, "In introducing VAT, the Gulf countries have shown that they are indeed keen on diversifying their economies away from oil and gas, with the wealth generated from citizens and residents being a key source of income.

"Additional taxes will help budgets of these countries centre not just around the products they create, which are primarily related to oil and gas, but on the wealth generated by people within the country as well."

< FROM A1 Lifestyle disease

For example, "patients with diabetes need to make sure they check their blood sugar regularly, hypertension patients and those who have blood pressure need to know how to manage this and control it, and there are similar procedures for those suffering from asthma," explained Al Raisi.

She added that there were risk factors that contributed to people suffering from lifestyle disease, saying, "Before 2017, which is the last year for which we have information, the number of people with diabetes increased from 14 per cent in 2008, to 15.7 per cent in 2017.

"Hypertension levels were at 32.3 per cent among Omanis and

expatriates, and every year, we record more than 2,000 incidents of cancer. We know that 15 per cent of men in Oman use tobacco, 30 per cent of the population is obese, and 35 per cent of people are overweight. Our campaign is not focused on just patients alone, but we aim to target everyone in the community," explained Al Raisi.

Medication
"We want everyone in the community to know that all of us have a role to play here. Everyone has to put in the effort required, so that we can help ourselves and others control these disease. Medication will help, but what will really help more are healthy habits."

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SHIPMENTS

< FROM A1 Ports enhance food security and facilitate export/import

Significant changes have also been witnessed at other ports in the country. Sohar Port, for example, will now handle wheat shipments used for production of goods by companies such as Sohar Flour Mills, as part of Oman expanding its manufacturing capabilities.

"Sohar Port, through C. Steinweg Oman LLC, which operates the general cargo terminal, harnesses all capabilities and logistical solutions to facilitate direct import," said Hendrik Van Mierop, the company's CEO.

"This comes within the framework of enhancing food security in the Sultanate and facilitating easier movement of imports and exports."

Raed bin Mohammed Al-Rabaei, CEO of Sohar Flour Mills, added, "The company aims to support the relentless efforts taken by the government to enhance food security in the Sultanate by supplying the local and global market with wheat products. Sohar Port, as a logistical centre for many international shipping lines, provides the appropriate means to import wheat grains directly from countries of origin."

Down south, in the Governorate of Dhofar, the Port of Salalah witnessed a 13 per cent increase in container handling during the first half of 2020.

Volumes of goods handled by ports are often measured in

TEUs (twenty foot equivalents), which refer to the storage capacity of shipping containers. In the first half of 2020, the Port of Salalah handled 2.199 million TEUs, compared to 1.94 million during the same period for the previous year.

Mark Hardiman, the CEO of Port of Salalah commented, "The new situation due to COVID-19 provides opportunities to enhance Salalah's overall value proposition to both the shipping lines and supply chain providers. We are working closely with our partners to not only provide new services via Salalah but also develop innovative solutions which adds to the flexibility of the port and resilience of the

supply chain during this time of global changes."

Oman's biggest re-export partners in 2019 were the United Arab Emirates, which accounted for OMR430 million worth of goods, Qatar (OMR325 million), Iran (OMR216 million), the US (OMR46.5 million), and the UK (OMR45.9 million).

Yemen (OMR101.5 million) and Pakistan (OMR100 million) were among the top five of the Sultanate's re-export partners in 2018 and 2017, while Saudi Arabia (OMR158 million), China (OMR189 million) and Iraq (OMR259 million) were some of the major countries to which Oman re-exported goods in 2016.

ENVIRONMENT

The committee also reviewed the final vision of the programme's introductory workshop and the media plan that aims to familiarise the community about the phenomenon of harmful marine algae blooms. -ONA

CBO

< FROM

A1 Repayment of loans

2. Licensed banks may extend the period of repayment of loans/finances till the retiree reaches the age of 70 years. When extending the period of repayment, the banks must take into account the maximum approved percentage/limit for postponement provided that should not exceed two premiums per year, so that the postponement of premiums (during periods of Eids) would not lead to the extension of the period of repayment beyond the age of 70 years (for the retiree).

3. In case the licensed banks would not be able to get a repayment of the due balance of the loan/personal finance before the retiree reaches the age of 70 years, the banks may deduct a down payment (free of early payment fees) of not more than 25 percent of the sum of end of service gratuity if the monthly pension is equal to or less than OMR1,500 or 35 percent of the sum of end of service gratuity if the monthly pension is more than OMR1,500. The banks may deduct more than 25 per cent or 35 per cent (respectively), if this is the wish of the retiree provided he/she submits an application to this effect.

Therefore, to help alleviate financial burdens of retirees, the banks must not make an increase over the agreed interest or profit rate. Also, for the sake of transparency, the retiree must be notified beforehand about the terms and conditions and supplied with



a copy of the agreed schedule of premiums.”

The Central Bank of Oman is honoured to express thanks and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik for his Royal directives to consider the financial conditions of public and private sector retirees.

The CBO also values the valuable efforts of all banks in the Sultanate and Oman Banks Association for their continuous cooperation in serving the public interest. The CBO also values the positive role of the Capital Market Authority and the insurance sector for their prompt response and willingness to provide suitable insurance products for such initiatives.

May the Almighty Allah protect His Majesty the Sultan, guard him as a source of inspiration for this dear nation and eternalise on the bounty of prosperity on Oman and all those who live on its land under the wise leadership of His Majesty the Sultan.

-ONA

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DAR AL ATTA'A HANDS OVER THREE NEW HOUSES WORTH OMR 90,900



Dar Al Atta'a Association has handed over three new houses worth OMR90,900 under "Maskani; Ma'amani" (My Home is My Haven) programme to the needy families.

Through this programme, Dar Al Atta'a provides for the construction, maintenance and renovation of houses, monthly payments, and payment of water and electricity charges, etc.

The first house was built in the wilayat of Al Amerat and financed by Ms Ishraqa Khimji Ramdas for a family comprising seven members with all sons and daughters being minors.

The second house was purchased in the wilayat of Al Amerat for a family comprising eight members, with all sons and daughters being minors as well.

The third house was built in co-operation with the Amalahum Al Wahid (Their Only Hope) Campaign launched in 2019 by a group of Omani youth, at Al Jafnain in the wilayat of Seeb for a needy family of eleven members with the majority of sons and daughters as minors.

Dar Al Atta'a Association adopts the programme for construction and maintenance of houses as part of its belief that housing is the key to safety and security for individuals and families.

The association has so far repaired over 500 houses.

"The Family Welfare Programme of Dar Al Atta'a is one of the significant programmes aimed to ensure stability of families by providing new houses and renovation of old ones," the chairperson of Dar Al Atta'a Association, Maryam bint Isa Al Zedjali said.

She added that since its establishment Dar Al Atta'a has offered support to the needy families and responded to their needs.





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VIDEOCONFERENCING

Oman attends WBG, IMF annual meetings

MUSCAT: The Sultanate, represented by the Ministry of Finance, is taking part in the joint annual meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), currently being held via videoconferencing and run till October 18.

The Sultanate is represented in the meetings by Nasser bin Khamis Al Jashmi, Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance.

Report discussed

The meetings discuss a report of the World Bank and IMF on the latest developments about the global financial and economic status and the mechanism to respond to COVID-19 outbreak, as well as the initiatives proposed to improve the global economy.

The meetings also address prospects of development in the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) region. Bilateral meetings are held to discuss issues of common concern. — OMA

COOPERATION PROGRAMME



AQUACULTURE SECTOR: The agreement was signed by Eng. Yaqoub bin Khalfan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources for Fisheries, and Dr Tim Green, CEO of the Centre. — OMA

Pact signed for sustainability of pisciculture projects in Oman

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MAFWR) signed a cooperation agreement with the British Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science.

The agreement aims at establishing a health management system for cultured organisms and ensuring the sustainability of pisciculture projects in the Sultanate. The agreement was signed by Eng. Yaqoub bin Khalfan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources for Fisheries, and Dr Tim Green, CEO of the Centre.

The cooperation programme aims to set up an effective and organised system for managing the health of cultured organisms and to ensure the sustainability of pisciculture projects in the Sultanate.

The programme includes researchers training that provides them with technical skills to meet the needs of the aquaculture sector, including aquaculture health, risk analysis and management, in addition to managing aquaculture data and link it to international standards for pisciculture and fisheries. — OMA



MUSCAT MUNICIPALITY

Advertisement No. (47 /2020)

Companies specialized in the field and registered with Tender Board, may obtain tenders documents for the website through the following link: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) against non-refundable fees as mentioned below starting from the date of this announcement and until the end of deadline stipulated abelow.

Tender No	E- Tender	Description of Tender	Tender Fee	Last date to collect the tender	Tender return date	Grade
PRE/20/091	2020/MM/QS-44	Supply of Traffic Signs for Roads Maintenance 2021-2022 (E- Tender)	Rial 25	12/11/2020	22/11/2020	Specialized
PRE/20/092	2020/MM/QS-45	Supply of Road Marking Materials for Road Maintenance 2020 (E- Tender)	Rial 25	12/11/2020	22/11/2020	First

Tender Conditions :-

- Bidders shall submit their offers electronically accompanied with an electronic copy of a bond issued by any local bank in Oman addressed to Muscat municipality. The bond shall be (1%) of the tender value valid for ninety (90) days starting from the date of bids submission. Any tenders which do not meet the required bond shall not be accepted.
- Original Tender Bonds are to be placed in the Tender Box at Muscat Municipality HQ, Ground Floor at the reception .
- For any inquiries regarding tenders, please visit e-tendering website: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) .
- For technical support of e-tendering system please send an email to (etenderhd@ita.gov.om) or call (+96824166670).



Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Defence invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in the following tender:

Subject	Tender Number	Last Date for Inquiry	Last Date to Obtain Tender	Tender Document Price per copy (RO)
THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR STRUCTURED CABLING TO CENTRALIZED INTERNET MAM	32/2020	17/11/2020	24/11/2020	168 RO
THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR STRUCTURED CABLING TO CENTRALIZED INTERNET WUDAM	37/2020	17/11/2020	24/11/2020	47 RO

- Tenders documents and terms may be obtained on payment from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, gate No. 14 of MAM Camp between 0900 to 1300 hrs on the working days.
- Payment of Tender documents to be made by using of any Visa Electron Cards or "Visa credit" Cards or through Smart Card issued from all the banks are operated in Oman.



SULTANATE OF OMAN

TENDERS NOTICE

The Ministry of Agricultural, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources Announces the following Tenders :-

Tender no.	Description	Tender documents price (R.O)	Class	Last date for collection of documents	Last date for Submission of documents
483/2020-48	Cleaning and servicing the building of General directorate of agricultural and animal research, animal health center and plant health center (Rumais)	25/-	Specialized	Wednesday 14/10/2020	Wednesday 28/10/2020
484/2020-49	Management, operation and maintenance of internal government research farms	25/-	Specialized	Thursday 15/10/2020	Wednesday 28/10/2020
508/2020-50	The Development of the fishermen marina in Khor Al Hajar (Ras Al Hadd) at Sur in south-Sharkiyah governorate	25/-	Excellent	Sunday 1/11/2020	Sunday 22/11/2020
516/2020-51	Cleaning works for the building of Directorate General of Agriculture, Animal Wealth Dhofar Region	25/-	Specialized	Sunday 1/11/2020	Tuesday 10/11/2020

- documents from the E-Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document.
- The value of the document will be paid & submitted on line on given website.
- The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee issued by any bank in the Sultanate of Oman (as required in the tender), and addressed to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources.
- All correspondence pertaining to the tender inquiry must be online at e-tendering System.
- All correspondence pertaining to the e-tendering System technical support must be directed to the following helpdesk email address and **phone number: +968 24166670 or etenderhd@ita.gov.om**
- Note: Bid Submission will be online only. Scan Copy of Tender Bond needs to be attached in system.

TENDERS COMMITTEE
Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries



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US Senate begins hearings for Trump's Supreme Court pick

Prior to the White House COVID-19 outbreak, Republicans had vowed to complete the nomination process before the November 3 election

WASHINGTON: The US Senate began on Monday to consider Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett, who was tapped to replace the late justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. If confirmed, Barrett would receive a lifetime appointment.

The nomination comes just weeks before the US general election, where members of Congress, both House and Senate, and the presidency are on the ballot. It also comes as a wave of COVID-19 infections hit Republicans circles, some of which were traced to the White House ceremony to announce Barrett's nomination.

"I believe Americans of all backgrounds deserve an independent Supreme Court that interprets our Constitution and laws as they are written," Barrett said in her opening statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The committee met in person in Washington, DC, despite fact that one of its members, Senator Mike Lee, had tested positive for coronavirus over a week



SUPREME COURT NOMINATION: The nomination comes just weeks before the US general election, where members of Congress, both House and Senate, and the presidency are on the ballot.

prior to the hearings.

Republican rush to confirm

Although Democrats had demanded a delay to the proceedings, for public health concerns, Republican Chairman Lindsey Graham decided to move ahead with what is the first step of Barrett's nomination.

Prior to the White House COVID-19 outbreak, Republicans had vowed to complete the nomination process before the November 3 election, while they hold a majority in the Senate.

Barrett's confirmation would give the court a 6-3 conservative majority, which critics say could entrench Republican policies or roll back Democratic-led ones for a generation.

Barrett addressed the criticism

head on in her opening statement. "Courts have a vital responsibility to the rule of law, which is critical to a free society. But courts are not designed to solve every problem or right every wrong in our public life," Barrett said.

"The policy decisions and value judgments of government must be made by the political branches, elected by and accountable to the people," she added.

An 'illegitimate' process

Democrats decried hypocrisy by Republicans, who in 2016 refused to consider former president Barack Obama's nominee for the high court, Merrick Garland, arguing that the nomination should wait for a new president to be elected.

Republicans now argue that it is

the current president that should pick the nominee, despite being a month away from the presidential election. Democrats accuse Republicans of wanting to impose a conservative majority in the judiciary, calling the process to nominate Barrett "illegitimate."

"If [senators] vote for Trump and he loses, and then Judge Barrett gets to the Supreme Court, this will be understood as a humiliating moment in the history of the constitution of the United States," US constitutional law scholar Bruce Ackerman told DW. "There is no question that if [Democrat rival presidential candidate Joe] Biden wins, the Supreme Court members will have to really think, do they want to provoke a foundational crisis of the republic?" **DW**

LOCKDOWN RULE



New three-tier COVID-19 alert system introduced in UK

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday announced a new three-level COVID-19 alert system that will be implemented across England, with Liverpool moved to the highest tier as the level being decided according to local infection rates.

Outlining the new strategy, Johnson said it simplifies and standardises local rule by introducing a three-tier system of local COVID-alert levels in England, set at "medium", "high" and "very high".

He said the "medium" alert level, which will cover most part of the country, will consist of the current national measures, including the Rule of Six for people meeting, and the closure of hospitality (bars and restaurants) at 10 p.m. BST (2100 GMT).

The "high" alert level would reflect interventions in many local areas at the moment, primarily aimed at reducing household to household transmission, by preventing all mixing between different households or "support bubbles" indoors.

The "very high" level will apply where transmission rates are rising most rapidly and where the National Health Service (NHS) could soon be under unbearable pressure without further restrictions.

In those areas the government will set a baseline of prohibiting social mixing indoors and in private gardens as well as closing pubs and bars. But retail shops, schools and universities will remain open.

The Liverpool City Region will be placed in the "very high" level from Wednesday, and following talks with local leaders, that gyms, leisure centers, betting shops and casinos will also close, said Johnson.

Local officials will be allowed to impose their own added measures and restrictions, and call for help from the military if needed.

There was immediate reaction in Liverpool where the CEO of the city's Chamber of Commerce, Paul Cherpeau, said businesses across Liverpool were bewildered, frustrated and angry by the new restrictions.

In Liverpool's Beatles quarter musicians gathered for a silent protest as the new coronavirus lockdown restrictions on the city were announced.

Meanwhile, Angela Eagle, Labour MP for Wallasey which is one of the areas to be hit by the Liverpool lockdown, said financial support for those impacted by COVID-19 has been woefully inadequate. **xinhua**

DECLINING TREND

India's COVID-19 tally reaches 7,175,881 with spike of 55,342 cases



NEW DELHI: With a spike of 55,342 new cases and 706 deaths in the last 24 hours, India's COVID-19 count reached 7,175,881 on Tuesday, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).

It is important to note that the rise in COVID-19 cases has been on the decline on a daily basis in the country, while under 70,000 cases were reported yesterday, the rise on Tuesday has stayed below 60,000. Meanwhile, as per the MoHFW, the COVID-19 count includes 838,729 active cases, and 6,227,296 cured and discharged or migrated cases.

Further, with 706 deaths reported due to the disease in the last 24 hours, the toll due to the disease is at 109,856 in the country. With 212,905 active cases, Maharashtra continues to be the worst-affected state by COVID-19 in the country. While 1,281,896 patients have recovered from the disease in the state,

40,514 died so far.

Among other severely affected states, Karnataka has 115,795 active cases; while 592,084 people have recovered, 10,036 succumbed to the novel coronavirus.

Andhra Pradesh has 43,983 active and over 700,000 cured cases, besides 6,256 deaths.

Tamil Nadu has 43,747 active cases, with 607,203 recoveries, alongside 10,314 fatalities.

Meanwhile, according to the Indian Council of Medical Research, a total of 88,945,107 samples have been tested in the country for COVID-19 till Monday. This includes 1,073,014 samples tested on October 12.

The MoHFW said that the trend of declining average daily cases is being witnessed over the past five weeks.

"After a month, on October 9, active cases fell below the 900,000 mark and have steadily followed a downward slope since," the MoHFW said. **ANI**

VISION EMERGING OMAN FUND

AN INVITATION FOR GENERAL MEETING

The Fund's Management body of Vision Emerging Oman Fund is pleased to invite all the unitholders to attend the Fund General Meeting, due to be held at Haffa House Hotel, 126 An Noor St, Muscat 112, on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 4:00 PM, to consider and decide on the following Agenda:

- Election of the members of the Fund's Management Body (from the unit holders or non-unit holders). All who are desirous in the membership of the board have to fill up the candidacy form prepared for said purpose and to submit the same to the Fund House no later than end of the working day 1st November 2020, after which all received forms shall not be considered.

In accordance with the Fund's Articles of Association and Amendments Thereto, any unitholder is entitled to authorize any other person to attend the meeting and vote, provided that the authorization should be done on the proxy issued by the Fund attached to the notice. Any Natural person should attach his ID card for an adult, or a copy of passport for ladies and minors, or a resident card and passport for non-Omanis. The proxy should be signed by any one of the authorized signatories and carry the company's stamp and a copy of commercial registration and specimen of the authorized signatories.

To prevent delay in starting the meeting, unitholders are kindly requested to arrive about half an hour before the scheduled meeting time. For further inquiries, please contact Mr. Mohammed Al-Mahrezi at +968 -24726021 or email us at fundoperations@investvis.com

VISION EMERGING GCC FUND

AN INVITATION FOR GENERAL MEETING

The Fund's Management body of Vision Emerging GCC Fund is pleased to invite all the unitholders to attend the Fund General Meeting, due to be held at Haffa House Hotel, 126 An Noor St, Muscat 112 on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 3.00 PM, to consider and decide on the following Agenda:

- Election of the members of the Fund's Management Body (from the unit holders or non-unit holders). All who are desirous in the membership of the board have to fill up the candidacy form prepared for said purpose and to submit the same to the Fund House no later than end of the working day 1st November 2020, after which all received forms shall not be considered.

In accordance with the Fund's Articles of Association and Amendments Thereto, any unitholder is entitled to authorize any other person to attend the meeting and vote, provided that the authorization should be done on the proxy issued by the Fund attached to the notice. Any Natural person should attach his ID card for an adult, or a copy of passport for ladies and minors, or a resident card and passport for non-Omanis. The proxy should be signed by any one of the authorized signatories and carry the company's stamp and a copy of commercial registration and specimen of the authorized signatories.

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LOSING SUPPORT

World Cup winning German national coach Loew losing support of Schweinsteiger, Matthaeus

BERLIN: Joachim Loew is experiencing his most challenging time as the German national coach.

Ahead of the Nations League encounter against Switzerland this Tuesday evening, the 60-year-old is under heavy fire.

The number of critics calling for a change on the German bench is increasing.

Not only are the fans debating Loew's so far unsuccessful attempts to rejuvenate his squad, but also renowned former players like Lothar Matthaeus, Olaf Thon, and Bastian Schweinsteiger.

Many see the German team as having reached rock bottom when considering the mediocre performances over the past two years.

Pundits and media speak about the four-time world champion no longer being a top-class international team.

Accusations have mounted, and seem a heavy burden in Loew's 15th year in charge.

The fans' dissatisfaction seems to be a common thing for national coaches. The latest statements of 2014 World Cup hero Schweinsteiger and record international



CHALLENGING TIME: Ahead of the Nations League encounter against Switzerland, the 60-year-old is under fire.

Matthaeus have become a serious problem for the world's longest-serving manager.

Matthaeus has complained that

the selections are no longer on merit as Loew is repeatedly ignoring long-serving figures such as Thomas Mueller, Mats Hummels,

and Jerome Boateng.

Schweinsteiger is warning that the road to the 2021 Euro isn't on the right track after all the experi-

menting in the 20 games when 40 players have been tested.

The former Bayern performer claims the team needs to count on a reliable strategy.

Like Matthaeus, the former midfielder is questioning Loew's tactical approach, counting on three central defenders supported by two defensive full backs.

"I would like to see one more in midfield or up front," Schweinsteiger stressed. Fans can't identify with their national team anymore, he added.

Triggering the fulfilment of the new generation's potential requires more encouragement and time.

Former German international Olaf Thon demanded the association sacks Loew by the latest after 2021 Euro.

Loew has worsened his situation by stating he stands above all critics as he has experienced them for nearly 16 years.

It seems inevitable for Loew to set up strict guidelines and deliver results in the remaining four internationals in 2020.

Having given a second chance as

a World Cup-winning coach two years ago, Loew is struggling in his attempt to keep his reputation. "We need to be able to play at least two different systems, that's why we stick to the plan to implement a chain of three in the back," Loew replies.

Loew seems trapped between a risky strategy as further disappointments increase annoyance and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Time tables deliver worthless friendlies aside of the Nations League.

Players and clubs have to deal with a growing number of games, leaving no space for recovery and developing training sessions.

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has accused the German association and international organizations of being money-driven, neglecting players' and clubs' issues.

Having to play friendlies to earn money is embarrassing in the Bayern chairman's mind. He also said Loew has been put in a bad situation as he has to address economic demands. Football has been reduced to marketing and profits, he added. **Xinhua**

IOC chief: 'Safe' Tokyo Olympics next summer



SAFE OLYMPICS: International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach said that they are focused on developing a tool box of COVID countermeasures for every possible scenario.

IOC chief said Tokyo continues to be the best prepared Olympic city and health and safety of all concerned remain their top priority

TOKYO: International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach said that the Tokyo Olympic Games will be held under any circumstances next summer.

In a video message released by the Tokyo 2020 organising committee, Bach told Chef de Missions of all national Olympic committees, "I am sure the question today in your mind is: will the athletes make their Olympic dream come true in 10 months from now? In this regard, I can reassure you that we are working at full speed with our Japanese partners and friends to ensure

safe Olympic Games that are fit for the post-corona world."

He added, "Tokyo continues to be the best prepared Olympic city. The health and safety of all concerned remain our top priority."

"We are focused on developing a toolbox of COVID countermeasures for every possible scenario," he said, adding that "encouraging development of rapid testing and vaccines give us good reason for cautious optimism."

"We are prepared for safe Olympic Games whatever conditions the world will be facing next summer," he said. **Xinhua**

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians look like two best teams: Agarkar

MUMBAI: Former Indian pacer Ajit Agarkar has said that Delhi Capitals and Mumbai Indians have emerged as the two best teams in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) so far.

Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals are the top two placed teams in the points table so far and both sides have 10 points from seven matches.

Agarkar has said that in his opinion, Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) will definitely qualify for the playoffs. While the tussle for the fourth place will be between Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hyderabad. Speaking on Star Sports show 'Cricket Connected', Agarkar said: "It's such a close tournament, so many ups and downs, but clearly Mumbai Indians & Delhi Capitals look like the two best teams - form-wise and personnel-wise. KKR, in my opinion, got a real bonus win against CSK. They are my third team. The

Agarkar has said that in his opinion, Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders will definitely qualify for the playoffs. While the tussle for the fourth place will be between Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hyderabad

fourth team for me is between Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hyderabad. I had CSK at the start of the tournament, but at the moment, these two teams look slightly better than what CSK is playing."

On the other hand, former England spinner Graeme Swann said that in his opinion, SunRisers Hyderabad will definitely qualify for the playoffs of IPL 2020.

Speaking on Star Sports show 'Cricket Connected', Swann said: "I'm definitely going with Sunrisers Hyderabad cause Jonny Bairstow not only looks dapper with his ginger hair and the orange shirt, amazing, it shouldn't go, but it does, but he's also smashing it. And my fourth team is going more with my heart than my head, Rajasthan Royals, Tewatia hit 5 sixes off that over and I fell for the Rajasthan Royals. They've lost all 3 games, they cannot get any worse. Ben Stokes is coming back. They are going to qualify."

Sunrisers Hyderabad is currently at the fifth place in the IPL 2020 standings with six points from seven matches.

The David Warner-led side will be in action later today against the Chennai Super Kings (CSK). **ANI**



TOP PLACED TEAMS: Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals are the top two placed teams in the points table so far and both sides have 10 points from seven matches.

CRICKET

Chahal should have been 'Man of the Match' against KKR, says Stokes

SHARJAH: England and Rajasthan Royals' all-rounder Ben Stokes has said that Yuzvendra Chahal should have been the Man of the Match in the game between Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) and Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR).

His remark came as RCB defeated Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) by 82 runs at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Monday. While chasing 195, the Dinesh Karthik-led KKR was restricted to 112/9 as Chris Morris and Washington Sundar scalped two wickets each. Yuzvendra Chahal bowled four overs and he conceded just 12 runs and the spinner also managed to bag the wicket of KKR skipper Dinesh Karthik.

"In a batters game @ yuzi.chahal should get MOM



here, incredible figures especially as it's in Sharjah," Stokes tweeted.

So far in the ongoing IPL, Chahal has managed to take 10 wickets and he is on the fifth place in the leading wicket-takers list for IPL 2020. While batting first, RCB posted a total of 194/2 in the allotted twenty overs. AB de Villiers played a knock of 73 runs from just 33 balls with the help of five fours and six 6s.

For his unbeaten knock of 73, de Villiers was awarded the Man of the Match.

Virat and de Villiers shared an unbeaten partnership of 100 runs. For KKR, Varun Chakravarty was the most economical bowler as he finished his four overs with figures of 0-25. RCB had scored 83 runs in the last five overs of their innings. **ANI**

DOUBT OVER TOUR

Ishant Sharma in doubt for Australia tour

NEW DELHI: India fast bowler Ishant Sharma is in doubt for the tour of Australia later this year after sustaining an injury during the Indian Premier League.

Ishant suffered an abdominal muscle tear while training in the Delhi Capitals camp. He has already been ruled out for the remainder of the IPL 2020 and is now understood to be in doubt for India's Australia tour towards the end of the year.

Ishant had played just one match in the IPL season before the setback. A statement issued by his team said that the injury happened during training when he felt pain in his rib cage.

"Ishant Sharma experienced an acute episode of left rib cage pain while bowling at a team training session on 7 October in Dubai. Subsequent investigations revealed that he sustained a left in-

ternal oblique muscle tear. This injury will unfortunately rule him out of the remainder of the IPL 2020," the release said.

Having picked up 11 wickets from three matches at an average of 23.82 when India claimed a historic Test series win in Australia in 2018-19, Ishant was expected to be picked up for the Test leg of the upcoming tour as well, but his injury is estimated to put him out of action for close to a month. BCCI are expected to announce the squads once the itinerary is finalised by Cricket Australia.

The tall fast bowler has played 97 Test matches for India since making his debut in 2007 and has picked up 297 wickets. His last Test match was in New Zealand earlier this year when he took a five-wicket haul in the first innings. **ICC**

Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



Treasury bills worth OMR57 million issued

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 28 days, from October 14 until November 11

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR57 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday.

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 28 days, from October 14, 2020, until November 11, 2020.

The average accepted price reached 99.950 for every OMR100 and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.950 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 0.65179 per cent and 0.65211 per cent respectively.

Note that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 1 per cent.

Treasury bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the CBO on behalf of the government, which help the licensed commercial banks to gainfully invest their surplus funds, with the added advantage



INTEREST RATE: The interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 1 per cent. - ONA

of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo) offered by the Central Bank. Furthermore, treasury bills

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

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

VALUE-ADDED TAX

VAT to help overcome negative impacts of oil price fall, COVID-19

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Value Added Tax (VAT) has become a reality in Oman. Oman has issued a decree to start levying a 5 per cent VAT in six months from now.

"VAT is going to be beneficial to the economy as it will boost government spending for the development of the country. This is of utmost importance for the government, keeping in view the drop in the oil prices and the negative impact of COVID spread. The government has also been generous to give exemption to many goods and services like basic food commodities, medical care and related services, education and related services, financial services, undeveloped lands and so on," said Davis Kallukaran, Managing Partner, Crowe Oman.

VAT is an indirect tax where the businesses play a key role in collecting the tax for the government. All the business-houses need to immediately start preparing for VAT implementation as it is going to bring a new compliance requirement.

Businesses will have to bring changes in their standard operating procedures in finance, accounting, legal purchase and sales functions. Technology will have to be re-defined to adopt the effects of VAT. That is, businesses need to understand and map their supply chain process and transaction flow and ensure that necessary



Davis Kallukaran



Aastha Rangan

changes are incorporated in their internal processes.

Davis says that businesses need to ensure that VAT returns are submitted timely else there can be regulatory repercussion in terms of stringent penalties for non-compliance.

As per Aastha Rangan, Director VAT advisory, Crowe Oman, now there is no time for businesses to think or delay VAT implementation in their organisations. If corporates have not done an initial VAT impact analysis, then six months is less than sufficient time, to get ready and file the first VAT return in 2021.

RECOGNITION

Taageer Finance awarded best Non-Banking Finance Company

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Taageer Finance was recognised as the best Non-Banking Finance Company by OER (*Oman Economic Review*) for the year 2019. The award ceremony was held in the ballroom in Sheraton Hotel recently during the New Age Banking Summit.

The award was received by the CEO Shahin Mohammed Ahmed Al Balushi from Tahir Salim Al Amri, Executive President, Central Bank of Oman who was the chief guest. Shaikh Salim bin Mushtahil Al Mashani was the host with Oman Banks Association as the supporting body. The function was attended by over 100 top business leaders, CEOs and senior government officials.

"Taageer Finance has focused on supporting small and medium

businesses by providing superior customer service, diversifying the portfolio for better risk management, automating processes for improved customer experience, strengthening the recovery mechanism and interacting regularly with customers facing financial difficulties to come up with solutions to solve their issues," said CEO Shahin Mohammed Ahmed Balushi.

Balushi explained that during the current year, Taageer's main focus was to support the government in stabilising the economy by facilitating SME portfolio and ensuring that the affected businesses and individuals sail through difficult times. Taageer has also taken several initiatives to provide an improved digital experience to its customers with an emphasis on customer security and convenience.



JOINT VENTURE

Raysut Cement acquires majority stake in Lafarge Holcim in Maldives

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's largest cement manufacturer, Raysut Cement Company (RCC), said it has closed the deal of acquiring 75 per cent of Lafarge Holcim's cement terminal at Thilafushi Island in the Maldives, and a new joint venture - Raysut Maldives Cement Pvt. Ltd. - has been formed.

The new entity with State Trading Organisation (STO) of Maldives owning 25 per cent has plans to expand the terminal's capacity, currently 75,000 tonnes per annum, by more than 100 per cent in future to over 200,000 tonnes per annum.

This acquisition opens a corridor of trade between Oman and Maldives not only in the cement industry with Raysut Cement but also in other areas which will benefit both economies. Raysut Cement is proud to have opened this new economic relationship.

"The Maldives acquisition will boost Raysut's profitability and production to full capacity, particularly of its plant in the State of Salalah in Sultanate of Oman, Raysut Cement Company this year faced economic issues, including problems due to the global spread



ACQUISITION: This acquisition opens a corridor of trade between Oman and Maldives not only in the cement industry with Raysut Cement but also in other areas which will benefit both economies.

- Supplied picture

of the COVID-19 virus," said Sheikh Ahmed Yousef Alawi Al Ibrahim, Chairman of RCC Group.

The terminal will be owned and operated by the RCC-STO joint venture entity.

The takeover of the terminal in

the Indian Ocean country marks a new phase for the MSM listed Raysut since it will be adding new geography to its strategic global investment plan.

"Our foray into the Maldives will help drive self-sufficiency of

cement in the Maldives, which currently is predominantly an import market. Raysut is looking at adding local value in the Maldives by installing production facilities to ensure there is at least 40 per cent local content. This will also make the market more competitive from a price point which will have its positive impact on infrastructure development in the island nation," said RCC GCEO, Joey Ghose.

"The acquisition followed by the formation of the new JV will cement Raysut's position further as an emerging global cement player with significant overseas presence in markets of the Middle East and East Africa," said Joey Ghose.

"This is a milestone investment for Raysut since the cement major will be pitching into a market supplied currently by other players from South Asia. It is also a significant move reinforcing its strategy to diversify from only being a South Oman based player to grow into a global player in the cement industry, RCC in the Maldives will be competing with cement players from India, Indonesia and Malaysia," said Acting Deputy Group CEO, Salim Ahmed Alawi Al Ibrahim.

INFORMATIVE SESSIONS



Training programme for one-stop shops' staff in free zones

Times News Service

MUSCAT: In line with the strategy to expedite the service delivery to investors and customers of the special economic zones and free zones through the one-stop shops, the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) launched a training programme aimed to develop the performance of the one-stop-shop employees in Sohar Free Zone.

The programme is focused on the systems related to registering companies, issuing all types of licenses and approvals of usufruct contracts and work permits.

The training programme aims to boost the performance of the special economic zones and free

zones to localise local investments, attract foreign investments, and mark these zones as leading investment destinations at the local and global levels.

The programme reflects the efforts of OPAZ to accelerate starting the businesses in these areas, reflecting on the Royal Decree No. (105/2020), which stipulated the implementation of the one-stop system in all special economic zones and free zones and granted OPAZ the powers to issue all types of licenses, approvals and certificates related to exercising economic activities in these zones.

The training programme also includes employees of the one-stop shops at Al Mazunah Free Zone and Salalah Free Zone.

#50GoldenYears

Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress

MSM index ends higher

Al Anwar Ceramic, up 3.83 per cent was the top gainer while Gulf Investment, down 9.52 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,594.65 points, up 0.29 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.06 per cent at 516.40 points. Al Anwar Ceramic, up 3.83 per cent was the top gainer while Gulf Investment, down 9.52 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman Arab Bank was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded and also was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number 319 of trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR10.5 million, with more than 51.9 million shares changing hands.

Out of 27 traded stocks, 8 advanced, seven declined and 12 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC and Arab investors were net buyers for OMR64,000 while local investors were net sellers for OMR50,000 followed by foreign

investors for OMR14,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 5,770.61 points, up by 0.16 per cent. Sohar International Bank and Bank Muscat were up by 2.20 per cent and 0.54 per cent respectively. Gulf Investment was down by 9.52 per cent.

Industrial Index closed at 4,070.06 points, up 0.59 per cent. Al Anwar Ceramic and Raysut Cement were up by 3.83 per cent and 1.94 per cent respectively. Galfar Engineering, National Aluminium and Al Jazeera Steel were down by 2.17 per cent, 2.08 per cent, and 0.81 per cent respectively.

Services index was up 0.11 per cent before closing at 1,566.81 points. Renaissance Service, Shell Oman, National Gas and Al Jazeera Service were up by 1.88 per cent, 1.33 per cent, 1.27 per cent and 1.13 per cent respectively. - **United Securities**

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES							
Index.....	High.....	Low.....	Value.....	Prev. Value.....	Diff.....	Diff %.....	
MSM30 Index.....	3,595.67.....	3,583.67.....	3,594.65.....	3,584.22.....	10.43.....	0.29.....	
Financial Index.....	5,772.99.....	5,757.51.....	5,770.61.....	5,761.28.....	9.33.....	0.16.....	
Industrial Index.....	4,071.54.....	4,046.14.....	4,070.06.....	4,046.35.....	23.71.....	0.59.....	
Services Index.....	1,568.02.....	1,564.43.....	1,566.81.....	1,565.05.....	1.76.....	0.11.....	
MSM SHARIAH INDEX.....	516.82.....	516.26.....	516.40.....	516.73.....	-0.33.....	-0.06.....	
MSM TOTAL RETURN.....	4,096.01.....	4,082.34.....	4,094.84.....	4,080.52.....	14.32.....	0.35.....	
Trading Summary							
Volume.....	Turnover.....	Trades.....	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....	Sec. Traded.....
51,958,936.....	10,555,202.....	319.....	19,889,722,944.....	8.....	7.....	12.....	27.....

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PREV VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	285,263	26,529	10	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.091	0.002	2.198	0.093	0.092	0.095	0.100	226,409,126
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	22,500	7,097	4	0.310	0.318	0.310	0.316	0.310	0.006	1.935	0.318	0.304	0.318	0.100	63,200,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	292,650	95,496	38	0.320	0.330	0.320	0.326	0.320	0.006	1.875	0.330	0.326	0.330	0.100	77,069,660
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	10,000	1,600	2	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.158	0.002	1.266	0.160	0.159	0.160	0.100	13,600,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	28,552	10,558	4	0.368	0.370	0.368	0.370	0.368	0.002	0.543	0.370	0.368	0.370	0.100	1,002,323,339
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOMMUNICATION	1,200	762	4	0.636	0.636	0.632	0.632	0.632	0.000	0.000	0.632	0.628	0.632	0.100	474,000,000
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	5,000	1,070	1	0.214	0.214	0.214	0.213	0.213	0.000	0.000	0.214	0.212	0.214	0.100	11,715,000
OM0000002176	AL JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	37,480	4,627	7	0.125	0.125	0.123	0.123	0.124	-0.001	-0.806	0.123	0.121	0.123	0.100	15,362,449
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	166,392	61,496	57	0.370	0.370	0.368	0.370	0.374	-0.004	-1.070	0.368	0.368	0.370	0.100	240,849,365
	Total	9	849,037	209,236	127											
Parallel Market																
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC TILES	422,167	80,275	28	0.184	0.195	0.184	0.190	0.183	0.007	3.825	0.188	0.189	0.190	0.100	56,280,600
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	29,030	26,451	5	0.912	0.912	0.900	0.912	0.900	0.012	1.333	0.912	0.912	0.900	0.100	86,640,000
OM0000002226	AL JAZEERA SERVICES	1,267,350	226,826	90	0.178	0.180	0.178	0.179	0.177	0.002	1.130	0.178	0.177	0.178	0.100	10,955,565
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	15,400	1,432	2	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.000	0.000	0.093	0.091	0.093	0.100	186,029,089
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	36,434	3,129	2	0.085	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.100	10,750,000
OM0000001681	OMAN AND EMIRATES INV. HOLDING	174,600	7,682	3	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.000	0.000	0.044	0.042	0.044	0.100	5,362,500
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	500	225	1	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.000	0.000	0.450	0.446	0.450	0.100	40,365,000
OM0000002333	SALALAH PORT SERVICES	500	300	1	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.000	0.600	0.550	0.600	0.100	107,902,440
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	1,000	106	1	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.105	0.105	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.105	0.106	0.100	100,230,055
OM0000004925	AL BATINAH POWER	700	39	1	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.055	0.053	0.055	0.100	36,443,921
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	48,481,500	9,938,708	1	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.000	0.000	0.205	0.198	0.208	0.100	342,229,050
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,000	56	1	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.056	0.054	0.055	0.100	78,980,479
OM0000007043	NATIONAL LIFE & GENERAL INS.	59,289	20,427	5	0.344	0.346	0.342	0.344	0.344	0.000	0.000	0.342	0.342	0.346	0.100	91,160,000
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	15,114	4,837	2	0.324	0.324	0.320	0.320	0.324	-0.004	-1.235	0.320	0.318	0.324	0.100	22,524,800
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	20,405	1,123	3	0.055	0.056	0.055	0.055	0.056	-0.001	-1.788	0.055	0.054	0.056	0.100	39,292,349
OM0000001319	NATIONAL ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS	47,949	4,511	4	0.096	0.096	0.094	0.094	0.096	-0.002	-2.083	0.094	0.094	0.096	0.100	3,155,716
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING AND CON.	70,250	3,161	9	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.046	-0.001	-2.174	0.045	0.045	0.046	0.100	13,048,129
OM0000002820	GULF INVEST SERVICES HOLDING	466,711	26,678	33	0.060	0.060	0.057	0.057	0.063	-0.006	-9.524	0.057	0.000	0.057	0.100	3,354,063
	Total	18	51,109,899.10	345,966	192											

AUGUST ACTIVITY

Industrial activity up 3.3% in Mexico

MEXICO CITY: Industrial activity in Mexico increased by 3.3 per cent in August compared to the previous month, rising for the third month in a row thanks to an uptick in construction, the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (Inegi) said. However, Mexico's industrial output, closely tied to its counterpart in the United States, decreased 9 per cent in August year-on-year and accumulated a 13.1 per cent drop in the first eight months of the year.

Construction activity increased in August by 11.2 per cent compared to the previous month, according to the Inegi's seasonally adjusted figures. Electric power generation, and water and gas supplies via

pipeline rose 5.7 per cent in August, while mining and manufacturing increased by 0.8 per cent each.

In a separate report, Monex Financial Group described the increase in industrial activity in August as "surprising," saying it could buoy economic expectations for the third quarter, but not for the entire year. - **Xinhua**

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TRADE GROWTH

India offers exporters \$38bn opportunity for bilateral trade

NEW DELHI: Global businesses can increase exports to India by more than \$21 billion annually, according to the new Chartered Trade Opportunity Report.

The study, which included 10 of India's key trading partners, also found that Indian exporters could boost exports to these markets by an estimated \$17 billion, bringing the total bilateral trade opportunity to \$38 billion.

As economies and businesses look to recover from the impact of COVID-19, the study highlights markets and sectors with new opportunities to grow trade.

Businesses in the United States, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and the United Kingdom have the greatest opportunity to increase their exports to India.

The United States - India's largest trading partner and market with the largest opportunity to boost trade - could increase exports by \$5.7 billion annually with

A study, which included 10 of India's key trading partners, also found that Indian exporters could boost exports to these markets by an estimated \$17 billion

the financial services sector offering the most significant potential for growth.

The ASEAN region has a combined opportunity of \$10.7 billion for exporters across Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The electrical machinery sector stands out with a combined annual opportunity to grow trade between India and the

ASEAN markets by \$3.2 billion. In South Korea, the spotlight is on \$288 million opportunity to increase automotive exports. Meanwhile, the United Kingdom, France and Germany could increase exports to India by a combined \$3.2 billion with a \$413 million total export opportunity in organic chemicals sector across the three markets.

Gaurav Bhatnagar, Managing Director and Head of Trade for India and South Asia at Standard Chartered Bank, said businesses in India and across the world have faced unprecedented challenges over the last few months. "Looking ahead, they need to look for new growth avenues and build more resilience."

The research contrasts actual export values with potential export values - calculated by an economic model - to uncover medium-term opportunities, looking to a post-COVID-19 world as economies begin to reopen. - **ANI**

NATURAL GAS

Shale gas production soars in SW China base

CHENGDU: The shale gas base of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) in southwest China has consolidated its status as the country's biggest shale gas producer, with daily production exceeding 20 million cubic metres in part of a demonstration zone.

The Changning block of the Changning-Weiyuan national shale gas demonstration zone generated 20.26 million cubic metres of shale gas on Saturday.

The demonstration zone, established in January 2016, is a major part of CNPC's shale gas base in the southern part of Sichuan Province. The figure helped lift the daily production of shale gas to more than 40 million cubic metres at the Sichuan base, and annual production is expected to reach 12 billion cubic metres, accounting for 60 per cent of the country's total.

This year, the daily output of shale gas from the Changning block rose from 13 million cubic metres to more than 20mn, enough to meet the daily gas needs of up to 40mn homes, said She Chaoyi, deputy general manager of Sichuan Changning Natural Gas Development Co., Ltd., a shale gas developing company in charge of the Changning block and controlled by CNPC. - **Xinhua**

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12 years experienced Audit professional 8 years in Oman looking for a placement in any related field ready to join immediately.
Contact 96740556. Email divyaroop.prakash@gmail.com

Senior Accountant - Indian male, 12 years experience in oman in all area of accounts. D/L and NOC. Ready to join. Pls contact 97373853

A qualified Sri lankan Chartered accountant looking for a suitable place. 20 years of experience in Oman in various industrial sectors. NOC is available. Can join immediately. Contact 92194926

Looking for Senior accountant job, more than 10 yrs experience in Oman.can handle accounts upto finalization. Contact 78154335. email afial198871@gmail.com

Accountant Indian Male, B.Com 12 years experience in Oman with D/L and NOC seeks suitable placement Contact 95689281

Indian Male Accountant, 15 years experience, 12 years in Oman looking for a job as Accountant with NOC. Contact 91214849

Accountant Indian Male, Mcom 13 years experience in accounts with D/L and NOC seeks suitable placement. Contact 99757409

CHANGE OF NAME

I **OM RANI**, holder of Indian Passport No. K0428999, daughter of Omkar Nath, having permanent residence in L-2/ 146-B, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi 110019, India and presently residing in Flat 34, Building 10A, Muscat Oasis Residence, Boshar, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, intend to change my name from **OM RANI** to **OMNA NAIR** for all practical purposes. Any objection towards my name change may please be communicated to Embassy of India, Muscat, Diplomatic Quarters, Al Khuwair, P O Box. 1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Male B.Com. 33 Years' experience in Oman, Worked as Executive Board Assistant, Finance Support Executive, Assistant to Group CEO, CFO and Executive Managers of HR, Legal & Procurement, Accountant, seeks Job. NOC & D/L available. Immediately Join. Contact 92558734.

Indian Male M.Com. with 11.5 Yrs of GCC Exp. in Accounts & Finance, currently working with Hyper Market Looking for Suitable Job Contact 98381981

Bcom graduate looking for part time accounting job. Contact 91019796

Looking for Senior Accountant Position. Having 10 Years Experience and DL also. Mob - 98869499

***Classified Advertisement space booking with text, should be done till 12.00 noon for next day's publication. * Subject to space availability**

JOB VACANCY

- Sr.Sales & Marketing Executive**
3-5 years Experience in the Oman Market in the Areas of Building materials, Oil field supplies, Min. Qualification Graduate with valid Oman driving license.
- Accountant**
3-5 Years Experience in Accounting, Knowledge in Tally ERP9 is a must, Min. Qualificaton Graduate.
- Email CV: jobhiremct@gmail.com**

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Urgently required an Assistant accountant preferred Medical Insurance background. Interested candidates can submit their CV by email jobvacancy854@gmail.com

DRIVER

Heavy Driver vacancy - Experience in high-up crane operation, Preferred Indian nationality with LMV License, ready to join Immediately.
Contact 97984160.
Email omanstore@europostech.com

Looking for a Heavy duty driver with PDO licence for heavy trucks having an experience of more than 5 years in oman and with other PDO related certificates job seekers, Please Contact: 99336232, Requirement: Urgent

MEDICAL

A dentist vacancy in a private clinic in Sharqiya. Send CV to dentalclinic1212@gmail.com

Urgently required Arab speaking, gynecologist, pediatrician, dentist, orthodontist; internist and radiologist for Salalah-Oman. Preferably with MOH license. Whatsapp no: +968 98899345. Email: dofarmarketingdpt@gmail.com

Required nurse with MOH license for immediate appointment for a clinic at Ruwi. Contact 78330763 between 9.30 to 12.30 morning hours

Nurse required for a GP doctor clinic. Visa is ready, clinic to begin operation immediately. Interested candidate Contact /whatsapp Emran 95956363

JOB VACANCIES

DOMESTIC HELP

Wanted an Indian cook for a reputed Indian family in Muscat.
Contact 92356967, 2456 1352

Urgently required a housemaid for an Indian family at Ghubrah. Contact 92823922

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Required a Civil site foreman for one month only. Contact 92808101

JCB Backhoe Operator with Oman Plant License to join duty locally immediately preferably south Indian. Visa to be given. Contact 99215599

Leading Construction Company Oman looking for Foreman immediate join 5+Yrs experience; supervise site independently email: omanc584@gmail.com

Required urgently experienced Auto Mechanics for Light Vehicle, Denter and Painter for a Workshop in, Muscat. Preference for candidates available in Oman with NOC. Contact 72555609. /72555603 or send CV: autoalkhuwair@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Wanted legal advisor. Email mwm30033@yahoo.com. Contact 27243393

Looking for Electrician, Plumber, Carpenter, Foreman, Office Staff. Contact 24709144 Email atf24704415@gmail.com

SALES / MARKETING

Required Marketing & Sales Executive - Male for Sanitaryware and Tiles Divsn. Min. 5 yrs experience in Oman Market with Oman D/L. Contact 92937224. Email vacanymuscat45@gmail.com

A leading trading company requires Sales & Marketing Executive - Graduate/With experience in related field. Send the resume at hr.mus18@gmail.com

Required Business Development Executive for ELV Projects (IT) required Min. 2 year experience in sales with Oman driving license Mob: 92693834

Looking for Showroom salesperson (M/F) for Sports shop (Seeb/ Ruwi) Contact /whatsapp 99321960 between 10am-1.00pm & 5pm-7pm only

Required industrial field experience sales executive and electrocution. Please send resume on Email: osgcfinance@yahoo.com

Required outdoor sales executive for leading signage company. Contact 91258644

CONNECT

JOB WANTED

CIVIL ENGINEER
17 years experience in Oil and Gas, Substations (132/11KV and 400/132 KV), Power Projects, Commercial projects. Available to Join Immediately, NOC Available.
Mob:+968-94987133, pawan.prasad32@gmail.com

A Graduate Civil Engineer
having 25 plus years of rich experience in Oman and GCC in lead roles is looking for a suitable placement. Visa available.
Contact mob: 78391432 mohamedpmc2020@gmail.com

INDIAN, Female, MA - English and MBA - Operations & Marketing with 8 year's experience in Admin, operations with sound communication and MS office skills Looking for suitable opportunity.
Contact 99870390 jsh_sz@hotmail.com

Procurement, Logistics, Warehouse & Administration / Supply Chain & Inventory Management
Indian Male 20yrs experience in GCC (12yrs in Oman), Experience in Manufacturing & Trading Organization, Engineering / Construction & Structural Steel Projects. Materials Management with administrative skills. Looking for suitable placement and ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.
Contact: 79706790/dmd238702@gmail.com

Senior Architectural Engineer
Syrian male 15 years experienced in consultancy & Construction companies in Oman & UAE. Classified as consultant in Oman Society of Engineers and Certified PMP. Expert in Autocad, Photoshop, Primavera, QS estimations, and Coordinating with the clients.
Contact: 92199826

HVAC Engineer
Indian, 28, (B.E Mechanical) with 5+years Oman experience in design & supervision of HVAC & Mechanical systems for Comm./Resi. buildings, hotels, hospitals & Hypermarkets looking for suitable openings. Valid D/L & NOC available.
Contact: 95588286 email: eng.usman134@gmail.com

PLANNING ENGINEER
(B.E Civil) with 6 years experience in Construction of Buildings/Infra/Roads with primavera/MS projects, looking for a suitable situation. NOC and D/L available.
Contact: 93314353

ACCOUNTANT / PURCHASE OFFICER
Indian male. B.Com and diploma in computerised financial accounting. 20 years' experience in Oman. Immediate joining. NOC and driving license available.
Contact no: 99102809, thalapulath@gmail.com

CIVIL MANAGER
Indian with 24 years experience in construction and project management with reputed companies and government organisations. D/L and local release available.
CONTACT: 97236220

Indian Male, Seeking Job urgently in **Logistics, Warehouse or Administration**
NOC available. Driving Licence Available. Having 15+ years of experience in GCC countries and India. Educational Qualification: MBA in Supply Chain, Logistics + Commerce Degree.
Contact Number: 97880684

ADMINISTRATION
INDIAN, female, MBA, 4 years experience in Office Administration and Customer Service (Banking & Construction field), knowledge of MS packages, currently on family visa, available for immediate joining.
Mob: 95073054 Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

Project Manager/Construction Manager
20 years experienced Civil Engineer (10 years-Oman, 8 years-UAE) currently working as Senior Construction Manager in top reputed organization in Oman. Seeking opportunities in a reputed company.
Email: johnv199497@gmail.com +971543086708 / +96894017400

Mechanical Engineer
Male 31 years, more than 6 years previous experience in projects, sales & marketing in Oil & Gas and NOC available.
E-mail: ja237le@gmail.com

MULTI-SKILLED INDIAN MALE
25+ years (7 years GCC) Well experience in Accounts/ Administration/HR Available to join immediately with Release and D/L.
Contact 78093227

SITUATION WANTED PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
Experience 11 years in clearing Government and Private transactions. Omani Nationality.
Contact: Shakir - 79909955 Email: shak.star142@gmail.com

Project Engineer (Interior fitout and civil)
B.E. Civil, 27, with 5+ years Oman experience as Project Engg, looking for suitable openings in Retail, hospitality, fitout etc Experienced in Project management, Interior fit-out & construction. Valid Oman D/L and NOC available.
Contact : 94657347

ACCOUNTANT
Indian male 31, B.Com & Diploma in Islamic banking & Finance, 8 years exp in Oman, looking for Accountant jobs. Can handle up to finalization. D/L & NOC Available.
Contact 98195964

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Indian Male, 40 Years, B.Com + CA intermediate, having more than 15 Years of experience (12 years in Oman) in the different positions as Accounts Manager/Internal Auditor and statutory auditor.currently working as Finance Manager, seeking similar Managerial position in finance. NOC available. **Contact: 99169501**

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Finance Manager African male MBA, ACCA, 20 years' experience in FMCG, Contracting operation and maintenance, Construction , Retail, Business Advisory . 5 years in Oman, Available 16 January onwards, Phone 90213906, +263 7874 18345 Email ronmarzh@yahoo.co.uk

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN
AutoCAD Draftsman Diploma/ITI, 20Yrs. Exp. in Architectural/Structural (12Yrs in oman) Available Muscat with D/L. Can joined immediately for Full/Part time. Contact: 99718163

32 yrs old Filipina, 6+ yrs of experience as cashier & Waitress, looking for suitable opportunity with NOC available. Contact 96200957. email rsabuguin6@gmail.com

Indian Male Accountant, B.Com, 18 years experience in Oman looking for Accountant job. NOC available. Please contact 92649449 Email: manojandaloor@gmail.com

Indian male accountant/MBA finance graduate with 3 years experience in the same field.Oman D/L,seeking job,own resident visa or NOC available. Email acc.anwar.om@gmail.com

ADMIN/HR
Indian male with 21 years' experience in Oman seeks job for Admin/HR. Contact 95425764

ARCHITECT
BA in Architecture, with 14 years of experience, looking for job. Contact 92530934. Email: zahra.sadegh7@yahoo.com

DRIVER
Looking job of driver with 9 years experience in Oman. #93191575

8 years experience on driving, looking for job. Contact 94629261, 95471947

Looking for driving job with 5 years Experience in oman. Contact 94395257

Light Driver, with Excellent Knowledge of Muscat roads & areas. Languages can speak English, Arabic Urdu/Hindi, Looking Job in Office/ Company. Contact 79250786

Looking for driving jobs, 1 yr experience. Contact 94737132

Office driver, 10 yrs experience. Indian (Kerala) languages Hindi,English & Arabic. NOC available. Contact 98980364

Looking for heavy & light driver job. Contact 91703829

4 years experience in driving (driver) looking job. Contact 79164528

Looking for driver job, experience of 7 years. Contact 96317701

Looking for driving job, 3 years experience in Muscat. # 78071219

Bangaldeshi light driving 6 yrs exp,looking for job. # 92392272

Looking for driving job. Experience 10 yrs. Contact 79991690

Sr.CAD ENGINEER, BTech 34 Indian Male, 14 years Exp in Design & Drafting Field (Architectural, Civil & Landscape) with NOC Immediate Available. Contact 94136484, kannatvr86@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer, fresher available to join immediately. Contact 79714227. email lokeshshirodkar15@gmail.com

Civil Engineer, 17 years exp. in Oil and Gas.Substations (132/11KV and 400/132 KV)Power Projects, Commercial projects Available to Join Immediately, NOC Available Contact 968-94987133, Email pawan.prasad32@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer, Male 31 years, more than 6 years previous experience in projects, sales & marketing in Oil & Gas, and NOC available. E-mail: ja237le@gmail.com

Indian BE Civil engineer, 8.5 yrs experience (06 yrs in Oman)in building construction & Industrial projects with Oman valid light DL & local NOC available. Contact 98886175. Email ex.jgpprakasam@gmail.com

Cad Engineer(Civil) looking for suitable job. 16 yrs gulf experience D/L, Noc available. Contact 98001534

Service Engineer with D/L having B.E or diploma in Electro-Mechanical Engineer D/L with 0-5 years' experience. Email: najma@alrouba.com

DCE Civil Engineer 17 years of Oman Experienced worked various govt projects with Road and expert advise ability having D/L Contact 92624819

Indian male 23yrs, Mechanical Engineer with one year experience in Oman, can join immediately GSM: 79121923

Civil Engineer with 9 Years experience in Oman of Building Finishing, Landscapes and Structures works. Visa NOC/Transfer and Oman D/L available. Contact 97196249 Email Shoab.Hassan88@outlook.com

B.E Civil engineer having 12+ yrs of Oman experience, looking for Civil sub contracting jobs like block work,tiling,interlock, kerbstone, false ceiling & so on. Contact 968-72132426

HSE engineer /officer NEBOSH certificate holder with verygood experience. Arabic, English language, ready to join immediatly. # 90989114. Email malifatih203@gmail.com

BE Mechanical, HVAC Project Engineer, 6 + years (3 years in Oman) Oman D/L & NOC,seeks job,available in Muscat. Contact 97623116. Email: tprakash1193@gmail.com

5+ years of experience looking for job as Civil Engineer, ready to join immediately. Contact 92146076, Email tauqir.akbar@yahoo.com

Diploma in Electrical and Electronics on visit. seeking job , 20 yrs experience in Panel troubleshoot-ing, panel development work, VFD ,Cranes service,Machine servicing . Can join immediately. Contact 92375607, 92145430 Email: murugavel_maruthappan@yahoo.com

MEP Engineer 15 Yrs, EXP. Arabic/English D/L. Contact 95752101

BE-Electrical + MBA (TQM), 37yrs/M, 14yrs of product management, QC & Sourcing experience in Oman, seek suitable placement, M: 78180988, anju48@hotmail.com

Civil Engineer, having 10 years' experience in Civil, Water Proofing and Electro-mechanical works in Oman. 2 years' experience in Telecom Tower (CME) works. Knowledge in AutoCAD drawings, Project Coordination works. Ready to join immediately with NOC. Contact: 92434698

Indian Civil QA.QC Engineer, Inspector/Construction Engineer(BE Civil, PDO approved, QMS Auditor, Oman D/L, NOC) with 10 years of experience in building, roads and oilfield looking for new job. Contact: 96359447, +919901059827 (Call or whatsapp) Email: suprithkumar@gmail.com

ndian male (BE civil engineer) 3+ exp in construction. Autocadd. QS. Site execution NOC available. immediate join 94194752. Email wahed_abdul@outlook.com

Experience electrical engineer looking job. Contact 79285656 , 91766740

HVAC Engineer/MEP coordinator, BE Mechanical Engineering, having 9+years of experience including 5+ years in Oman. Efficient in design BOQ, project follow up, valid Omani D/L. Looking for any full/part time job. Contact: 91690765

Diploma in Civil Engineer, 12 yrs experience. 8 yrs in Oman. Contact 79078729

Electrical engineer, experience 12 year in Oman. Contact 98148034

HOSPITALITY

Assistant Manager in customer service / 4 plus years experience in hospitality /oman / DL / Female seeks job. Contact 79864612

IT

Indian female having 8 yrs experience in the field of software testing and administration looking for a suitable job. Contact no : 91711326

IT Administrator, Indian Male 37yrs, 12years of experience in Oman, CCNA and Diploma in Computer Science Engineering. Good knowledge in PBX,CCTV,ELV,IT Network system. Licence & NOC available 95059065/95147348/ jaxonnj@gmail.com

Professional programmer in web, server, mobile & networking experience more than 7 yrs with 15 big projects developed innovation It strategies & solutions by analysing business needs. Contact 97598800

MEDICAL

Licensed female pharmacist ready to join immediately present in Muscat. Contact 94422350. Email mazin.o.j@hotmail.com

Orthodontist (Dentist) - Indian female orthodontist with Prometric and data flow Cleared, 12 years experience of Dentistry in Oman as well as in India with Oman driving license, looking for a suitable opportunity in Oman. Contact 96273929

General Physician 15 yrs experience, with MOH license need locum/ permanent or contract job preferably in Sohar region. Experienced in dealing paediatric, Geriatric, gynae & Obs, infectious diseases, diabetic, respiratory & cardiac illness. Contact 93231964

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs of experience, 6yrs of Oman experience. Contact 968 79754735. Email neenachirakkaparambil668@gmail.com

MANAGER

Indian, Finance Manager 20Yrs Experience, Tradefinance - MIS - Budget - Planning - Auditing - Finalisation - Banking: 90473368, devan801@gmail.com

General manager / Sr.PM, 25+yrs Indian professional (BE) MBA, PMP INTD construction projects & organisation management, 5+ yrs in Oman. D/L, NOC available. Contact 94634053

20Yrs experienced Indian commerce graduate, 3 Years of Fleet management in FMCG sector, 7 years of Contracts, Transportation at Oil & Gas sector in Oman, and 10years of Administration in India. D/L & NOC available. Call/Whatsapp 94777651

PURCHASE/LOGISTICS

12 years experience in Oman, Seek job for Warehouse and Logistics operation, D/L noc. avl. Contact 97988048, 97032171

Inventory, Accounts & Purchase: Indian male 30, having 8 years experience with good dedication and skills, looking for a suitable opportunity.NOC available. Contact: 96219904. Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

Indian Male (MBA, Age-36 years), Procurement Specialist, having over 10 years of experience in Oman, is seeking for a suitable placement. NOC and valid Oman Driving license available. Contact 96135707

Senior Procurement Engineer, M.tech-Civil, Looking for a job, NOC Available, Immediate Joining, Indian Male, 38yrs, have over 16+ years UAE& Oman experience. E. syedkamaalsaba@yahoo.com, Whatsapp +96871144578, Contact +917766019519

16 yrs Oman experience in procurement, logistics & customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

Indian male MSC Computer science. 26 years old, 2 year experience in Purchase & Admin, employment visa, Valid driving license, NOC available. Contact 92676197, 98944397

Indian, with vast experience in purchase, sales, administration holding valid visa and Omani driving license seeks suitable placement. Contact: 91794070

Indian Male, having 18 Years of experience in Operations, Purchase, Stores & Inventory and Administration working in a reputed Organisation in Oman, looking for a suitable placement. Contact 96010598.

18 Years of experience in Purchase/stores/Admin & Inventory in Food & Beverage in Oman, looking for a placement in Wholesale, Retail or Hospitality Industry. Kindly contact me on 96010598

Indian M.com graduate holding Oman DL, 05 Years plus experience in purchase / Supply Chain in international restaurants / Franchisees looking for a suitable job. NOC available. GSM: 90197061 Email shakeeb77721@gmail.com

Indian Male 45 yrs with 16 yrs exp in Oman as Logistic Supervisor, seeks a job in Warehouse/Distribution/FMCG companies, GCC D/L. NOC can be arranged. Mob: 71689224. Email truefails@rediffmail.com

Procurement Officer 20 years experience in Oman looking for suitable position. Contact 97903411

SALES / MARKETING

Senior Sales & Business Development Specialist from Morocco with 5 years' experience in Oman looking for a suitable opportunity and can start immediately. Contact 71744819

Sales manager(MBA) with 6 years experience specialised in seafood and FMCG for HORECA and hyper-market sector looking for suitable position. NOC available. Contact +968 78321364

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

Indian male, 18yrs of experience in outdoor sales of FMCG and electronics is seeking suitable placement. DL and NOC available. # 91290046

Indian Male 37 Years, Graduate in Finance Management . Oman 10 Years Experience . Interested in Sales & Marketing . Driving Licence Available . Looking for a Suitable Position. Contact No. 78312303

Salesman/office driver, 15 yrs experience. Valid D/L. Muscat area. Contact 79818772

B.E Civil Indian M 24 Y Sales Exp in Sales/Marketing/Team Lead/ Manager/Business Development. Available in Oman with NOC. Looking for Any Job. Contact 78186546

Indian Male 32, having over 9 years of oman exp in sales & Marketing is seeking for a suitable placement. NOC & Valid Oman Driving license available Gsm 92460904

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Civil / MEP Draughtsman (Indian-aged 35) having 13 years of oman experience seeking a better placement. Valid oman driving licence. NOC available. Contact 98079806. Email shirshadbabu@gmail.com

Purchase engineer, Btech/MBA, NoC Available, Immediate joining, 3 years Oman experience, manufacturing. Contact/Whatsapp +96891740462. Email eliaspallathra@gmail.com

Indian Female with 18years exp. and knowledge upto finalization with D/L seeking suitable placement. Contact 92724555

Financial Manager, CMA (USA), CFA, MBA with 13 years experience with Multi National Companies and large corporates seeks senior position. Experienced in Financial Planning & Analysis, Management Accounting, VAT and Process Management.Holds Licence and NOC. Available to join immediately. Contact: 92771782; daisonnjacob@yahoo.com

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JOB WANTED

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

IT System administrator Indian male 28 BE CSE CCNA graduate with 5 yrs experience in Indian looking for suitable job.On visit .Contact 93674784

23 Years Indian Male, Diploma In Mechanical Engineering. 1 Years work experience in Oman. Available on family join visa. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 968- 79121923, 99224057

An Experienced HR Professional (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately.IELTS: 6.5-Bands.Phone / WhatsApp: +968949773471. Email hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Indian Female, B.E. in Electronics & Communication + CCNA (Routing & Switching) fresher,studied in Oman, looking for suitable placements.Contact 99636352

Indian Male-43 yrs. Experience in trailer driver, GCC holding valid heavy licence.Seeking suitable job. NOC available. Mob - 99449686, 91- 9526956869.

Female, Planning Engineer, BE Mech, 13 years experience with oil & gas Engineering Field and construction Projects seeking a suitable job Contact no : 97408929

Diploma in Electrical Engineer (8 years Experience in Installati on of LT line, Vendor Coordination, Arrange Quotation from supplier for Tender/Work). Contact 91-9771492886

Filipino male w/ release. , with 8 years exp. in OMAN: ADMIN, accounting, purchasing, Knows Tally ERP 9 and microsoft's excel, 97890657, email: hernandezjanlouis27@gmail.com

B.Tech in Civil Engineering (structural), 23 yrs fresher(trained for 5 months)seeking job as structural Engineering, familiar with various software. Contact 78274434.Email mohammedarshadjunaidd@gmail.com

Indian well experienced sr accountant or Chief accountant, looking for suitable placement. Contact 95362046. Email srjobinoman@yahoo.com

AutoCAD Draftsman with 8 years of Oman Experience, Architecture & Structural drafting. N.O.C available Contact: 78253720

HSE OFFICER, 15 years experience.Seeking job to join a reputed firm. Contact WhatsApp-968-99626821

Accountant Indian Male 26yrs with MBA Finance having 5yrs experience, 3yrs in Oman looking for suitable position of an Accountant. NOC Available. GSM: 95394439. Email: mohdanas040@gmail.com

A Technical Graduate with around 2 Years' Experience in HR-Admin, seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, Desktop-Support(IT), Data Entry or IT Teacher.IELTS: 6.5-Bands.Contact/ WhatsApp: +968949773471. Email: hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Indian/male (28)/MBA/4 years' experience in procurement and coordination with valid Oman. licence. Available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194. Email:suhailbs@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer - NIT Surat, Gujarat, India - Oman resident with DL - one year work experience - Contact: 91756930

Indian male M.Tech(ECE) 4 yrs exp. as a Sales Engineer in Industrial Automation, PLC, SCADA with a valid Saudi D/L. Looking for a good opportunity. # 98240758 mohdrashidali87@gmail.com

Indian 15 yrs Oman experience B.Com ,ICWA9Inter) PGDBM head-ed Finance,logistics established Company. 93870808, 93883272

Electrical Engineer 4 yrs 6 months experience with NOC available. Contact 90863138. Email guntisiddharth@gmail.com

16 yrs Oman experience in procurement,logistics& customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

Housemaid required for a Keralite family at Darsait. Should have experience in household work, baby care. Contact 97332392

Urgently required experienced South Indian male cook (Veg/ Non-veg) cum houseboy for Senior company official residence at Ghubra Area. Interested medically fit candidate. Candidate with Omani DL preference. # 99273774 / 99202278

Accounts and Finance Manager with MBA Financial degree, 13 yrs in Oman & 15 yrs. in other countries seeking immediate job with Family status. # 99883983 or uthayakumarsaravanan@gmail.com

18+ years experienced in Pre-press and Graphic Designing with renowned commercial Printing Press and Newspaper Publisher, male expatriet looking for placement, residing in Muscat. Contact: 99663123 E-mail: deytapash@gmail.com

Project engineer, B.tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman exp in all kinds operation of Civil Construction, interior fit- out and electro mechanical field with valued Visa and D/L. Contact 95206259, 98857994

Civil engineer 12 years experience in oman NOC available # 98047527

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs of experience.5yrs & 10 months of Oman experience.NOC available seeking suitable placement. Contact 968 91226236 Email: tonymxx@gmail.com.

Electrical engineer 6+ years HV/ LV experience, Dogm Refinery exp. IOSH+6 Safety courses D/L, Contact 79474387

Project engineer, B.Tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman exp in all kinds operation of civil construction, interior fit- out and electro mechanical field with valued Visa and D/L. Contact 95206259, 98857994

Looking part-time housemaid job surrounding area of Ghobra / Aziba like cooking, washing & cleaning post-delivery support, baby care. contact 79293053.

Male, looking for a job in administration or office coordinator, extremely familiar with the Oman market Not looking into Sales or Marketing. Looking forward to hearing from potential companies. Having D/L. # 93264375 email: vpmandakishore@gmail.com

Draftsman 2 years' experience. Looking for suitable job (Indian male). Contact 968 93083224/919791452601. Email: elaisn.c@gmail.com

Indian Female 10 years, experience As Cook, South Indian,Gujarati Special,looking For Part Time. Contact : 95795971

Indian Male (30), MBA-Finance, 6 years experience in electrical and lighting industry as Sales Executive-project sales (outdoor), specialized in lighting for residential and commercial projects. Contact 94560161. Email kaisebukhari@gmail.com

Situation Wanted* Mechanical engineer specialized in quality inspection with cswip 3.1 & ASNT LEVEL II certifications looking for an opening in oil & gas industry. currently in Muscat. # 96206400 or awrunedathil@gmail.com

Indian male Diploma (Cinematography) & BA English with 5 yrs of experience in sales and Marketing field Seeking suitable placement. currently in Oman on visit. Contact 78150989. Email: alexthomas927@gmail.com

B.Tech Electrical Engineer Indian male with 11 yrs of experience in contracting and consultant firms. Looking for job with Valid GCC driving licewnse available. Contact 968-94343694. Email: ymansoor2@gmail.com



**JOB VACANCIES
JOB WANTED?**

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Nissan Altima available on low EMI

Nissan Altima’s state-of-the-art engineering offers those who drive it an effortless power while furthering remarkable fuel economy



MUSCAT: Nissan Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles (SBA), has announced low EMI on Nissan Altima which offers an outstanding drive, enhanced handling, fuel efficiency and thoughtful technology solutions. Customers can now avail an exceptionally low EMI rate of OMR 159 on Nissan Altima and OMR 180 on Nissan Altima 2.0L Turbo (terms and conditions apply). EMIs are calculated based on 3.2 per cent rate of Interest, 20 per cent down payment, six-year loan tenure. Subject to credit approvals. Nissan Altima’s state-of-the-art engineering offers those who drive it an effortless power while fur-

thering remarkable fuel economy. Nissan Altima is also cherished by owners in Oman for its classy design, fuel economy, driving performance, technology and comfortability. Its good looks, a striking exterior, colour range, spaciousness and fashionable interior have brought the car a lifetime of fans. Its powerful high-performance engine and a range of other options add to its appeal. A senior spokesperson for Suhail Bahwan Automobiles (SBA) said, “We are delighted to offer low EMI on Nissan Altima which is a premium mid-size sedan like no other. Nissan Altima has advanced safety features for those seeking a more focused driving experi-

ence. Owners vouch that with its advanced technology and in-built design, Nissan Altima is a pleasure to drive.” The Nissan Altima 2.0L Turbo, which has a new standard of design, driving enjoyment and technology has been creating waves within the mid-size sedan segment since its launch. The sedan’s advanced VC-Turbo engine – the company’s first production-ready variable compression ratio engine – is one of the most advanced internal combustion engines ever created. Similarly, Nissan Altima 2.5L features expressive styling, an uplifting interior, two powertrains, and advanced Nissan Intelligent Mobility features.

The Nissan Altima 2.0 has the world’s first variable compression turbo engine. The engine is so smart that it anticipates what the driver wants. The Altima’s shape-shifting VC-turbo engine lets the driver enjoy a lot. Nissan Altima 2.5 L unlocks the pure joy of driving through its innovative latest technology and Nissan Intelligent Mobility feature that responds to the world around in real-time. Powered by an innovative 248 horsepower, 2.0-litre, turbo-charged variable compression, four-cylinder engine, Nissan Altima continuously adjusts its compression ratio to optimize power and efficiency. Whether its turbocharged power that pushes

you back in your seat or efficiency that sips fuel, even in city streets, Altima’s shape-shifting VC-Turbo engine gives you the best of both worlds. The sedan is a complete technological package – it over-delivers on the basics, boasts features and innovative technologies never seen in its class. The VC-Turbo engine has been developed after years of research and consumer feedback. It seamlessly changes its compression ratio between 8:1 (for high performance) and 14:1 (for high efficiency) – with an advanced multi-link system continuously raising or lowering the pistons’ reach to transform the compression ratio. While a high compression ratio

gives greater efficiency, a low compression ratio allows for greater power and torque and avoids knocking. Nissan Altima also comes standard with a traditional 2.5 litre, four-cylinder engine. The 2.5-litre inline 4-cylinder, which is standard on all Altima grades utilise more than 80% or redesigned parts. Nissan Altima 2.0 L Turbo delivers 248 horsepower and has dimensions of 4900 x 1852 x 1447mm (Lx-WxH). It has a CVT transmission, a Wheelbase of 2825mm and Fuel Tank capacity of 61 litres. **Excellent value** Creating a new standard of design, driving enjoyment and technology within the mid-size sedan segment, Nissan Altima features expressive styling, an uplifting interior, two powertrains, and advanced Nissan Intelligent Mobility features. Among the Nissan Altima’s many features, perhaps the one that stands out most is its ‘class above’ appeal, which is apparent at first look and the first touch of both the exterior and interior executions. Ensuring these are right is critical to success in this segment as mid-size sedan buyers are traditionally motivated first and foremost by the rational aspects of the purchase decision – excellent value, reliability and comfort.

COLLABORATION

ahlibank, Muscat Municipality partner for beautification projects

MUSCAT: Taking Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives to a new level and supporting the government’s Muscat beautification strategy, ahlibank, in collaborating with Muscat Municipality, implemented recently a slew of beautification projects including a walkway and a mega parking facility at its headquarters in Wattayah. The project’s main features including a size of 11,000 sqm, a mega 217-parking slot facility, walkway, beautification and landscaping in front of ahlibank headquarters, which is certain to improve the aesthetic appeal. Muscat, the capital city of Oman is the main cultural, economic and administrative centre. The government along with Muscat Municipality has taken a number of ambitious measures to spruce up the City with top-class infrastructure and mega-development projects making it a must-visit desti-



nation for tourists. Highlighting ahlibank’s support to various government initiatives and its collaboration with Muscat Municipality, Abdullah Salem Al Jabri, Deputy CEO, at ahlibank said, “We fully support the government and Muscat Municipality’s pioneering efforts to increase the green cover on public roads and residential neighbourhoods through sustainable solutions. As the capital city, Muscat draws visitors from across the globe and it is vital that the city has top-class at-

tractions to woo visitors.” “ahlibank’s beautification projects in collaboration with Muscat Municipality are aimed at giving a major impetus to Muscat’s rising stature as a place with top-notch facilities. The 217-parking slot facility, walkway, beautification and landscaping design with fresh plants, flowers will change the landscape of the area and make it one of the must-visit places. Once complete, the project will be a veritable delight for customers, visitors and guests.”

‘LEADERSHIP IN AGILE BANKING’

OAB receives coveted award

MUSCAT: Oman Arab Bank (OAB) recently participated in the New Age Banking Summit. The event was held at Hotel Sheraton Oman and saw the bank take part in discussions around the theme of “The Future of Banking and Fintech”. During the summit, OAB was bestowed with the ‘Leadership in Agile Banking’ award, reinforcing its dedication to the provision of high-quality customer experience. Asma Al Zadjali, Head of Banking Operations Group, said, “Finding means to incorporate or implement FinTech innovations as part of our services is an integral part in our efforts to help accelerate the e-commerce industry and bring about a new age of digital banking. This is why we are and have always been keen on holding workshops catered to delivering value-added skill sets, experiences and networking opportunities to FinTechs, so that they may play a role in creating



a thriving innovative banking ecosystem. With key programmes and initiatives to develop innovation, local talent and entrepreneurship in place, we will be able to contribute significantly towards building the Sultanate’s knowledge-based economy and create value for the community at large.” Business agility is a necessity for the long-term survival of any organisation in today’s rapidly changing times. OAB has established itself as a pioneer in the region, es-

pecially when it comes to adopting agile practices. With a core focus on simplifying processes for its customers and enhancing their digital experience, the Bank needed to re-structure how the internal IT and Operations facilities functioned. OAB looked to implement the best-in-class practices in agile to ensure a robust foundation for its step towards digitisation. While agile is easier to implement within smaller teams, it was a huge challenge to upscale it at an enterprise level.

SUPERCAR



McLaren’s all-new high-performance Hybrid enters final stages of testing

MUSCAT: The first series-production High-Performance Hybrid (HPH) supercar from McLaren Automotive has entered the final stages of its development and test programmes, which includes running on public roads. Due to launch in the first half of 2021, the all-new supercar will open a new era of electrification for McLaren following the end of production of its Sports Series range. The all-new, the supercar will be the first McLaren built on a new carbon fibre structure, christened McLaren Carbon Lightweight Architecture (MCLA). Optimised for High-Performance Hybrid powertrains and latest-generation driver technologies, the architecture elevates McLaren’s pioneering lightweight chassis technologies to new heights, exploiting the company’s advantage in super-lightweight engineering – a benefit that has its roots in the brand’s motorsport origins. Designed, developed and produced in the UK at the £50m state-of-the-art McLaren Composites Technology Centre (MCTC) in

Sheffield region, the all-new flexible structure will underpin the next generation of McLaren hybrid supercars coming to market over the coming years. The High-Performance Hybrid powertrain, which features an all-new V6 internal combustion engine, delivers astonishing levels of performance and a uniquely intense driver experience, as well as providing medium-range EV-only drive capability. “This all-new McLaren supercar is the distillation of everything we have done to date; all that we have learned and achieved,” commented Mike Flewitt, CEO, McLaren Automotive. “This is a new kind of McLaren for a new era, an extraordinary drivers’ car that offers blistering performance as well as an all-electric range capable of covering most urban journeys. We see this new McLaren as a true ‘next generation’ supercar and cannot wait to show it to customers.” McLaren’s all-new, ‘next-generation’ supercar draws on all of the technological expertise in designing, developing and building

the world’s most innovative and desirable, super-lightweight hypercars and supercars. “For us, light-weighting and high-performance hybrid technology go hand-in-hand to achieve better performance as well as more efficient vehicles,” explained Flewitt. “Our expertise in lightweight composites and carbon fibre manufacturing, combined with our experience in cutting-edge battery technologies and high-performance hybrid propulsion systems, makes us ideally placed to deliver uncompromised levels of electrified high-performance driving that until now have simply been unattainable.” The all-new hybrid supercar will sit between the GT and the 720S in the McLaren range and its introduction will further strengthen the company’s presence in the supercar sector. The Sports Series designation – introduced in 2015 with the launch of the 570S – ceases from the end of this year with the limited-run, GT4-inspired 620R the last model produced.

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Toyota announces 14th Dream Car Art Contest 2020 winners



Since 2004, Toyota Dream Car Art Contest has been conducted as part of Toyota Motor Corporation's social contribution initiatives

MUSCAT: Saud Bahwan Automotive, the dealers for Toyota in Oman, recently announced the winners of the 14th Dream Car Art Contest 2020 (TDCAC). The contest was successfully conducted across Toyota showrooms in the Sultanate of Oman.

Since 2004, Toyota Dream Car Art Contest has been conducted as part of Toyota Motor Corporation's social contribution initiatives. It gives children throughout the world the opportunity to develop an interest in cars and helps them feel the joy and importance of having a dream.

The annual Toyota Dream Car Art Contest is held in different countries all over the world with

the theme 'Your Dream Car'. The importance of recognising a dream for children is the goal, as well as, encouraging children to become interested in cars by using their creativity and imagination. Toyota has 'great hopes for the Dream Cars from the children's rich imaginative powers.

In Oman, the 14th Toyota Dream Car Art Contest was conducted by Saud Bahwan Automotive to provide a unique opportunity for kids to showcase their imagination, creativity & talent. Kids up to 15 Years of age were welcomed from all over Sultanate of Oman to participate in 14th Dream Car Art Contest. The talented ones stood a chance to win exciting prizes such

as Apple iPad, LG 43" Smart LED UHD TV, JBL 2.1 Soundbar, Play Station 4, Samsung Galaxy Tab A, Canon DSLR 4000D and more.

Thousands of entries were received for the competition, which encouraged children to imagine what cars of the future would be like, and creatively design their imaginations for the contest. With the successful conclusion of the event, the jubilant winners have now emerged.

In the Under 8 Category: From Liwa, Abdullah Mohammed Ali Al Farsi took home an Apple iPad 10.2 with Wi-Fi. Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Jasasi, hailing from Ibri won an LG 43" Smart LED UHD TV. Adam Hani Ibrahim from Suwaiq

was the happy winner of a JBL 2.1 Channel Sound Bar.

In the 8 to 11 years category, the winners comprised Rahaf Sultan Rashid Al Marshodi from Ibri, who won LG 43" Smart LED UHD TV. From Muscat, it was Balamurali Krishna Benoj who took home a PS4 500GB, while Reetaj Ahmed Al Mandhari from Sumail, won a Samsung Galaxy Tab A 8 Inch.

In the children aged from 12-15, the winners comprised Abdul Salam Salim Humaid Al Mabsali from Sinaw, who won LG 43" Smart LED UHD TV. From Muscat, Ahmed Ali Al Senaidi won a PS4 500GB and Jiya Sajeev from Bu-reimi won a Canon DSLR 4000D.

Apart from the above nine na-

tional winners, 60 branch winners were also declared in the 14th Toyota Dream Car Art Contest 2020, Oman and they each won Lulu gift vouchers. And every contestant who participated received a certificate of participation.

According to a spokesperson from Saud Bahwan Automotive, "It is very encouraging to see the imaginations of these young and fertile minds. It gives us immense joy to provide such talent with a platform to demonstrate their imaginations. We congratulate all the winners and encourage all participants to continue to give their imaginations a shape. And to look forward to the next Toyota Dream Car Art Contest."

BIODIVERSITY OF OMAN'S GREEN MOUNTAIN

ESO, Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort publish wildlife infographic

MUSCAT: In celebration of Arab Environment Day, the Environment Society of Oman (ESO), and Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort have jointly published an infographic on the wildlife of the Sultanate's Western Al Hajar mountains.

Available online for free, the infographic illustrates the main terrestrial biodiversity of the mountain range, which is Eastern Arabia's highest, aiming to increase knowledge and raise awareness about the most common species found there. Various species of birds, mammals and flora are included, along with their listing under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It is part of an ongoing relationship between ESO and the resort, as together they continue to highlight the unique diversity of Oman's wildlife while promoting environmentally sustainable behaviour.

"In line with our commitment to preserving Oman's natural heritage, we have been working on a range of content for informational booklets, infographics and videos, developing educational materials to share virtually, particularly during the ongoing pandemic," said Suaad Al Harthi, Executive Director for ESO.

"Al Jabal Al Akhdar is one of the Sultanate's most popular tourist sites so, working in partnership with Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort, we have created an infographic which we hope will



serve to educate visitors about the rich variety of plants and animals they might find there. At the same time, it serves to highlight the various threats facing these species, among which is, unfortunately, unregulated tourism."

"Al Jabal Al Akhdar is not only a beautiful location but home to so many of Oman's most incredible natural resources. These animals

and plants inspire many elements of the resort and are a great example of our connection with the environment around us," said Rami Farhat, Acting General Manager of Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort. "As part of our commitment to promote sustainable hospitality, we're happy to support ESO on this and other projects, so that we can safeguard our unique sur-

roundings for visitors to continue to enjoy."

Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort works on a number of projects as part of the hotel's sustainability commitment, including, Dollars for Deeds, where it matches guests' donations to ESO ryal-for-ryal. The infographic is part of a wider campaign from ESO to highlight and protect Oman's environment.

AL MOUJ MUSCAT

First, second phase of Murooj Lanes homes sell out within 48 hours of release

MUSCAT: The first and second phase of residential properties at Murooj Lanes, a new neighbourhood launched at Al Mouj Muscat, sold out within 48 hours of its release, demonstrating the appeal of this well-established oceanfront community.

Al Mouj Muscat is Oman's leading Integrated Tourism Complex (ITC) and a public-private venture between the UAE-based Majid Al Futtaim Properties, OMRAN and Tammia, now home to over 6,000 residents from 85 different nationalities.

Its latest release of apartments and townhouses are located within the much sought-after Ghadeer District which is set at the heart of Al Mouj Muscat, close to and supported by a comprehensive mix of leisure, retail and community facilities.

The successful launch of Murooj Lanes reflects attractive pricing options particularly suited to first-time investors and homeowners, with studio apartments starting from OMR53,000 and a three-bed townhouse costing from just OMR155,000.

"We are delighted by the enthusiastic response to Murooj Lanes and we are confident that phase three will be equally successful given the winning combination of pricing, location and flexibility where buyers can reserve a property with as little as a 5 per cent down payment," says Nasser Al Sheibani, CEO of Al Mouj Muscat.

Al Mouj Muscat is now taking bookings for phase three of Murooj Lanes, where prices are at a similar level as the previous two phases.

