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Times OF OMAN

GOLDEN JUBILEE
50 YEARS OF LEGACY
مجموعة مسقط للإعلام
Muscat Media Group

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HM CONFERS ORDERS ON THEIR HIGHNESSES, THEIR EXCELLENCIES, OFFICIALS, COMMANDERS

The Royal Orders were conferred at Al Barakah Palace

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik conferred Royal Orders at Al Barakah Palace yesterday on some of their highnesses, their excellencies and officials, as well as commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces and Royal Oman Police (ROP), and senior officers from military and security services.

This recognition from the country's Monarch is in appreciation of their dedicated efforts in performing their professional duties, and coincides with the nation's celebrations of the glorious National Day.

His Majesty the Sultan conferred the Al Rusoukh Order (Second Class) on:

- HH Sayyid Dr. Fahad bin Al Julanda Al Said, Vice Chancellor of Sultan Qaboos University.
- HH Sayyid Nader bin Al Julanda Al Said, Secretary General in the Diwan of Royal Court.
- HH Sayyid Dr. Kamil bin Fahad Al Said, Secretary General at the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers.

His Majesty the Sultan conferred the Supreme Order of Honour on:

- Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court.
- Sheikh Abdul Malik bin Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council.
- Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior.

His Majesty also conferred the Al Rusoukh Order (Second Class) on Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Shura Council.

Furthermore, His Majesty the Sultan conferred the Royal Commendation Order (First Class) on:

- Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister.
- Sheikh Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones.
- Dr. Madiha bint Ahmed Al Shaibani, Minister of Education.
- Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs.
- Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information.

His Majesty conferred the Oman Civil Order (First Class) on:

- Lt. Gen Said bin Ali Al Hilali, Head of the Internal Security Service.
- Hussein bin Ali bin Abdullatif, Advisor at the Private Office.
- Sayyid Dr. Sultan bin Ya'arub Al Busaidi, Advisor at the Private Office.
- Ahmed bin Jaafar Al Musalami, Governor of the Central Bank of Oman.

His Majesty the Sultan conferred the Royal Commendation Order (First Class) on Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sarmi, Head of the Royal Protocols.

His Majesty also conferred Oman Military Order (Second Class) on:

- Air Vice Marshal Khamis bin Hammad Al Ghafri, Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO).
- Rear Admiral Saif bin Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO).
- Maj. Gen Salim bin Ali Al Hosni, Commander of the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO).
- Maj. Gen Musallam bin Mohammed Jaaboub, Commander of the Sultan's Special Force (SSF).
- Maj. Gen Gerald M. Strickland, Senior Loan Service Officer at the Ministry of Defence.
- Maj. Gen Nasser bin Saleh Al Maawali, Secretary General for Communications and Coordination at the Private Office.
- Maj. Gen Sulaiman bin Khalid Al Zakwani, Secretary General of the Office of the Supreme Commander.
- Maj. Gen Khalifa bin Ali Al Siyabi, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs for Administrative and Financial Affairs.
- Maj. Gen Idris bin Abdulrahman Al Kindi, Secretary General of the National Security Council at the Royal Office.
- Maj. Gen Hamid bin Ahmed Sakroon, Chairman of the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies.
- Maj. Gen Mohammed bin Rabia Al Shujaybi, Assistant Head of the Internal Security Service for Operations.
- Maj. Gen Saif bin Salman Al Shukaili, Assistant Head of the Internal Security Service for Administrative Support.
- Rear Admiral Ali bin Abdullah Al Shidi, Commandant of the National Defence College.
- Maj. Gen Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al Manthari from the Ministry of Defence.
- Maj. Gen Sultan bin Mohammed Al Maamari from the Ministry of Defence.
- Maj. Gen Saif bin Zahir Al Salmi, Head of the Special Medical Unit Affairs at the Royal Court Affairs.
- Maj. Gen Sulaiman bin Ali Al Husaini, Head of the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority.

His Majesty the Sultan also conferred Oman Military Order (Third Class) on Colonel Nasser bin Saud Al Riyami, Military Aide to His Majesty the Sultan. — ONA

See also >A4

His Majesty confers Supreme Order of Honour on Honourable Lady

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has conferred the Supreme Order of Honour upon Her Highness the Honourable Lady Assayida Ahd Abdullah Hamed Al Busaidi, Spouse of the Sultan of Oman, in recognition from His Majesty to her noble efforts and contributions in serving the nation. — ONA

KLIPPEL-TRENAUNAY SYNDROME

First successful KTS pregnancy achieved

MUSCAT: A multidisciplinary medical team at University Medical City has successfully managed the first pregnancy of a woman with Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS) in Oman.

KTS is a rare congenital vascular disorder characterised by vascular malformations and the overgrowth of a limb, making pregnancy particularly high-risk.

Potential complications include blood clots, excessive bleeding, and other vascular challenges.

Managing such cases demands precise coordination among multiple medical specialties, especially concerning anesthesia and delivery.

The case was managed through integrated cooperation among the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vascular Surgery, Anesthesiology, Radiology, and Neonatology. The patient received close monitoring until a successful delivery was completed without complications.

The medical team was supervised by Dr. Nihal bint Mohammed Al Riyami, Associate Professor at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at Sultan Qaboos University, and Senior Consultant in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University Medical City, and Dr. Edwin Stephen, Senior Consultant in the Department of Surgery at Sultan Qaboos University Hospital at the University Medical City.

This pioneering achievement marks the first successful pregnancy of a woman with KTS in Oman, highlighting the expertise and readiness of University Medical City's staff to manage rare and complex medical conditions within an advanced, specialised care system. — ONA

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Oman launches its National Climate Platform

1 Through its participation in the United Nations Climate Change Conference, Oman announced the launch of its "National Climate Platform", which will serve as a strategic pillar for implementing national priorities, attracting climate finance and enhancing international cooperation. The platform stems from three basic principles: national proprietorship, partnership and transparency. >A2

OMAN

Cooperation in educational field

2 The Sultanate of Oman and Lebanon explored ways to enhance cooperation in various educational fields. >A3

MARKET

OQEP reports robust revenue growth

3 OQ Exploration and Production SAOG (OQEP) announced its financial results for the nine months ending 30 September 2025. >B1

OMAN

PRAYER TIMINGS

Dhuhr	11:57pm
Asr	3:04pm
Maghrib	5:26pm
Isha	6:39pm
Fajr (Tomorrow)	5:05am

IN NORTH AL SHARQIYAH

Major restoration work of historic and archaeological sites completed

IBRA: The Department of Heritage and Tourism in the North A'Sharqiyah Governorate has completed restoration work on several historic and archaeological sites and landmarks in various wilayats of the governorate at a cost of more than OMR100,000.

This comes as part of the ongoing restoration efforts across various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, aimed at enhancing cultural and historical identity, stimulating the local economy by supporting tourism and small to medium enterprises, and providing opportunities for community learning and entertainment. – ONA

Oman unveils National Climate Platform at COP30 summit in Brazil

The platform will serve as a strategic pillar for implementing national priorities, attracting climate finance and enhancing international cooperation

BRASILIA: Through its participation in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), the Sultanate of Oman on Sunday announced the launch of its National Climate Platform, which will serve as a strategic pillar for implementing national priorities, attracting climate finance and enhancing international cooperation.

During an event titled "Delivering climate solutions through country platforms", Dr. Thuraya Al Sariri said, "The National Climate Platform has been developed as a comprehensive national system that serves as a centre for coordination and investment, bringing together national priorities, climate finance and international cooperation. The overall aim is to transform national strategies into practical programmes with tangible impact and to support the transition towards a low-carbon, more resilient future."

Dr. Thuraya pointed out that the National Climate Platform stems from three basic principles: national proprietorship, partnership and transparency.

She added that the platform will use advanced digital measures to enhance transparency, track investments, measure progress and consolidate confidence with local and international partners in a manner that reflects the Sultanate of Oman's readiness to realise impactful outcomes and global significance.

The Environment Authority is spearheading climate action, acting in partnerships with all national parties concerned, and with full openness to international institutions, the private sector and countries in the region.

The platform focuses on high priority sectors that influence mitigation and building of resilience in a manner that fits with the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and the Zero Neutrality Strategy 2050 (net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2050).

The target sectors include: clean energy and green hydrogen, water, agriculture, waste management, circular economy and private sector finance.

The Sultanate of Oman affirmed that the National Climate Platform will be one of the basic pillars for managing and coordinating all funding requests that will be submitted to international climate funds in accordance with national priorities that will be determined in partnership with all relevant parties in the country. – ONA

PUBLIC AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES

Oman's free zones cement their status as premier investment destinations

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) is striving, within its strategy, to diversify its investment base and attract projects in the sectors of manufacturing, renewable energy, advanced technologies, food and pharmaceutical industries, in addition to logistics and tourism activities.

The Authority is also developing specialized industrial clusters supported by integrated facilities that provide raw materials, real estate, and financial solutions. This enhances the integration of projects within supply chains and adds value. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy, it is developing the Aluminum Industrial Cluster in Sohar, the Cold Chain Cluster in Duqm, and the Gypsum Industrial Cluster in Shaleem.

Eng. Ahmed Hassan Al Dheeb, Vice Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones, affirmed that the Authority is working to attract local and foreign investments in the zones it supervises—whether special economic zones, free zones, or industrial areas—by establishing the essential infrastructure to develop these zones and create an attractive investment environment to enable the establishment of these factories and projects.

He clarified that the volume of investment in special economic zones, free zones, and industrial cities has doubled over the past five years, from OMR14.12 billion to reach OMR22 billion by mid-2025. Meanwhile, the workforce in these zones and cities has risen to approximately 80,000 workers, with about 39% being Omani nationals.

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), he said that 138 new investment contracts worth OMR1.049 billion were signed, with the industrial sector accounting for 97% of the total added investment volume in the first half of 2025.

He added that the economic and free zones will witness qualitative projects in several sectors in the coming period, such as mining, metal industries, and green hydrogen, for which the Special Economic Zone at Duqm is a promising area.

New zones

He explained that the establishment of new zones, such as the Al Dhahirah Special Economic Zone in the Wilayat of Ibri and the Al Rawdah Special Economic Zone in the Wilayat of Mahadha in Al Buraimi Governorate, will enhance trade growth between the Sultanate of Oman, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. Each zone will contribute to supporting productive and service sectors, providing job opportunities for citizens, and stimulating commercial and logistical movement, thereby contributing to achieving the targets of Oman Vision 2040, he affirmed.

Al Dheeb indicated that regarding A'Dhahirah Special Economic Zone, the Authority has floated two tenders: the first for road construction in the first phase, and the second for establishing the dry port and its supporting services.

As for Al Rawdah Free Zone, he stated that the Authority has floated a tender related to the external services for the zone, aimed at rainwater drainage. He noted that the operator for the A'Dhahirah zone will be Asyad, in cooperation with a company from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the operator for the Al Rawdah zone will be Mahadha Development, which is a strategic partnership with DP World. Regarding the Free Zone at Muscat International Airport, he clarified that the operation of this zone has been assigned to Asyad, which is currently working on providing the infrastructure, including land leveling, roads, and essential services for establishing projects in the area.

He affirmed that the total investments at the time of the first Duqm Economic Forum in 2023 were OMR3.6 billion, and this volume increased after the second forum held last October to RO 6.3 billion. This, he affirmed, indicates that the Special Economic Zone at Duqm is witnessing growth and attracting more projects, whether currently under implementation or in the final stages of approval. He pointed out that there is continuous evaluation of all incoming projects to the zone in terms of added value and the number of jobs they will provide.

In response to a question about the Duqm Petrochemical Complex, Al Dheeb explained that the economic study for the complex, which is a partnership between OQ Group and its partners from the State of Kuwait, is currently underway. – ONA

Role of mediation for swift justice stressed

The international conference activities witnessed the participation of international experts, officials, representatives, judges, and arbitrators

MUSCAT: The Supreme Judiciary Council on Sunday organised an international conference in Muscat titled: "Mediation: The Future of Dispute Resolution".

The conference was held under the auspices of Sayyid Mohammed bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Vice Chairman of the Supreme Judiciary Council, with the participation of international experts, mediators, and arbitrators from various countries around the world.

The conference highlighted the growing role of mediation in achieving swift justice and reducing the burden on courts.

The organisation of the conference comes within the framework of the Supreme Judiciary Council's directives to enhance the efficiency of the justice system and develop alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods to resolve disputes. This supports the business and investment environment and reinforces the confidence in the judicial system.

The conference activities witnessed the participation of a selection of prominent international experts, including officials, representatives, judges, and arbitrators from the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the OIC Arbitration Centre (OICAC), the Abu Dhabi Global Market Courts, the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts, and the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, alongside a number of academics, mediators, and arbitrators from the Middle East, Europe, and North America. The conference serves as a specialised dialogue platform bringing together all specialists to exchange international experiences and review best practices in developing the mediation system as a fundamental pillar in the development of the justice system.

It aims to build national capacities capable of practicing mediation efficiently and professionally, in line with the Sultanate of Oman's direction toward consolidating the rule of law and achieving swift justice.— ONA

COMMENTARY

Looking for wonderland

SALEH AL-SHAIBANY

There are times when I feel that I would like to separate every grain of sand in this vast desert of Oman. Of course, that would not change my life but it would give me a great feeling. The need to do something extraordinary once in your lifetime always lives on.

While most of us live a very ordinary life, there are times our minds drift to a wonderland of some sort. I guess the escape door is always ajar and never far. It is like going to the movies and spending the next 90 minutes living somebody's fancy. Except that in our own minds, we write the script the way we wish. Very few of us actually walk on the world of our dreams. The rest of us just get to enter our worse nightmares and struggle to get out of it.

There are no exemptions when it comes to bad experiences. I wish there were. When you squeeze out the last thought and get nothing good from it then it may be time to make your dream a reality. We see it happen all the time but people risk absurdity when they go for it. Let me give you a quick example. I saw a man wandering in the office block where I work every morning for the whole week. I guess he covered every step of the stairs and knocked on every door in that five-floor building.

Then one day, out of curiosity, I asked him what he was looking for. He said he was looking for a friend who was living there. Of course, I did not believe him because it would not take anyone a week to find the right apartment. He seemed a bit nervous if not disturbed.

So I thought perhaps he might be looking for some kind of distraction to take his mind off his troubles. "There is a massage parlour on the first floor. They know everybody who is in the building," I told him and continued with my business, avoiding his reaction.

I met him in the lift three days later. He looked much happier and there was a refreshed look on his face. He just nodded his head at me and I kept my mouth shut. The lift did not make a long journey. It stopped on the first floor and he got out like a shot. His wandering days were over, I thought.

I like to think he now lives his dream and the massage parlour in the building has become his wonderland. I am now tempted to recommend it to any man who approaches me with a sad look in their eyes. If I muster enough courage to do it, then I would need to ask my commission from the management. I might even go a step further and try out the place myself.

You see, when you lower your expectations about your best fantasy, then you might not need to travel the globe. Of course, there are always risks involved. Normally, you would not want people close to you to know about the fantasy.

They would either get the wrong ideas or make you feel stupid. So you conduct your fantasy with discretion because your secret is only safe with strangers. There is always a price to pay of course, when you reach the climax. You find it boring and look for another excitement. Then the cycle repeats itself. As for me, my dreamland is a very strange one. It has a few people living in shacks ruling a community in a thousand palaces. A land that defies logic where every grain of sand is put to good use.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Oman, Lebanon explore areas of educational cooperation

MUSCAT: Dr. Madiha Ahmed Al Shibani, Minister of Education, received on Sunday, Dr. Rima Karami, Minister of Education and Higher Education of the Lebanese Republic.

The meeting came within the framework of the Lebanese Minister's official visit to Oman, aimed at enhancing educational cooperation between the two countries and exploring opportunities for exchanging expertise in various educational fields.

The meeting addressed a number of joint educational topics, including strategic planning and development of educational policies and programmes, digital transformation in educational administration and teaching processes and educational supervision, evaluation mechanisms, and quality assurance in basic and secondary education.

The two sides also discussed the latest developments regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Education in the Sultanate of Oman and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in the Lebanese Republic. Procedures are currently being finalised for its signing during the meetings of the Omani-Lebanese Joint Committee.

During the visit, an expanded meeting was held between the two sides.

During this meeting, the Lebanese side presented a paper titled "The Education Sector in the Lebanese Republic", while the Omani side presented a paper titled "School Education in the Sultanate of Oman and its Future Prospects". — ONA

OMAN

HM confers orders on Their Highnesses, Their Excellencies, Officials, Commanders

IN MUSCAT

Workshop focuses on sustainability of private higher education institutions

MUSCAT: The development workshop for the project "Sustainability of Private Higher Education Institutions in the Sultanate of Oman" launched on Sunday in Muscat.

The goal of the workshop is to empower private higher education institutions and enhance their financial, academic, and administrative sustainability.

Endowment institutions

The workshop also aims to discuss the establishment of educational endowment institutions, attract more international students, and provide a stimulating environment for investment in higher education. The workshop will continue for four days.

The workshop's opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Dr. Rahma Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, with the attendance of representatives from private higher education institutions in the Sultanate of Oman. — ONA

IN BAUSHER

Three arrested on human trafficking charges

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Directorate General of Inquiries and Criminal Investigation, with the support of the Special Taskforce Police Unit in Bausher, arrested three individuals of Asian nationality for their involvement in human trafficking by promoting job vacancies in a hotel and luring a woman of the same nationality to work under coercion and forcing her to engage in acts contrary to public morals.

"Legal procedures are being completed against them," the statement from Directorate General of Inquiries and Criminal Investigation further added.

IN QATAR

Oman's freefall team participates in World Military Parachuting Championship

DOHA: The National Free Fall Team at the Sultan of Oman's Parachutes, Royal Army of Oman, is taking part in the 47th CISM World Military Parachuting Championship 2025 (CISM Qatar 2025), which kicked off today in Doha, State of Qatar, under the theme "CISM: Friendship Through Sport".

The opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of State for Defence Affairs.

The championship, which runs from 15 to 23 November, sees the participation of 320 male and female skydivers from 30 countries around the world. – ONA

ON WORLD DIABETES DAY

Healthy Walking Marathon organised

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ahmed bin Ali Al Shehhi, Wali of Seeb and Chairman of the Health Committee, sponsored the Healthy Walking Marathon, which took place on Sur Al Hadid Beach, as part of efforts to mark World Diabetes Day, which falls on 14 November annually.

The event was cooperated with the Ministry of Health and a joint effort between Badr Al-Sama Hospital in Al Khoudh, an initiative to raise awareness regarding preventing chronic diseases and promote physical activity as a community culture that contributes to boosting quality of life.

Participants from various society groups joined the event, which included walking along the beach to promote healthy lifestyle awareness. Medical check-ups were conducted, and offering health consultations by specialised staff from the Health Services Department and Badr Al Sama Hospital.

During this event, Wali of Seeb confirmed health initiatives that promote positive behaviours and encourage a healthy lifestyle. He noted that the Health Committee continues to support specific programmes that contribute to raising health consciousness within society. Sheikha bint Rashid Al Hajri, a health volunteer, appreciated the supporters and contributors, explaining that World Diabetes Day is a great chance to remember prevention and early screening. As well as exercise's benefits to reduce diabetes.

PAKISTAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
(Seeb Branch)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL TENDER
Tender No. 2025/1

PSM intends to offer Annual Contract for the year 2026 – 2027. The contractors with relevant experiences are invited for following bidding:

Tender No.	Tender's Name	Tender Collection Date	Submission Date
2025/1	Running of School Canteens	November 23 to December 01, 2025 08:00 AM to 02:00 PM Working Days/Hours	Before and Until December 4, 2025

Experience contractor(s) having relevant experience of at least 3 years of similar nature jobs preferably in Oman, who wishes to participate in the bidding may collect the documents after payment of RO. 20.000 (non-refundable) per Job.

Admin Office, Pakistan School Seeb, P.O. Box 903, Building 356, Way 5889, Al Sharadi, Al Seeb, Muscat, Oman Tel: (968) 24464345 - (968) 24450380
In case of any query you may contact: **00968 90135926**

Email: **attaullah@pakistanschool.edu.om, principal.seeb@pakistanschool.edu.om**

The tenders shall be submitted in Original and complete with all relevant documents. Tenders not in compliance with tender's requirements shall not be considered.

Tender Documents shall be submitted in sealed envelope with clearly mentioned Tender number/name, Company Name and POC's Number/name. The sealed envelope shall be dropped in the Tender Box available at Admin Office on or before the date mentioned above and addressed to:

PAKISTAN SCHOOL MUSCAT (SEEB BRANCH)

(PSM is not bound to accept the lowest Tender or any Tender)

TENDER NOTICE

وزارة الثروة الزراعية والسمكية وموارد المياه
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources

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

	Tender no.	Tender title	Tender Document Sales Start Date	Tender Document Sales end Date	Bid Submission Closing	Companies that are eligible to participate	Tender Document fee (R.O)
1	433/2025/ MAFWR/ HQ- 47 Recall - 1	Maintenance, supply and installation of air conditioning units at the fish market in Ibri	Wednesday 12/11/2025	Sunday 23/11/2025	Wednesday 03/12/2025	Specialized companies registered with Excellent, First, Second, Third, fourth grades	(10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs
2	755/2025/ MAFWR/ HQ- 88	Renting a helicopter for a rainfall enhancement stations	Monday 10/11/2025	Sunday 30/11/2025	Sunday 21/12/2025	Specialized companies registered with Excellent, First, Second, Third, fourth grades	(25/-) Omani riyals for local companies (10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs

- above mentioned Grade) may obtain Tender documents from the E-Tendering website: **https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om.**
- The value of the document will be paid & submitted online on given website.
- The Tenderer should attach Bid Commitment Declaration for local companies.
- 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 24402244 or **etenderhd@ptlc.gov.om.**

TENDERS COMMOTTEE
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources

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OMAN

Shinas Port handles over 162,000 tonnes of cargo

The strong performance of Shinas Port reflects the significant developments in its infrastructure and the services provided.

MUSCAT : Shinas Port in the North Al Batinah Governorate witnessed notable growth in its performance during the third quarter of 2025.

The total volume of cargo handled reached 162,362 tonnes, comprising 159,258 tonnes of imports and 3,103 tonnes of exports, reflecting a significant increase compared to previous periods.

Khatir Ali Al Ma'amari, Executive Manager of Shinas Port, stated that the port received diverse imports, including 6,778 tonnes of construction and building materials, 110 tonnes of food supplies, in addition to 1,047 tonnes of general cargo. The port also received 19,882 heads of livestock and camels.

Regarding exports, the Executive Manager clarified that the total export quantity reached 3,103 tonnes. This included 102 tonnes of food supplies, 259 tonnes of building materials, 1,160 tonnes of general cargo, and 19,882 heads of livestock and camels.

He explained that the strong performance of Shinas Port reflects the significant developments in its infrastructure and the services provided.

This enhances its role as one of the main ports in the Sultanate of Oman and continues to support diverse economic sectors. -ONA

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MINISTRY OF LABOUR

GCC organisational forum commences

MUSCAT: The activities of the GCC Organisational Structures Forum commenced on Sunday in Muscat.

The forum is being hosted by the Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Labour.

The organisation of this forum comes within the framework of Oman's commitment to enhancing GCC institutional cooperation and exchanging expertise in the field of administrative development.

It seeks to draw inspiration from international best practices in designing and updating organisational structures to align with future requirements.

The forum aims to review the approved models of organisational structures in the GCC countries, analyse their similarities and differences, and ultimately propose a unified GCC reference framework.

This framework would contribute to enhancing institutional efficiency, establishing the foundations of governance and flexibility in public administration, and keeping pace with modern trends in building dynamic structures capable of rapid response to challenges and changes. -ONA

MARHABA OMAN

Workshop held on prospects of tourism in Oman

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism held a workshop on Monday in Muscat titled "Prospects of the Tourism Sector in the Sultanate of Oman", as part of the "Marhaba Oman" event dedicated to European tourism markets.

The targeted markets include Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia, and Belarus, within the framework of the Ministry's tourism promotion plans for 2025.

The workshop addressed the targeted tourism markets and future opportunities for the tourism sector, with the goal of hosting approximately 70 tourism companies from these markets.

This aims to strengthen communication and relations between local tourism sector partners and their international counterparts, and to promote Omani tourism products, experiences, and hotels, thereby contributing to increasing the flow of tourist traffic to Oman.

The programme includes touristic excursions to key sites across various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, along with a training program on Omani tourism products, and business meetings with local tourism sector partners.

The programme began with introductory visits to a number of tourist sites in the Governorates of Musandam, Al Dakhiliyah, South and North Al Sharqiyah, Muscat, and Dhofar.

Cultural and heritage components

This allows participants to learn about the cultural and heritage components and the authentic experiences that the Sultanate of Oman abounds in.

It also offers the chance to experience handicraft products and local heritage that reflect the richness and diversity of the Omani identity, in addition to holding joint workshops and sessions that contribute to exchanging expertise and enhancing cooperation among peers. -ONA

MEETING

Importance of open data

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology yesterday organised an open data meeting to promote transparency, enhance the availability of data to members of the public, support digital transition and innovation, enable data-driven decision-making and develop national capabilities in data management, in addition to boosting digital development in government institutions.

The meeting was held under the auspices of Dr. Nasser Rashid Al Maawali, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Economy. It was attended by representatives of government departments.

The meeting saw the felicitation of government institutions that excelled at the National Open Data Portal—in appreciation for their efforts in publishing and updating data in accordance with quality and transparency standards.

The event included a review of the experiences of some government units in the field of open data. The presentations highlighted prominent practices and challenges in developing and updating data management systems.

The MTCIT gave a presentation featuring the criteria for evaluating government units in terms of open data management, as part of the assessment of adherence to criteria related to publishing and updating standards. -ONA

JOINT GULF ACHIEVEMENT

Royal Hospital performs remote urological surgery

MUSCAT: The Royal Hospital, in collaboration with the Sabah Al-Ahmad Urology Centre in Kuwait, successfully carried out the first remote urological surgery using advanced robotic technology.

The operation stood out as a joint Gulf achievement.

The robotic system enabled surgical teams in Muscat and Kuwait to work in complete harmony through a secure, high-speed communication platform.

This setup allowed real-time control of surgical instruments and provided high-definition, three-dimensional visualization, significantly boosting safety, reducing the need for invasive intervention, and speeding up the patient's recovery.

Dr. Qais Al Hooti, Consultant and Head of the Urology Department at RH, stated that today marks a milestone for the institution as it celebrates the successful completion of the first remote surgery performed using a robotic system between Oman—represented by the Royal Hospital—and Kuwait.

Dr. Saad Al Dousari, Consultant Urologist and Head of the Surgery Department at (SAUC), described the day as a historic milestone for Gulf cooperation.

He emphasised that the partnership between Oman and Kuwait is a strategic one, adding that this latest operation carries significant strategic weight—surpassing previous procedures—and aligns with the visions of both countries.

This success further strengthens the Royal Hospital's pioneering role in adopting smart medical technologies and advancing complex surgical systems. It reflects the Ministry of Health's commitment to digital transformation and aligns with Oman Vision 2040, which emphasizes innovation and the empowerment of national talent.

The collaboration between Oman and Kuwait also serves as a model for Gulf integration in knowledge exchange and remote robotic surgery. It opens the door for expanding such procedures to other specialties while enhancing clinical training and capacity-building in digital medicine and smart surgery. -ONA

INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
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TENDER NOTICE

REF: ISM/ADMIN/TENDER/2025-26/003

Sealed tenders are invited from potential service providers / contractors for the following requirements of the school.

1. **Supply of Textbooks for the academic year 2026-27**
2. **Supply of Notebooks for the academic year 2026-27**

Interested parties shall collect the tender documents from the school cash counter against the payment of RO.10/- as a non-refundable tender fee from 17th November to 25th November 2025 during the working days (Sunday to Thursday) of the school between 7.30 a.m. and 02.30 p.m.

The completed tender shall be dropped in the Tender Box kept in the school office before the due date. The tender should be in a sealed envelope, addressed to **The Chairman, Purchase Sub Committee, Indian School Muscat, P.O. Box: 2470, PC: 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman.**

Note: Respective tenders shall clearly mention the "name of service quoted for" by the bidding party. Any tender without the name of service/supply will be considered disqualified.

Last date of tender submission: 04th December 2025

WILAYAT OF MANAH

Conference on Creative Industries, Sustainable Innovation kicks off

MANAH: The first International Conference on Creative Industries and Sustainable Innovation, "Creative Horizons," began on Sunday in the Wilayat of Manah, Al Dakhiliyah Governorate.

The two-day conference is organised by the University of Technology and Applied Sciences in Nizwa and is held at the Oman Across Ages Museum, with the participation of a select group of academics and researchers from within and outside the Sultanate of Oman.

The event was held under the patronage of Dr. Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy.

The conference addresses four main themes, namely developing innovative and sustainable policies and strategies for creative industries, the role of technology and artificial intelligence in enhancing efficiency and sustainability practices, creativity in service of the circular economy and sustainable growth, in addition to creative practices in design, media, architecture, and urban planning.

Creative industries

The first day featured an opening session titled "Innovation for Sustainability: A Global and Local Vision," where speakers reviewed modern trends in supporting creative industries and their impact on the sustainable economy.

This was followed by scientific sessions that discussed research papers on the role of artificial intelligence in design and media production, digital technologies in preserving cultural heritage, innovation in technical and creative education, and the transition towards a circular economy through the arts.

It is worth noting that the First International Conference on Creative Industries and Sustainable Innovation serves as a platform that blends the academic character with the creative spirit in the fields of cultural and creative industries, entrepreneurship, and artificial intelligence in arts and media. -ONA

SUSPECTED POISONING

Istanbul hotel evacuated after German tourist deaths

ISTANBUL: A hotel in Istanbul has been evacuated following the deaths of a German-Turkish mother and her two children from suspected poisoning, local media have reported.

Another two tourists staying at the same hotel as the family in the Fatih neighbourhood of Turkiye's largest city were hospitalised on Saturday after displaying symptoms of nausea and vomiting, Bir-Gun newspaper said.

The father from the family from Hamburg, which was holidaying in Istanbul, remained in "critical condition" in hospital, the city's regional health chief Abdullah Emre Guner said late Friday on X.

Although the main focus has so far been on food poisoning as a likely cause of death, investigators have also found that a ground-floor room of the hotel had recently been sprayed with chemicals, likely pesticides, the Hurriyet news website reported Saturday. Police have detained a hotel employee and two pest control workers, it added.

The dailies Cumhuriyet and Sabah have both reported that a baker working near the hotel has also been arrested, meaning that eight people have now been arrested in connection with the deaths,

When asked by CNN Türk about possible food poisoning at the hotel, one of the hotel owners said there was no restaurant there and that only water was available to guests. Forensic investigators have already taken samples of the drinking water.

Possible food poisoning in focus

The family fell ill after eating stuffed mussels from a street vendor and soup and a dish made from calf intestines, known in Turkish as kokorec, at another shop, according to the daily Sabah newspaper.

They are also known to have bought Turkish delight and water, while the Anadolu news agency reported that they also ate chicken.

The two children, aged 3 and 6, were admitted to hospital on Wednesday and treated for nausea and vomiting, but were initially discharged. All four members of the family were readmitted in the night when the children's condition deteriorated.

The children died shortly afterward, followed by the mother.

The three were buried on Saturday in a town in the western Turkish province of Afyonkarahisar, according to Anadolu.

Four people who sell street food are among the eight arrested in connection with the case. - DW

Mayor's murder sparks 'Gen Z' protests in Mexico

Demonstrators said the Mexican government has failed to clamp down on violent crimes

MEXICO CITY: Thousands of people took to the streets of cities across Mexico on Saturday to protest against government security policies which they say have failed to curb increasing violence in the country.

The protests, which took place under the banner of "Generation Z" in the style of other such youth movements around the world, were prompted in particular by the murder of an anti-crime mayor earlier this month.

A small group of hooded protesters even tore down metal fences around the National Palace where Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum lives and works, prompting clashes with riot police who responded with tear gas and fire extinguishers.

"For many hours, this mobilization proceeded and developed peacefully, until a group of hooded individuals began to commit acts of violence," Pablo Vazquez, Mexico City's security chief, told reporters.

"This is how you should have protected Carlos Manzo," some of the protesters shouted at the security forces, according to the Reuters news agency.

Mexico City's public safety secretary Pablo Vazquez said in a press conference that 100 police officers were injured, including 40 who required hospital treatment.

Another 20 civilians were also injured, 20 arrested and another 20 "referred for administrative offences."

"Carlos did not die; the government killed him," chanted demonstrators in Mexico City, referring to the late mayor of Uruapan in the western state of Michoacan, who was shot dead at a public Day of the Dead (Dia de Muertos) event on November 1.

Sheinbaum: protests are 'paid for' from abroad

Earlier this week, President Sheinbaum questioned the motivations for the demonstrations and said at her regular morning press conference that the protests were "inorganic" and "paid for."

"It is a movement promoted from abroad against the government," the Mexican president said, claiming it was organized in large part by right-leaning political opponents and promoted by bots on social media.

While there were international elements to the protests, such as the pirate flag emblematic of the Japanese manga "One Piece," which has become a symbol of global youth protest, other aspects were distinctly Mexican.

In addition to banners referring to the late Uruapan Mayor Manzo, others called for the removal of Sheinbaum's MORENA party. -DW

MEETING

Jordan King and Pakistan PM vow to enhance ties

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday held meeting with King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at the Prime Minister's House and discussed matters of mutual interest.

The discussions during the meeting focused on further deepening bilateral relations as well as exploring avenues for enhanced cooperation in the economic, trade, investment, health, science and technology, education, as well as defence sectors.

Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing strategic and economic ties between Pakistan and Jordan, as well as expanding mutually beneficial collaboration at regional and international fora.

The Prime Minister welcomed King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein's visit to Pakistan, highlighting it as a testament to the enduring friendship between Pakistan and Jordan.

King Abdullah II praised Pakistan's consistent support for Jordan's role in regional stability and humanitarian efforts during the Gaza conflict as well as post war Gaza.

The meeting also featured a comprehensive exchange of views on regional security and peace initiatives.

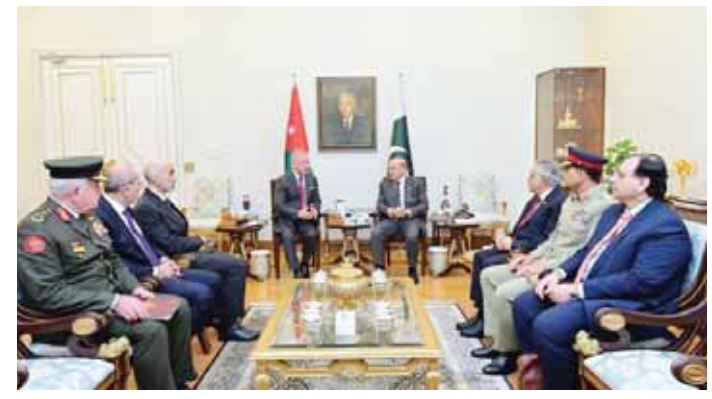
On the issue of Palestine, both leaders acknowledged the unanimity of views and principled positions taken by Pakistan and Jordan regarding the post-war Gaza; zero-tolerance for any displacement of Palestinians from Gaza. The two leaders agreed to enhance coordination among the eight Arab Islamic countries that are working with the U.S. on the Gaza ceasefire and the Gaza Peace Plan signed in Sharm el Sheikh.

The Prime Minister also updated King Abdullah II of Jordan on recent developments in Pakistan's neighbourhood, especially Afghanistan and India. Jordanian King Abdullah-II acknowledged Pakistan's key role in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

His Majesty King Abdullah II thanked the people and Government of Pakistan for their warm hospitality during his visit to Pakistan.Both the dignitaries witnessed an MoU exchange ceremony in the field of media, culture, and education.

The Prime Minister also hosted a banquet in honour of King Abdullah-II and the accompanying delegation.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Chief of the Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Minister for Information & Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Minister for Climate Change Dr. Musaddiq Malik, and senior government officials were also part of the delegation. - APP



AL MAKTOUM AIRBASE

IAF contingent in Dubai for air show

DUBAI : The Indian Air Force contingent comprising of the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team and Tejas fighters landed at Al Maktoum Airbase for the Dubai Air Show, the Indian Air Force Media Co-ordination Centre (IAF-MCC) shared on Saturday.

The event will take place from November 17-21 and will see participation from over 100 Air Forces and is aimed at enhancing interoperability, operational edge, and foster military as well as business cooperation, the IAF-MCC said.

In a post on X, the IAF-MCC said, "An IAF contingent comprising of Suryakiran Aerobatic Team and Tejas fighters landed at Al Maktoum Airbase, Dubai for the Dubai Air Show. The global event, with participation from over 100 Air Forces, aims to enhance interoperability, operational edge, and foster military as well as business cooperation.

The event is scheduled to take place at Al Maktoum Airbase from 17 to 21 Nov 25."

The Indian Air Force's renowned Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT) was formed in 1996 and is among the very few nine-aircraft aerobatics teams in the world, and the only one in Asia.

This one of a kind team has carried out more than 500 displays in India, besides showcasing the professionalism of the Indian Air force in Air Shows abroad in China, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Singapore and UAE.

The team has enthralled many spectators in India as well as abroad flying the Hawk Mk 132 aircraft. The Team's displays involve a seamless fusion of individual skills, teamwork and meticulous planning. Stunning formation loops and barrel rolls to gravity-defying crossovers, their performances push the limits of aerial artistry.

The Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team, popularly known as SKAT, inherits the motto "Sadaiva Sarvottam" with ease, aptly describing the adage "Always the Best".

The Dubai Air Show, it began in 1986, as Arab Air, bringing together aviation professionals at the Dubai World Trade Centre. From its first edition with 200 exhibitors and 25 aircraft, it has expanded into a global aerospace platform, shaping the industry's future.

As of now, the Dubai Airshow hosts over 1,500 exhibitors, 148,000+ attendees, over 200 aircraft on display and multiple show features and conference tracks featuring insights from 350+ industry leaders. - ANI

REFUGEE POLICY

UK announces asylum policy 'overhaul' to cut refugee numbers

LONDON: The British government on Saturday announced far-reaching changes to the United Kingdom's asylum policy in an attempt to reduce irregular immigration and counter the growing popularity of the far-right.

Under the new plans, which are modelled on Denmark's strict asylum system, refugee status for asylum-seekers arriving in the UK will be cut from five years to 30 months, while those granted asylum will have to wait 20 years to apply for permanent residency rather than the current five years.

Those protections will be "regularly reviewed" and refugees will be encouraged to return to their home countries, once they are deemed safe.

The British Interior Ministry, known as the Home Office, called the proposals the "largest overhaul of asylum policy in modern times," while Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood, who is due to lay out the plans in parliament in Monday, promised: "I'll end UK's golden ticket for asylum seekers."

How many asylum seekers are arriving in the UK?

Since coming to power in July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer's Labour government has struggled to deal with increasing levels of irregular immigration.

More than 39,000 people have arrived in the UK this year alone, many making the dangerous voyage across the English Channel from northern France on small boats — more than for the whole of 2024 but lower than the record set in 2022 under the previous Conservative government.

Asylum claims in Britain are also at a record high, with some 111,000 applications made in the year to June 2025, according to official figures.

"This country has a proud tradition of welcoming those fleeing danger, but our generosity is drawing illegal migrants across the Channel," said Mahmood said.

"The pace and scale of migration is placing immense pressure on communities."

Labour government threatened by Reform UK

The phenomenon of the "small boats" has been exploited by the far-right Reform UK party and its firebrand leader Nigel Farage, who have led Labour by double-digit margins in opinion polls for much of the year – despite only winning five seats at last year's general election.

The government will be hoping that its asylum policy overhaul, which will also remove guarantees of housing and weekly financial allowances for refugees and tighten rules around family reunions, will help curtail that support.

Home Secretary Mahmood said the measures would be make it less attractive for irregular migrants to come to the UK and easier to remove those already in the country.

UK charities say proposals risk fuelling racism

Meanwhile, the head of Britain's Refugee Council, Enver Solomon, warned the government the measures "will not deter" people from trying to reach Britain, and urged a rethink.

"They should ensure that refugees who work hard and contribute to Britain can build secure, settled lives and give back to their communities," he argued.

More than 100 British charities wrote to Mahmood urging her to "end the scapegoating of migrants and performative policies that only cause harm," saying such steps are fuelling racism and violence.

While Starmer and Mahmood are aiming to appease traditional working class Labour voters tempted by Reform, the strict new asylum plans also risk alienating more progressive supporters who could switch their votes to the Liberal Democrats or the surging Green Party.

However, the next UK general election isn't expected for another four years, until which time the Labour government maintains a large majority in parliament. - DW

SPORTS

WORLD CUP OF SNOOKER LIGHTS UP MUSCAT

Oman hosts world-class cueists from 23 nations in a high-stakes $60,000 tournament

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The green baize came alive in Muscat as the World Cup of Snooker kicked off in spectacular fashion.

While the official opening ceremony lit up the Active Oman Centre on Saturday night, the tournament had already seen its first matches played on Friday, setting the stage for a week of high-stakes cueing action.

Cue balls clacked and cues clicked as players from 23 nations began their battle for top honours in the $60,000 prize money event.

Under the patronage of His Highness Sayyid Dr Kamil bin Fahd al Said, the opening celebration on Saturday showcased Oman's ambition to be a hub for world-class sports, blending skillful exhibition play, a visual journey through the rise of snooker in the Sultanate, and the ceremonial first break that formally marked the championship underway.

The event was also attended by Basil bin Ahmed Al Rowas, Undersecretary for Sports and Youth, Mubarak Al Khayarin, President of the International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF), and a host of dignitaries and sports dignitaries.

> The World Cup of Snooker is one of 30 major international events approved under Oman Sports Strategy 2040, aimed at boosting the Sultanate's global profile.
>
> **Hisham Al Sinani**
> Director General of Sports Development

Oman's sporting ambition

In his opening remarks, Khalid Al Subhi, Chairman of the Oman Billiards and Snooker Committee, (OBSC) hailed the championship as a milestone moment for the Sultanate's sporting ambitions.

Al Subhi thanked Sayyid Dr Kamil bin Fahd al Said for supporting the hosting of a global event of this scale and welcomed the international delegations taking part.

Al Subhi stressed that Oman's hosting capability has been bolstered by modern infrastructure, skilled national cadres, and an enthusiastic fan base. He added that such global events reinforce international ties and strengthen Oman's sporting legacy.

He extended appreciation to the IBSF for entrusting Oman with hosting rights, while recognising partners including Sohar International, Active Oman, and the Oman Automobile Association.

The evening featured an exhibition match between Omani talent Musalim Al Mashali and Qatar's Ali Al Obaidli, followed by a visual presentation charting the rise of snooker in Oman. The official break by the patron declared the tournament ceremonially open — even as the first frames had already unfolded the previous day.

IBSF commends Oman

IBSF chief Al Khayarin praised Oman's organisation, noting the significance of hosting a world-level teams and men's championship in the Gulf.

He commended the Omani committee for managing late logistical challenges and announced a new three-year cooperation agreement to deepen future collaboration.

Hisham Al Sinani, Director General of Sports Development at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth (MCSY), said: "The World Cup of Snooker is one of 30 major international events approved under Oman Sports Strategy 2040, aimed at boosting the Sultanate's global profile and advancing economic and sustainable development objectives."

Oman players disappoint

In the early action on Saturday, all Oman cueists lost their respective opening games.

In Group F, Sadiq Al Farsi was unable to overcome the precision of Hong Kong China's Chau Hon Man, who secured a 3–0 victory.

A similar scoreline unfolded in Group H, where Haitham Al Mahri fell to Poland's Michal Szubarczyk, who controlled the match from the outset.

Over in Group G, Hassan Al Harthy faced a tough challenge against Ukraine's Mykhailo Larkov, eventually going down 0–3.

England's Harvey Chandler, one of the standout names in the competition, proved too strong for Taha Bashir in Group N, sealing another 3–0 result.

In Group M, India's legendary cueist Pankaj Advani showcased his trademark composure in a 3–0 win over Husain Al Lawati, while compatriot Aditya Mehta added to India's strong start by defeating Qasim Al Balushi 3–0 in Group R.

There was a bright moment for Oman in Group S, where Musalim Al Mashali produced a spiritedperformancetotakeaframe off Afghanistan's Mohammad Zarif Afzali before eventually losing 1–3.

Elsewhere, Afghanistan cueists continued their solid opening as Mohammad Rais Senzahi defeated Oman's Ahmed Al Khusaibi 3–0 in Group E, while Mohammad Noor Zai prevailed upon Oman's Abdullah Al Raisi 3-0 in Group D.

SEASON-ENDING TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Alcaraz sets up summit showdown with Sinner at ATP Finals

TURIN: Carlos Alcaraz said on Saturday that Jannik Sinner is the favourite to retain his ATP Finals title at home after the new World No.1 set up a blockbuster finale with his Italian rival in the prestigious season-ending tournament.

Alcaraz cruised past Felix Auger-Aliassime of Canada 6-2, 6-4 to set up the title match with Sinner all tennis fans wanted to see after a series of thrilling battles between the pair this year.

The Spaniard has had the better of his clashes with Sinner 10-5, and has won four of this season's five meetings which have all come in the final of top-level tournaments.

Alcaraz triumphed in the finals of the US Open and Roland Garros, the latter after roaring back from two sets down and saving three match points, but lost the Wimbledon final to Sinner.

And he believes that Sinner, a 7-5, 6-2 winner over Alex de Minaur earlier on Saturday, is favourite to lift the trophy in front of his home fans.

"I mean, I'm the number one... and he's playing the best on indoor court. We're playing in front of his home crowd, so I would say he's the favourite," Alcaraz told reporters.

"Don't want to believe it, but I would say he's the favourite for tomorrow."

The final has extra spice due to Alcaraz pipping Sinner to the top spot in the men's rankings at the end of 2025 and him contesting his 11th final of the season in front of a partisan Italian crowd.

"Well, I expect at least three or four people in the crowd cheering for me," Alcaraz joked.

"Obviously the people are going to be cheering for him but I will try to be really, really focused on my game and on the things that I have to do."

Canada's Auger-Aliassime is an indoor specialist, having won seven of his eight titles on indoor courts but even he could not handle Alcaraz who took control of the match by breaking serve in game four of the first set with a brilliant hooked volley.

The match will mark a fitting finale to a 2025 tour season in which Alcaraz and Sinner have won a combined 13 titles, including all four Grand Slams for a second consecutive season, and four ATP 1,000 tournaments.

This time the winner will walk away with just over $5million (£3.85m).

"It's great facing Jannik. [But] if it was someone else, I wouldn't mind!" said Alcaraz on Sky Sports.

"I just try to approach the match with more focus. I know I have to play my plan A if I want to win the tournament. We're both going to raise our levels.

"The whole stadium is going to be supporting him, which I have to be prepared for. I hope that at least three or four people are cheering for me."

Sinner is yet to drop a set or lose a service game in Turin this week

The 24-year-old has won five tournaments this season, including two Grand Slams, but the successes have been overshadowed at times by the three-month doping ban which he accepted in February.

It was acknowledged he did not intend to cheat, but the short ban led to backlash from some fellow players. - Agencies

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE

DISASTERS COST AGRICULTURE

Disasters have inflicted an estimated $3.26 trillion in agricultural losses worldwide over the past 33 years – an average of $99 billion annually, roughly 4% of global agricultural GDP – according to a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 5,659.53 points, down by -1.12% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.15% at 492.51 points. Al Sharqia Investment, up 4.76%, was the top gainer while Abraj Energy Services, down 3.64%, was the top loser.

OQEP reports OMR633.8mn revenue during first 9 months

OQEP increased its oil and condensate sales volumes by 11.8%, helping offset a 13% decline in the average realised price, which fell to $72 per barrel, compared with $82.6 in the same period last year

MUSCAT: OQ Exploration and Production (OQEP) announced its financial results for the nine months ending 30 September 2025, reporting stable revenue and EBITDA despite lower oil prices, supported by strong sales volumes and disciplined capital spending.

According to the company, revenue reached OMR633.8 million, while EBITDA stood at OMR471.2 million, maintaining a solid 74% margin. Adjusted cash flow from operations increased 10% to OMR424.8 million, reflecting stronger operational performance.

Net profit, excluding Abraj, came in at OMR236.9 million, impacted by lower realized oil prices and higher finance costs.

OQEP increased its oil and condensate sales volumes by 11.8%, helping offset a 13% decline in the average realised price, which fell to $72 per barrel, compared with $82.6 in the same period last year. The company reported a Return on Capital Employed (ROCE) of 23.3%, positioning it among the sector's top performers.

Capital expenditure rose 7% to OMR198.7 million, driven mainly by the completion of the Bisat C Expansion at Block 60 and continued investments in Block 53. Free cash flow reached OMR198 million, while the company reduced net debt to OMR222.1 million, bringing leverage down to 0.35x EBITDA.

Acting CEO, Mahmoud Al Hashmi said the company's strategy allowed it to deliver consistent results despite market challenges. He highlighted that enhanced production at Block 60 and several new gas sales agreements— including with Marsa LNG and the Integrated Gas Company (IGC) — would support long-term revenue streams. He also noted progress on Block 53's EPSA extension, which could unlock up to 800 million barrels of potential resources.

OQEP continued strengthening shareholder returns, paying more than OMR173 million in base dividends and completing half of its ongoing share buyback program targeting 45–60 million shares. The company also paid its first Performance-Linked Dividend for 2025, totalling OMR44.2 million.

Looking ahead, OQEP expects full-year 2025 production to range between 220–230 kboepd, with operating expenditure kept below $10/boe and capital spending between $0.8–0.9 billion. -ONA

DATA

Oman's total electricity production rises by 8.4% by September end

MUSCAT: The total electricity production in the Sultanate of Oman increased by 8.4% by the end of September 2025, reaching 41,164.9 gigawatt-hours, compared to 37,959.3 gigawatt-hours during the same period in 2024.

Preliminary data released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information also indicated an 8.2% rise in Oman's net electricity production – which includes purchases by Oman Power and Water Procurement Company and purchases by the Rural Areas Electricity Company across its regions – reaching 39,973.6 gigawatt-hours by the end of September 2025, compared to 36,944.8 gigawatt-hours by the end of September 2024.

On the other hand, the total water production in the Sultanate of Oman by the end of September 2025 saw a slight decrease of 0.6%, reaching approximately 387,702,100 cubic meters, compared to 390,197,000 cubic meters during the same period last year.

At the governorate level, the Governorate of Muscat experienced an 11.2% decline in water production, recording 154,377,500 cubic meters, compared to 173,854,700 cubic meters last year. In contrast, water production in the Dhofar Governorate increased by 3.8%, reaching 57,516,100 cubic meters. Water production in the rest of the governorates also rose by 9.3%, registering 175,808,500 cubic meters, compared to 160,919,500 cubic meters by the end of September 2024. -ONA

ENHANCING ROLE OF SMES

Riyada organises dialogue session on SMEs opportunities, challenges

MUSCAT: The SMEs Development Authority (Riyada) yesterday organised the 17th dialogue session titled "Opportunities and Challenges for Small and Medium Enterprises".

The session seeks to enhance the role of SMEs in discussing major opportunities and challenges, notably by introducing innovative ideas, improving operational efficiency and encouraging partnerships and cooperation between government departments, private sector establishments and SMEs.

The session covered common policies and legislation, licenses and enablers supporting SMEs. It was held as part of Riyada's efforts to liaise with the departments concerned and improve the business environment for SMEs.

The session was attended by Dr. Mahad Said Ba'Owain, Minister of Labour, Halima Rashid Al Zar'ee, Chairperson of Riyada, representatives of the parties concerned and owners of SMEs. -ONA

GTRI REPORT

India may gain slight edge as US exempts several agri products from reciprocal tariffs

NEW DELHI: India is expected to gain a small edge as the US administration has exempted agricultural products from the reciprocal tariffs it had imposed on several countries, said trade think tank GTRI.

The United States has removed a set of agricultural products from the reciprocal tariffs introduced earlier this year, meaning these items will now face only the standard MFN duties.

A White House Executive Order issued on November 12 excludes coffee, tea, tropical fruits, fruit juices, cocoa, spices, bananas, oranges, tomatoes, beef and certain fertilizers from the April 2 reciprocal tariff regime, according to a Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) report put out on Saturday.

The exemptions took effect on November 13. These goods are either not produced in adequate quantities domestically or depend on climate conditions the US cannot replicate, GTRI has asserted.

For the tariff-exempt products identified in the order, India today supplies only USD 548 million of America's USD 50.6-billion import basket--reflecting a narrow export footprint dominated by a few winners, GTRI noted.

US' demand for these items is heavily concentrated in categories.

India's exports to the US are concentrated in a handful of high-value spices and niche products: pepper and capsicum preparations (USD 181 million), ginger-turmeric-curry spices (USD 84 million), anise and cumin seed categories (USD 85 million), cardamom and nutmeg (USD 15 million), tea (USD 68 million), and modest quantities of coconuts, cocoa beans, cinnamon, cloves, and fruit products.

"But India has almost no presence in several of the largest exempted lines--tomatoes, citrus fruits, melons, bananas, most fresh fruits, and fruit juices," GTRI noted. It's not clear yet whether Indian exports will be exempt from 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs or full 50 per cent tariffs.

"The shift in US tariff policy could marginally strengthen India's competitive position in spices and niche horticulture, but the broader gains will accrue mainly to major Latin American, African, and ASEAN farm exporters unless India expands scale, builds cold-chain capacity, and diversifies its agricultural export basket," GTRI concluded. -ANI

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Al Sharqia Investment, up 4.76%, was the top gainer while Abraj Energy Services, down 3.64%, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,659.53 points, down by -1.12% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.15% at 492.51 points. Al Sharqia Investment, up 4.76%, was the top gainer while Abraj Energy Services, down 3.64%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 5791 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 30.21 million, with more than 130.16 million shares changing hands. Out of 58 traded securities, 9 advanced, 29 declined, and 20 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for RO 1882K while domestic investors were net buyers for RO 1289K, followed by foreign investors for RO 593K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 9,115.03 points, down -0.69%. Prices of Al Sharqia Investment, Al Madina Takaful, Bank Nizwa were up by 4.76%, 1.12%, 0.95% respectively. Prices of Bank Dhofar, DIDIC, Sohar International Bank, Oman & Emirates Investment, Takaful Oman were down by 3.13%, 3.10%, 2.47%, 2.25%, 1.85% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 7,224.16 points, down -0.32%. Prices of Oman Cement were up by 1.06% respectively. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals, Galfar Engineering, Al Anwar Ceramics, Gulf Mushroom Products were down by 2.70%, 1.54%, 1.18%, 0.35% respectively.

Services Index was down by -0.91% before closing at 2,346.42 points. Prices of Ooredoo, National Gas, Oman Telecom were up by 4.56%, 1.21%, 0.19% respectively. Prices of Renaissance Services, OQ Exploration & Production, Al Batinah Power, Muscat Gases, OQ Gas Networks were down by 3.43%, 2.11%, 1.73%, 1.70%, 1.60% respectively.

— United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev . Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	5,723.11	5,651.68	5,659.53	5,723.50	-63.97	-1.12
FINANCIAL INDEX	9,181.45	9,106.98	9,115.03	9,178.10	-63.08	-0.69
Industry Index	7,260.65	7,150.14	7,224.16	7,247.45	-23.29	-0.32
Services Index	2,379.33	2,343.79	2,346.42	2,368.06	-21.63	-0.91
MSX Shariah Index	496.54	489.89	492.51	491.75	0.76	0.15
MSX TR INDEX	8,595.77	8,488.48	8,500.27	8,590.28	-90.01	-1.05
FINANCIAL TR IDX	10,907.88	10,819.41	10,828.97	10,903.91	-74.94	-0.69
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	8,951.75	8,815.50	8,906.76	8,935.48	-28.72	-0.32
SERVICES TR IDX	3,091.53	3,045.36	3,048.78	3,074.78	-26.00	-0.85
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,205.12	1,205.12	1,205.12	1,205.12	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
130,167,693	30,214,501	5,791	31,376,680,238	9	29	20	58

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

REGULAR MARKET

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RO)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIYA INVESTMENT HO.	568,043	50,014	30	0.084	0.089	0.084	0.088	0.084	0.004	4.762	0.087	0.087	0.092	0.100	7,920,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	13,794,682	3,762,517	332	0.263	0.282	0.263	0.275	0.263	0.012	4.563	0.275	0.275	0.276	0.100	179,009,663
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	85,950	7,672	18	0.090	0.090	0.089	0.090	0.089	0.001	1.124	0.090	0.089	0.090	0.100	15,750,000
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	3,737,943	392,744	64	0.105	0.107	0.104	0.106	0.105	0.001	0.952	0.106	0.105	0.109	0.100	237,117,021
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	882,490	935,537	64	1.059	1.061	1.057	1.060	1.058	0.002	0.189	1.060	1.060	1.061	0.100	795,000,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	10,000	5,750	1	0.575	0.575	0.575	0.575	0.575	0.000	0.000	0.575	0.575	0.579	0.100	71,816,327
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	172,549	31,247	24	0.181	0.182	0.181	0.181	0.181	0.000	0.000	0.181	0.181	0.182	0.100	7,754,581
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	1,458,950	94,269	43	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.000	0.000	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.100	22,792,147
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	1,500	237	2	0.158	0.158	0.158	0.158	0.158	0.000	0.000	0.158	0.151	0.158	0.100	31,600,000
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	14,650	13,690	23	0.935	0.950	0.931	0.932	0.932	0.000	0.000	0.932	0.932	0.932	0.100	87,247,467
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	61,703	19,115	14	0.310	0.311	0.308	0.310	0.311	-0.001	-0.322	0.310	0.311	0.329	0.100	290,070,595
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	111,227	28,440	15	0.259	0.259	0.254	0.258	0.260	-0.002	-0.769	0.258	0.258	0.258	0.100	25,800,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	9,164	3,327	2	0.363	0.363	0.363	0.363	0.366	-0.003	-0.820	0.363	0.363	0.368	0.100	590,218,527
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	178,231	30,331	25	0.171	0.171	0.169	0.169	0.171	-0.002	-1.170	0.169	0.169	0.170	0.100	120,734,671
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	60,446	10,085	11	0.167	0.167	0.166	0.167	0.169	-0.002	-1.183	0.167	0.166	0.167	0.100	36,740,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	18,033,599	6,048,425	636	0.336	0.338	0.334	0.334	0.338	-0.004	-1.183	0.334	0.334	0.334	0.100	2,507,136,619
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	11,377,672	2,109,695	624	0.187	0.187	0.184	0.185	0.188	-0.003	-1.596	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.100	801,165,425
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	72,060	12,290	17	0.172	0.172	0.170	0.170	0.173	-0.003	-1.734	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.100	114,730,863
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	23,208,561	3,682,287	892	0.160	0.161	0.157	0.158	0.162	-0.004	-2.469	0.158	0.158	0.158	0.100	1,045,524,911
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	847,196	270,323	58	0.322	0.323	0.309	0.310	0.321	-0.011	-3.427	0.311	0.311	0.322	0.100	73,287,100
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	4,135,399	1,341,321	680	0.326	0.328	0.318	0.318	0.330	-0.012	-3.636	0.318	0.318	0.318	0.100	244,923,600
Total	21	78,822,015	18,849,317	3,575												

Parallel Market

OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	21,000	3,086	2	0.146	0.147	0.146	0.147	0.145	0.002	1.379	0.147	0.147	0.150	0.100	86,941,221
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	83,600	6,866	9	0.082	0.084	0.082	0.084	0.083	0.001	1.205	0.084	0.080	0.084	0.100	7,140,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	11,981	5,666	10	0.470	0.475	0.470	0.475	0.470	0.005	1.064	0.475	0.472	0.475	0.100	157,164,537
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	96,368	42,432	20	0.475	0.478	0.430	0.475	0.475	0.000	0.000	0.475	0.450	0.475	0.100	78,553,125
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	127,000	6,350	14	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.049	0.050	0.100	15,357,316
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	30,000	3,120	2	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.102	0.108	0.100	31,049,505
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	5,800	714	2	0.124	0.124	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.000	0.000	0.123	0.122	0.125	0.100	11,070,000
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	3,000	2,370	1	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.000	0.000	0.790	0.790	0.800	0.100	48,407,250
OM0000002580	OMAN EDUCATION & TRAINING INV.	7,981	12,371	4	1.550	1.550	1.550	1.550	1.550	0.000	0.000	1.550	1.500	1.550	0.100	108,500,000
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	934	257	2	0.272	0.277	0.272	0.277	0.277	0.000	0.000	0.277	0.270	0.292	0.100	15,235,000
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	20,000	1,580	1	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.073	0.086	0.100	15,800,000
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	78,170	6,971	15	0.090	0.090	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.100	57,724,538
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	103,029	29,556	18	0.287	0.290	0.286	0.286	0.287	-0.001	-0.348	0.286	0.286	0.290	0.100	13,089,018
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	7,710	1,732	9	0.225	0.225	0.224	0.224	0.225	-0.001	-0.444	0.224	0.220	0.224	0.100	44,718,374
OM0000010120	ASYAD SHIPPING	12,403,782	2,112,942	551	0.172	0.172	0.169	0.170	0.171	-0.001	-0.585	0.170	0.171	0.171	0.000	885,486,528
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	502,000	94,524	11	0.189	0.189	0.187	0.188	0.190	-0.002	-1.053	0.188	0.186	0.188	0.100	179,459,527
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	204,550	18,103	8	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.088	0.089	-0.001	-1.124	0.088	0.088	0.089	0.100	19,557,120
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	8,892	735	3	0.083	0.083	0.082	0.082	0.083	-0.001	-1.205	0.082	0.082	0.090	0.100	12,755,133
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	123,623	19,028	21	0.155	0.155	0.152	0.153	0.155	-0.002	-1.290	0.153	0.152	0.153	0.100	223,778,023
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	18,000	2,566	2	0.142	0.143	0.142	0.143	0.145	-0.002	-1.379	0.143	0.144	0.145	0.100	86,962,095
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	25,000	2,900	5	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.118	-0.002	-1.695	0.116	0.114	0.116	0.100	3,480,000
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	72,034	3,818	2	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.054	-0.001	-1.852	0.053	0.052	0.055	0.100	13,250,000
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	12,853,874	4,826,926	405	0.378	0.379	0.370	0.371	0.379	-0.008	-2.111	0.371	0.371	0.371	0.010	2,968,000,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	100,094	8,806	13	0.088	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.089	-0.002	-2.247	0.087	0.087	0.088	0.100	10,603,125
OM0000009908	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	22,992,030	3,993,498	781	0.176	0.176	0.172	0.172	0.176	-0.004	-2.273	0.172	0.172	0.172	0.040	595,032,426
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	369,114	26,403	38	0.074	0.074	0.070	0.072	0.074	-0.002	-2.703	0.072	0.070	0.073	0.100	1,512,000
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTERNATIONAL DEV. & INV.	10,711	2,678	4	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.258	-0.008	-3.101	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.100	124,014,035
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	565,000	87,579	220	0.155	0.156	0.155	0.155	0.160	-0.005	-3.125	0.155	0.155	0.159	0.100	471,168,772
Total	28	50,845,277	11,323,576	2,173												

FAO REPORT

Disasters cost global agriculture $3.26tn over three decades

ROME: Disasters have inflicted an estimated $3.26 trillion in agricultural losses worldwide over the past 33 years – an average of $99 billion annually, roughly 4% of global agricultural GDP – according to a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

The Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security 2025 highlights how digital technologies are transforming how farmers, governments and communities can monitor risks, anticipate impacts, and protect livelihoods. The report provides the most comprehensive global assessment to date of how disasters – from droughts and floods to pests and marine heatwaves – are disrupting food production, livelihoods and nutrition. It also demonstrates how digital innovations are shifting agrifood systems from reactive crisis management to proactive data-driven resilience-building.

"Digital technologies are already revolutionising how we monitor risks, deliver early warnings and support farmers' decision-making. From the 9.1 million farmers now accessing parametric insurance through digital platforms to the communities using our early warning systems to evacuate 90% of at-risk populations before disasters strike, we are witnessing a fundamental shift from reactive response to proactive risk reduction," said FAO Director-General QU Dongyu. -WAM

INVESTING $6.37 BILLION

Why Google's data centre plans spark concern in Germany

BRUSSELS: The long-anticipated announcement came on November 11, when Google revealed details at a press conference in Berlin.

Philipp Justus, the California-based tech giant's managing director for Germany, said the company would invest €5.5 billion ($6.37 billion) over the next four years. That includes the construction of a new data center near Frankfurt and expansions at existing sites in Munich, Frankfurt and Berlin.

German officials hailed the announcement as a boost for the country's digital ambitions.

"We want to make Germany a leading location for data centers in Europe," the German minister responsible for digitization, Karsten Wildberger, told the news agency Reuters.

Research Minister Dorothee Bär called Google's move proof that "Germany is already an attractive location." The investment, she said, would bring "growth and added value for our country."

Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil also praised the plans, describing them as "exactly what we need right now."

Speaking to German news agency dpa, he called the initiative "a genuine investment in the future — in innovation, artificial intelligence , climate-neutral transformation and future jobs in Germany."

Google said its investments would "secure around 9,000 jobs in Germany annually until 2029."

Experts urge caution

While many celebrated the announcement, some experts warned against overlooking the potential downsides.

Katharina Hölzle, director at the Fraunhofer Institute in Stuttgart, Germany, told DW that she welcomed the investment "because it shows that we're more attractive than we think."

But she also expressed concern that "new dependencies could arise," warning that "we're building additional infrastructures here that will make it even harder for us to disengage later on."

Wolfgang Eppler, a researcher at the Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS) in Karlsruhe, Germany, called the investment "a lot of money" but added that it pales in comparison to US spending levels.

"When you look at what the US is investing — for example, $500 billion — it's really just a drop in the ocean," he said.

The scale of Google's investment underscores the growing gap between Europe and the US, where tech companies such as Microsoft, Google and startups like OpenAI are pouring hundreds of billions into expanding AI computing capacity.

According to Bloomberg, Google's German project is expected to use up to 10,000 graphics processing units (GPUs), a fraction of the 500,000 GPUs planned for a single data center project in Texas backed by SoftBank, OpenAI and Oracle. -DW

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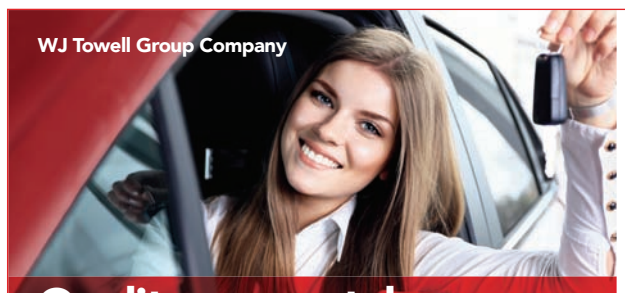

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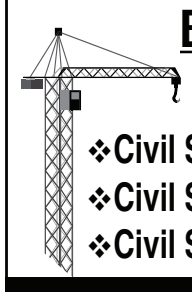

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Mail to : info@dakoman.com, For Contact : 96597175 & 97032571

JOB WANTED

FINANCE

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

Contact : 99279626

FINANCE

Chartered Accountant with 16+ yrs Exp-as Finance Head (Halliburton, ASAAS, ATC, ME). Expertise in IFRS, Reporting, Consolidation, MIS, Budgets, Tax, ERP. Seeking senior finance role in Oman.

CONTACT: 96741587
Email-umarustad@gmail.com.

MARKETING

Indian male MBA, 20+yrs of experience throughout Oman in marketing, business development and team leader in building materials and AC industry is available for suitable positions.

Contact : 90477180
Email : dasstarnew@gmail.com

MANAGER

FINANCE MANAGER well experienced M.Com with 20 yrs of Oman experience looking for senior position in finance and accounts, can join in short notice.

CONTACT: 95392251

FINANCE

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

Contact: 92106856,
Email: lizmarytherese@gmail.com

ENGINEER

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

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

FINANCE

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

Contact: 94792025 / vjinuraj@gmail.com

LOOKIN FOR DRIVER JOB?
Send email to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com

ADMINISTRATION

Senior HR & administration professional with strong advisory experience, expert in Oman labour law, office management, business operations setup & administration. Indian male, valid Oman D/L, NOC available.

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

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Urgently required Electrical engineer with or with out CEP, minimum experience, 2-3 years in Oman and accountant with 2 years' experience in Tally, Contact smartprojects66@gmail.com +968 95759888

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ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Seeking a job opportunity with solid background of finance and accounts, more than 20 yrs of experience in Oman, also for part time job in finance. Contact 92824146, 94953826

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

Indian male Accountant, 10 yrs experience in Muscat,valid Oman D/L. Contact 79774800

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

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

B.Com, currently pursuing M. Com (Final Semester), with 1 yrs of hands-on experience in accounting up to finalization. Interested in accounts and procurement. Currently working as an accountant in Muscat and available for immediate joining. Contact: 95998225

Chartered Accountant Inter holder and M.com graduate with more than 8 yrs Oman experience Looking for suitable position. D/L and NOC.Contact 78793414 Email iqbalpmr@gmail.com

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

Indian male, M.com (finance)10 years experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently & Business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 99859141

M.com, Indian, Chief accountant, having DL, 16 yrs experience in Oman, looking for a suitable position, 5 yrs exp in fuel station Contact 96973776

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

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

ARCHITECT

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

DRIVER

Bangaldeshi driver with car looking for job.Contact 98586920

Bangaldeshi with 8 yrs experience as driver looking for job.Contact 78345120

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

EDUCATION/TRAINING

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

ENGINEER

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

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

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

Indian female, MTech (Structural) graduate with 1yr UAE experience in survey & planning. Skilled in QS, AutoCAD, revit, primavera, 3ds Max, STAAD Pro, civil 3D, SketchUp. Seeking suitable placement. Contact : +968 72050244,+918289952172. Email arajeswari64@gmail.com

Electrical engineer, with experience 17 yrs in Oman seeks job. Contact 98148034

Indian M(39 yrs) BSc Electronics graduate with 11 yrs exp in Oman Looking for job IT, office work Contact :91301751 Email shanoobnizwa@gmail. com

Indian male with 9 yrs experienced Civil Engineer (Indian) available in Oman for immediate joining.Contact 75003783

Indian(m), diploma in civil eng with 1 yr Oman experience as a site supervisor having Oman D/L looking for a suitable position Contact: 95759511

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

ELV design engineer experience in ELV & MEP systems freelancer, AutoCAD Contact 99506977

LOGISTICS

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

Senior logistics coordinator, looking for a new opportunity in logistics and supply chain operations Oman D/L Contact : +968-97869393

MANAGER

Indian ,BE (Civil) PMP , Project Manager with 25 yrs of experience in the field of construction having valid D/L .Looking for a suitable job. Contact : 968 95899628. Email. prakashrathi7707@gmail.com

Civil Project manager, 21 yrs exp (15 yrs Oman), valid D/L & OSE (Consultant Grade). Contact 78406511, 9994863251, Email er_sathi@yahoo.co.in, satheeshh.kumar@gmail.com

Seeking MEP Manager or senior role, with 18 yrs consultancy & construction experience. Expert in design, supervision, and value engineering. Proven leader delivering cost-efficient MEP solutions across diverse projects. Contact +96898520871

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

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

PURCHASE/ PROCUREMENT

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964

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

SALES/MARKETING

Sales,marketing with 7 yrs experience in FMCG & valid Oman D/L seeks job.Contact - 94803644

Sales & marketing manager MBA Indian 28 yrs experience for consumer durables, FMCG. Strong relationships with major retailers across Oman. Contact: 93340457

Indian male with 20 yrs of Oman experience in Business transformation, sales, marketing, finance, supply chain looking for the management role. Contact 76492535

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

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

Multitasking Indian male graduate with 2+yrs experience in sales/operations/accounts having Oman DL Contact-78679616 Email-mrehanynofficial@gmail.com

Young Indian male 3 yrs experience having Oman DL. Looking for a sales related job immediately:Contact 75019881

IN PICTURES

NBA GAME MILWAUKEE: BUCKS VS LOS ANGELES LAKERS: Los Angeles Lakers' Jaxson Hayes dunks during the 2025-2026 NBA regular season game between Milwaukee Bucks and Los Angeles Lakers in Milwaukee, the United States. — Xinhua

PEOPLE VISIT CHRISTMAS MARKET IN DOWNTOWN BUDAPEST: A visitor takes photos of a Christmas tree at a Christmas market in downtown Budapest, Hungary. — Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FESTIVAL IN LEON, MEXICO: Hot air balloons rise during the 2025 International Balloon Festival in Leon, Guanajuato State, Mexico. — Xinhua

WANG YUNFEI, ZHANG GUIPING WIN GOLD OF MIXED DOUBLE SCULLS OF COASTAL ROWING AT NATIONAL GAMES: Mi Haoshuai/Wang Sen (R) of Guangdong compete during the mixed double sculls final B of coastal rowing at China's 15th National Games in Yangjiang, south China's Guangdong Province. — Xinhua

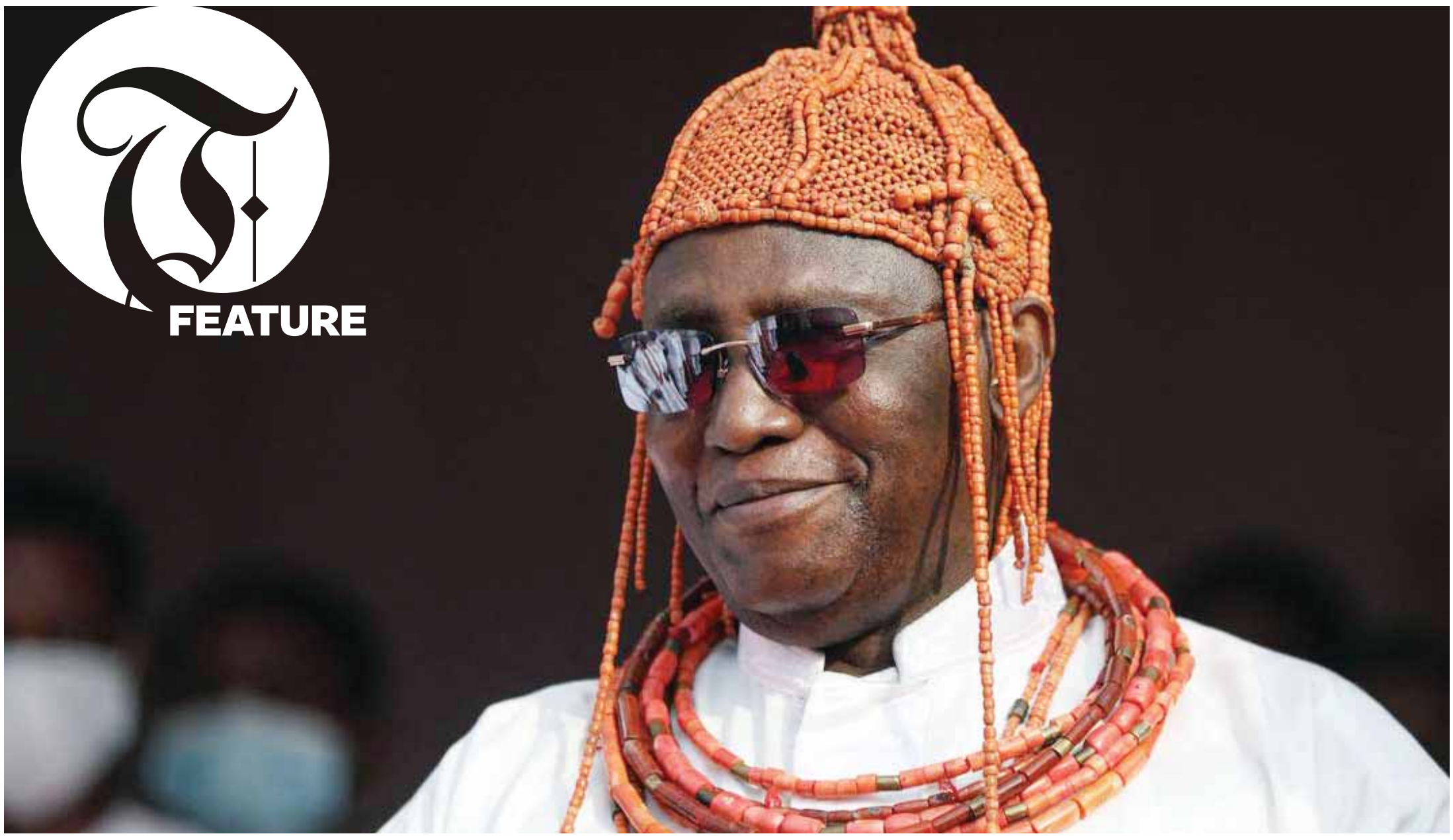
MODEL SHOWCASES ROCKY'S CREATION AT RIVAYAT FASHION WEEK 2025 IN LUCKNOW: A model walks the ramp presenting a creation by renowned designer Rocky S during the three-day Rivayat Fashion Week 2025, organised at Awadh Shilp Gram, in Lucknow. — ANI Photo

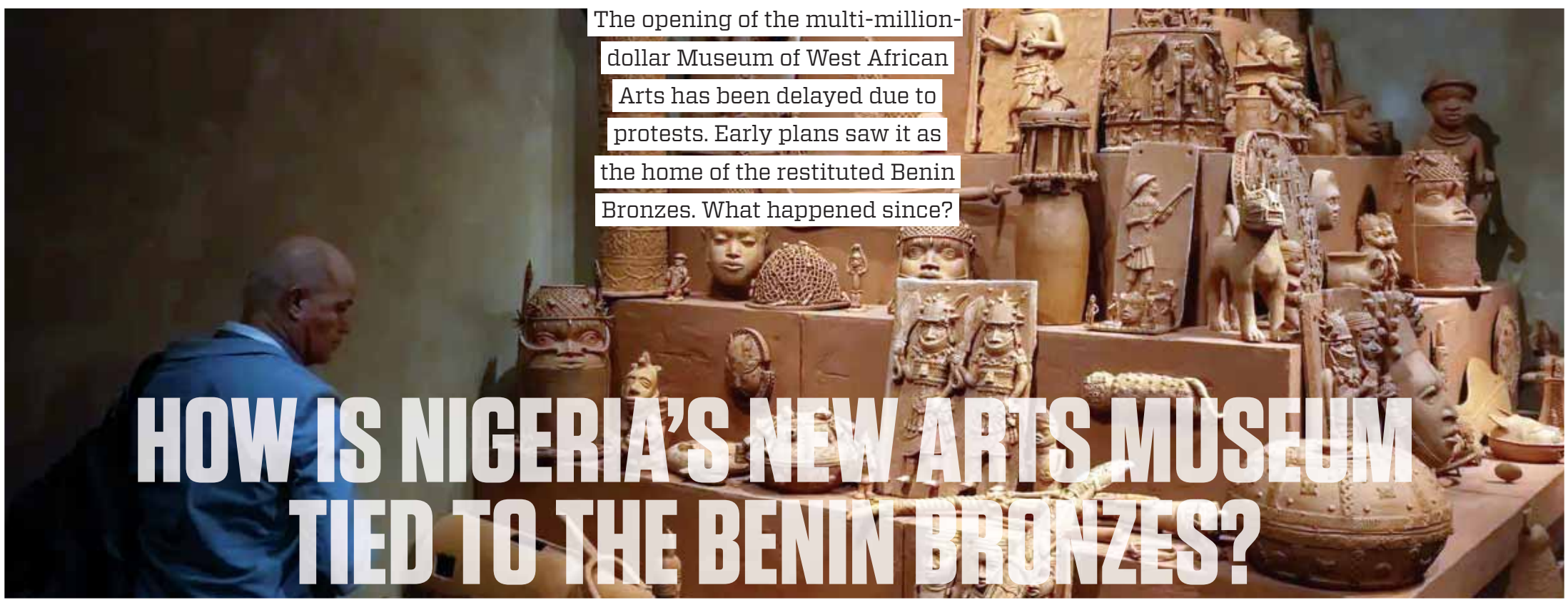
WINTER VILLAGE BECOMES POPULAR HOLIDAY DESTINATION IN NEW YORK: People shop at a holiday market of the Winter Village at Bryant Park in New York, the United States. Featuring a holiday market, a skating rink and a food hall, the Winter Village is a popular winter holiday destination at Bryant Park. — Xinhua

PEOPLE VISIT VANCOUVER CHRISTMAS MARKET IN CANADA: Performers dressed as gingerbread men interact with visitors at the Vancouver Christmas Market in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The annual festive event features more than 110 wooden huts offering various handicrafts, traditional European food, drink, and souvenirs, along with live performances. — Xinhua

LAOS OPENS 12TH NATIONAL GAMES: This photo shows the opening ceremony of the 12th National Games of Laos in Vientiane, Laos. The 12th National Games, Lao's largest sporting event, opened with a grand ceremony at the National Stadium in Lao capital Vientiane. — Xinhua

FEATURE





The opening of the multi-million-dollar Museum of West African Arts has been delayed due to protests. Early plans saw it as the home of the restituted Benin Bronzes. What happened since?

HOW IS NIGERIA'S NEW ARTS MUSEUM TIED TO THE BENIN BRONZES?

Uncertainty surrounds the fate of the highly anticipated Museum of West African Arts (MOWAA) in Benin City, Nigeria.

The museum's inception was initially tied to the restitution of the Benin Bronzes; when plans for the new state-of-the-art institution were first revealed in 2020, the museum was promoted as the "most comprehensive display [of Benin Bronzes] in the world."

But due to questions of ownership, it has been clear for years that the bronzes would not land in the new museum.

MOWAA's focus is rather to serve as a powerhouse for contemporary African art, as well as a research and conservation center to train a new generation of Nigerian archaeologists and art conservators.

But the fact that the museum is still often associated with the Benin Bronzes remains key to understanding a complicated dispute that has disrupted the inauguration of the multi-million-dollar project.

Restituted bronzes now in custody of traditional ruler

The Benin Bronzes refers to several thousands of objects created by the Edo people from the 15th to the 19th century. They decorated the royal palace of the Kingdom of Benin, in what is now Edo State, Nigeria, until it was ransacked by British solders in an infamous 1897 raid.

The treasures ended up in the collections of various Western museums — including the British Museum, Berlin's Humboldt Forum and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Following years of claims by Nigeria, several European museums signed agreements to return the artworks in 2022. The multi-stage restitution process is underway, with some objects already returned.

In 2023, Nigeria's then-President Muhammadu Buhari signed a law determining that the traditional king of the Edo people, the Oba of Benin, was the owner and custodian of the artifacts.

Some critics fear that the treasures could be privatized by the royal heir.

Currently, many of the bronzes are on display at the National Museum in Benin City, where a public exhibition of the treasures (which has been seen by DW) is being held from November 3-28.

Oba of Benin offended by new museum

The supporters of Oba Ewuare II fear that MOWAA is plotting to take away the Benin Bronzes from the monarch, and they have therefore been protesting against the new cultural institution.

"We consider the opening and the commissioning of MOWAA as illegal, as an insult on our revered throne," Osaru Iyamu, one of the protest leaders, told DW.

The protesters disrupted MOWAA's opening week program, which was to be held from November 11-15, by forcing their way into the main building during a preview event attended by international guests last weekend.

The guests — some 250 project partners, donors, diplomats and cultural institution heads — were evacuated and "safely escorted to secure locations," the museum organisers said in a statement on Instagram. The opening of the museum has been postponed indefinitely.

The director of MOWAA, Phillip Ihenacho, told DW that he was saddened by the disruptions and that the museum organisers were hoping to "have a dialog with all stakeholders, to see if we can find a way forward."

Oba Ewuare II reportedly wants to have the museum under his control and its name changed to the Benin Royal Museum. He claims that this was the original name used to promote and obtain funding for the institution.

"There's not one single institutional investor that has given us money that has any notion that we are anything other than the Museum of West African Arts. We have never pretended to be anything else," says Ihenacho.

MOWAA is a non-profit trust that was created to be independent of government influence.

The project, which has an estimated cost of $25 million (€21.5 million), has been funded by a range of international bodies, including the French and German governments, the Getty Foundation, the Open Society Foundation and the British Museum, along with support by the Nigerian federal government and Edo state government.

Netherlands returns stolen bronzes to Nigeria

Early MOWAA plans promoted the project as the Edo Museum of West African Arts. Edo — which is both the name of the Nigerian state where the museum is located and of the people who are the descendants of the ancient Benin Kingdom — was dropped from the museum's name, antagonsing some local authorities.

Reports have been circulating that the Edo state government has reclaimed the land occupied by MOWAA and that it would restore its former use as the Benin Central Hospital.

The German Ambassador to Nigeria, Annett Günther, posted on X, "This doesn't seem to be true. Governor's office assured me yesterday that re MOWAA nothing has been revoked, declares this a social media scam."

DW has contacted the embassy for more details; a planned interview has been postponed.

Modern infrastructures 'part of the restitution process'

Ahead of the opening of the museum, different news articles profiling MOWAA focused on the absence of the Benin Bronzes in its display, to the irritation of the museum's director.

The opening exhibition, "Nigeria Imaginary: Homecoming," is an expanded version of the country's celebrated Venice Biennale show, addressing Nigerian history, identity and current events.

"For much of the Western press, preoccupied with the narrative of stolen objects being returned, it seems that the opening exhibition represents something else entirely: confusion and disappointment that we are not simply a receptacle of returned objects and an indication of the failings of Africans to fall in line with the narrative," Ihenacho wrote in an opinion piece for Artnet.

For Ihenacho, developing infrastructures such as MOWAA to promote new artistic voices and boost Nigerian expertise on cultural heritage is also part of Africa's restitution process, he explains in his essay.

But for now, the complicated dispute — in which politics, traditional royal culture and international donors are all entangled — is putting this ambitious vision on hold. - DW

SPORTS

Harmer shines as South Africa stun India in low-scoring Test

The hosts were bowled out for paltry 93 in their chase of 124 with their captain Shubman Gill absent with a neck injury

KOLKATA: Spinner Simon Harmer claimed a match haul of eight wickets to lead South Africa to a thrilling 30-run win over India inside three days of a low-scoring opening Test at Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Sunday.

India, without captain and leading batsman Shubman Gill who was ruled out because of a neck injury he suffered on Saturday, faltered in their chase of 124 to be bowled out for paltry 93. Harmer, who had figures of 4-30 in the first Indian innings, struck key blows in the second session including getting Rishabh Pant caught and bowled for two to dent the opposition chase.

Left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj struck twice in two balls to pack off India and trigger wild celebrations in the South African camp with the reigning world Test champions taking a 1-0 lead in the two-match series. South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma hit a defiant 55 not out to lift his team's second innings total to 153 after they slipped to 91-7 on day two.

"Very exciting, you want to be a part of those types of games and obviously be on the right side of the result," Bavuma said.

"I think we tried to hold our ground as much as we could. We knew it was going to be tough with the bat, it was tough for us, but we needed to exploit what was there."

South Africa, who beat Australia in the World Test Championship (WTC) final in June at Lord's, have lived up to their winners' tag with a recent 1-1 draw in Pakistan and now beating India at their own game of spin.

Washington Sundar attempted to anchor India's chase but fell to Aiden Markram's off-spin for 31.

Axar Patel gave the crowd some cheer with his two sixes off Maharaj before the bowler had his revenge to send the batter caught out for 26 off 17 balls.

Left-arm quick Marco Jansen ripped out the Indian openers before lunch with the hosts effectively 10-3 in the absence of Gill, who is in hospital and "under observation", at the break and Harmer soon took charge and returned figures of 4-21.

Bavuma-Bosch frustrate India

Wickets fell in clusters as Harmer, who was named player of the match, kept up the charge to send back Dhruv Jurel, Pant and Ravindra Jadeja in quick succession.

"A game like this, you can't dwell into it too much," said vice-captain Pant, who took charge of the team after Gill was forced out.

"We should've been able to chase this score. The pressure built on us in the second innings and we weren't able to capitalise."

Earlier Bavuma played a defiant knock to keep South Africa in the hunt after they resumed on 93-7 on a tough pitch with inconsistent bounce. He started the day on 29 and played with grit to complete the first half-century of a low-scoring contest.

Bavuma's 44-run eighth-wicket stand with overnight partner Corbin Bosch frustrated the Indian bowlers until pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah broke through.

Bumrah bowled Bosch for 25 before Bavuma reached his fifty in 122 balls, raising his bat to an applauding dressing room.

Fast bowler Mohammed Siraj shattered Harmer's stumps for seven and removed last man Maharaj for a duck in the space of four balls as Bavuma ran out of partners. South Africa fought back on day two after being all out for 159 on Friday after winning the toss and electing to bat. They dismissed India for 189 on Saturday to keep the deficit to 30 before again faltering in their batting.

The second Test starts on Saturday in Guwahati.

Brief scores: South Africa 159 and 153 (Bavuma 55*, Bosch 25, Jadeja 4-50, Siraj 2-2, Kuldeep 2-30) beat India 189 and 93 (Washington 31, Axar 26, Harmer 4-21, Jansen 2-15, Maharaj 2-37) by 30 runs. - Agencies

CAPTAIN SINCE 2024

Gaikwad to continue as CSK skipper in IPL 2026

CHENNAI: Ruturaj Gaikwad will continue to be Chennai Super Kings' (CSK) captain for IPL 2026.

In a social-media post, the franchise wrote, "Lead the way, captain Ruturaj Gaikwad," ending the speculations that Sanju Samson could be the captain.

CSK had traded in Samson from Rajasthan Royals in exchange for Ravindra Jadeja and Sam Curran. He comes with plenty of captaincy experience in the IPL but will not lead the franchise. It is understood, though, that he will open the innings.

Gaikwad had taken over the captaincy from MS Dhoni at the start of IPL 2024. CSK, who had won the IPL 2023, finished fifth in 2024 and tenth in 2025. Apart from Jadeja and Curran, CSK also released Devon Conway, Rachin Ravindra and Matheesha Pathirana among others. Going into the auction, they have a purse of INR 43.40 crore and a maximum of eight vacancies, including four overseas slots.

At the auction, scheduled for December 16 at Abu Dhabi's Etihad Arena, they are likely to target an overseas all-rounder to replace Curran. They have the purse to go hammer and tongs for Andre Russell, Glenn Maxwell, Liam Livingstone or Cameron Green. They will also look to sign a back-up for Nathan Ellis. - Agencies

FIRST ODI

Mitchell hits century as NZ defeat WI

CHRISTCHURCH: A fighting Daryl Mitchell century set up a tense seven-run win for New Zealand over West Indies in the first one-day international (ODI) in Christchurch on Sunday.

A hobbling Mitchell struck 119 as the home side posted 269-7. The West Indies accelerated late in their chase to reach 262-6 but it was in vain. Sherfane Rutherford scored 55 and Justin Greaves an unbeaten 38 off 24 balls in the middle order but their clean hitting wasn't enough.

West Indies needed 20 off the final over by seamer Jacob Duffy, and a six from Romario Shepherd (26 not out) left nine needed from the last two balls.

Duffy held his nerve, putting the home side ahead in the three-match series heading into game two in Napier on Wednesday.

Mitchell's innings stood out on a testing pitch as he reached a seventh ODI century despite batting with a groin injury.

Rachin Ravindra and Will Young fell to successive deliveries from Matthew Forde, bringing 34-year-old Mitchell -- rated the world's third best ODI batsman -- to the crease with New Zealand on 24-2.

Opener Devon Conway scored 49 but the other batsmen struggled for timing apart from Mitchell, who struck many of his 12 fours and two sixes on the leg side.

Mitchell's injury prevented him from fielding but he unleashed a powerful pull off seamer Jayden Seales to raise his century in the 46th over. He fell to Seales, caught in the deep in the final over.

He said his 118-ball knock felt like hard work on a surface offering inconsistent bounce.

"There wasn't a fluent way to go about your innings. You kind of had to find ways to put pressure on them and absorb pressure at other times," said Mitchell, who was unsure about his fitness for the rest of the series.

"There's a little bit of a niggle there, so we'll wake up in the morning and see how that feels."

Seales was the most successful West Indies bowler, taking 3-41.

West Indies began their response cautiously, with opener Alick Athanaze (29) and Keacy Carty (32) taking 18 overs to compile their second-wicket partnership of 60.

Captain Shai Hope, whose 37 gave the innings some impetus, said he wanted more from his specialist batsmen.

"If I was to be very critical, the batters need to step up a bit more, especially at the top, myself included, I got out at a very crucial time there," he said.

"A few of us need to go a bit bigger."

Kyle Jamieson was the best of New Zealand's bowlers, taking 3-52.

Brief scores: New Zealand 269/7 (Mitchell 119, Conway 49, Seales 3-41, Forde 2-55) beat West Indies 262/6 (Rutherford 55, Jamieson 3-52) by seven runs. - Agencies

BOXING

Benn masterclass routs Eubank Jr in rematch at Hotspur Stadium

LONDON: Conor Benn put on a dominant boxing performance to earn revenge over bitter rival Chris Eubank Jr and seal a unanimous decision victory in their rematch at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Saturday.

Eubank, who won on points when they first fought in April, looked shot-shy throughout and had no answer to a heavy-handed Benn.

Benn held a wide lead going into the final round when he put Eubank down twice before triumphantly stepping up onto the ropes to celebrate when the final bell rang. The judges scored it 119-107, 116-110 and 118-108 in Benn's favour in the non-title middleweight bout.

"This is the end of the Benn-Eubank saga, over. Chris has twins coming and I have my boy, but this ends here," Benn said.

"Everyone says I can't box, put that in your pipe and smoke it.

"This wouldn't have been what it was without Chris. Our dads most of all, this is generational, never been done before in history. Credit to Chris, thank you for sharing the ring with me."

He has been labelled as a brawler throughout his career but proved he has a lot more to offer in sealing this win.

After moving up two divisions to make this fight happen, he achieved something his father Nigel was unable to do in the 1990s - earning victory against Eubank.

"Not bad for two silver spoon kids!," Benn said, in a reference to both fighters growing up with famous dads.

"I fancy [Mario] Barrios for the WBC world title, Ryan Garcia, [Rolly] Romero, Devin Haney, all of them can get it. Any day of the week, and twice on Sundays."

Benn, 29, said he carried too much emotion into April's fight following a prolonged two-and-a-half-year build-up to lift his suspension for failing drug tests in 2022.

Benn has won 24 of his 25 fights, with his only loss coming against Chris Eubank Jr in April.

For Eubank, he is left at a crossroads in his career aged 36 after a flat display despite the personal significance of the contest.

"I've been through hell and back to get to this night, it is what it is," Eubank said.

"It's 1-1, I have to go away and deal with some of the things I've been dealing with over the past few months. "I tried my best, the kid fought hard, he has power. We put on a show, Benn was the better man tonight." - Agencies

Oman win last-ball thriller against UAE in Asia Cup Rising Stars T20I

Mirza-led side chased down the target of 155 for their first win in the ongoing Asia Cup Rising Stars in Doha on Sunday

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman pulled off a sensational last-ball victory over the United Arab Emirates in the Asia Cup Rising Stars T20I in Doha on Sunday, bouncing back impressively after their opening loss to Pakistan A.

Chasing 155, Oman reached 155/8 off the final delivery, keeping fans on the edge of their seats in a gripping contest.

The win for Hammad Mirza-led side was the first in the ongoing tournament getting them the first points in the Group B that includes Pakistan A and India A.

Oman's chase got off to a rocky start. Debutant Sufyan Yousaf departed early for 2, and Karan Sonavale was run out after a quickfire 14 off 5 balls) in the fourth over, leaving Oman at 38/2 in the fourth over. Captain Hammad Mirza fell in the same over after a breezy start with 28 off just 15 balls, including four boundaries and a six.

A solid fourth-wicket stand of 63 between Wasim Ali (30 off 28 balls) and another T20I debutant, Narayan Saishiv, who scored run-a-ball 31 kept Oman in contention before Saishiv departed in 13th over. Aryan Bisht's 30 off 30 added the finishing touches with a 27-run key partnership with Wasim Ali setting up a tense chase.

Ali and Zikria Islam's dismissals off successive deliveries in the 17th over of Muhammad Rohid saw Oman slide to 136/6.

Sufyan Mehmood and Bisht batted sensibly to take Oman to 151/6 in 19 overs. With just four to win in the final over, Mehmood was run out with one still needed off the fourth ball and off the next ball Bisht departed off Muhammad Arfan. Experienced Samay Shrivastav scampered for the single for a thrilling win off the last ball with two wickets in hand.

Earlier, UAE set a competitive total of 154/6. Syed Haider was the top scorer with 45 off 30 balls, striking four sixes. Yayin Kiran Rai made 34 from 26 deliveries, while Alishan Sharafu contributed 33 off 28. Other batsmen struggled to accelerate, and although Muhammad Arfan (10*) and Aayan Afzal Khan (7*) hit late boundaries, the UAE innings lacked the firepower to post a more daunting target.

For Oman, Wasim Ali, Shafiq Jan and Muzahir Raza picked two wickets each.

Oman now take on India A in their concluding game on 18 November, Tuesday.

Brief scores: UAE 154/6 (Alishan Sharafu 33, Syed Haider 45, Yayin Kiran Rai 34; Wasim Ali 2/20, Muzahir Raza 2/24, Shafiq Jan 2/28) lost to Oman 155/8 (Narayan Saishiv 31, Wasim Ali 30, Aryan Bisht 30; Muhammad Rohid 3/31).

HOCKEY OMAN ARENA

Coorg Oman lift men's title as Hockey5s Oman Carnival ends

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Team Coorg Oman stamped their authority on the Gulf Hockey Fiesta men's final on Saturday, lifting the title with a commanding 6–3 win over UTSC as the Hockey5s Oman Carnival wrapped up a vibrant, action-packed weekend at Hockey Oman Arena that drew over 15,000 fans and reaffirmed the sport's growing footprint in the Sultanate.

Organised by Oman Hockey Association in partnership with UTSC, the carnival blended high-quality competition with festival flair.

The event opened in the presence of G V Srinivas, Ambassador of India to Oman, who hailed the organisers for strengthening sporting and cultural ties between the two nations. The closing ceremony was attended by Marwan Juma Al Juma, Oman Hockey Association (OHA) Chairman, along with senior sports officials.

A series of closely fought finals highlighted the depth of talent across categories.

In the Women's International Tournament, India Rush Mumbai held their nerve after a 2–2 draw, edging Hustle Hoc Kochi 2–1 on penalties.

UTSC claimed the Masters Men crown with a composed 4–2 win over Oman Veterans, while Ahli-Sidab dominated the Under-18 boys' final, defeating Al Amerat Club 7–2.

The younger divisions delivered their share of fireworks. Indian School Al Seeb swept past Muscat Club 7–1 to take the Under-18 girls title, and Muscat Club clinched the Under-14 boys' championship with a lively 6–4 win over Quriyat Club.

True to its "carnival" billing, the tournament extended beyond the turf. A spectacular 600-women dance performance stole the spotlight, while a bustling Fan Village kept families engaged with games, entertainment, and cultural activities throughout the two-day festival.

Organisers thanked the teams, partners, and spectators for their overwhelming support, describing the event as a milestone in Oman's hockey journey. With competitive action, community spirit, and cultural celebration blending seamlessly, the Hockey5s Oman Carnival concluded as one of the most memorable editions yet.

FIRST WORLD SAILING INCLUSION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Inclusive sailing set to make waves in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The waters off Mussanah Sailing School at the Barceló Mussanah Resort are set to come alive as Oman prepares to host the inaugural World Sailing Inclusion Championships (WSIC).

The competition begins on 30 November 2025 at Mussanah Sailing School, Barceló Mussanah Resort, with the official opening ceremony scheduled for 3 December, coinciding with the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Over 150 athletes, coaches, and support staff from 33 nations will gather for a groundbreaking event that celebrates inclusivity, skill, and opportunity for all.

Sailors of all abilities, including para-classified athletes and competitors outside the IPC classification code, will compete across multiple classes. One-person events include the Hansa 303 and ILCA 6, while two-person events feature the RS Venture Connect and Fareast 28R for visually impaired sailing.

Ahead of the competition, the Inclusive Development Programme (IDP) will provide training and development for sailors, coaches, and race officials from emerging nations, reinforcing the event's commitment to growth and opportunity.

Oman will be represented by six sailors from the Oman Sail SailFree programme, in partnership with bp Oman and the Oman Paralympic Association.

In the RS Venture Connect two-person event, the teams of Sami Al Sulaimi and Sultan Al Wahaibi, Rayan Al Mujaini and Zaher Al Atbi, and Adil Al Siyabi and Hassan Al Lawati will compete against 28 other teams.

In the one-person Hansa 303 class, Omani sailors Ali Al Ghusaini, Al Ghalya Al Jabri, and Malik Al Qurtubi will join 35 athletes from around the world.

Maryam Al Jadidi, WSIC Project Manager and Senior Project Manager at Oman Sail, said: "Oman Sail is committed to supporting people with disabilities to reach their potential and live a fulfilling life.

Sailing allows people to leave their limitations on land and experience freedom on the water. The World Sailing Inclusion Championships brings together inspiring athletes from across the globe to Oman for a celebration of inclusive sport. Hosting the inaugural edition of this event is an incredible honour for Oman Sail, and we are excited to be the first to welcome a new era for the sport."

Hannah Stodel, World Sailing's Para World Sailing Manager, added: "To see 150 athletes, coaches, and support staff already signed up is simply fantastic. It's a powerful testament to the strength and spirit of our sailing community. This is more than just a competition; it's a celebration of our diverse and capable athletes and a huge step forward in our mission to grow Para Inclusive sailing globally. We can't wait to welcome everyone to Oman for what promises to be an unforgettable week of racing and camaraderie."

The championships will also see several nations compete in inclusive sailing for the first time, including Trinidad & Tobago, India, Saudi Arabia, Korea, Iraq, Chinese Taipei, and Uruguay, highlighting the sport's global reach.

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 QUALIFIERS

Oyarzabal double puts Spain on brink of qualification

TBILISI: In-form striker Mikel Oyarzabal scored twice as Spain thrashed Georgia 4-0 away on Saturday to set a national record and all but guarantee its place in next year's FIFA World Cup 2026 finals.

Spain's romp in Tbilisi, in which Martin Zubimendi and Ferran Torres also scored, puts it on a maximum 15 points from five Group E games with 19 goals scored and none conceded.

Second-placed Turkiye, which beat Bulgaria 2-0 on Saturday, would have to beat Spain 7-0 in Seville on Tuesday to finish as group winner and take the automatic qualification spot.

Luis de la Fuente's side is now unbeaten in 30 games, stretching back to March 2023, beating the record of 29 it shared with Vicente del Bosque's golden generation, whose streak came between 2010 and 2013.

"A complete performance, we leave with a good feeling. We did a really good job as a team," Ferran said. "It's not mathematically certain yet, but we're focused on the last match; we're going to play to qualify. It's in our own hands."

Oyarzabal marked his 50th cap by opening the scoring from the penalty spot in the 11th minute.

The European champion doubled its lead in the 22nd minute when Fabian Ruiz's slick pass set up Arsenal midfielder Zubimendi for a cool finish.

It was all too easy for Spain, and it cut through Georgia again in the 35th minute as Oyarzabal was played in by Baena before squaring for Torres to tap home.

Oyarzabal scored his eighth goal in his last eight appearances for Spain in the 63rd minute, guiding in a header from a deft cross by Torres.

"I'm happy to be able to help the team; we had to do our part," Real Sociedad striker Oyarzabal said. "If I can contribute with a goal, great, and if not, the important thing is the team, that the national team keeps improving, and that's how we continue."

In the other games, Belgium were held 1-1 by Kazakhstan in Group J, missing the chance to clinch qualification, while Wales edged Liechtenstein 1-0 to stay in contention.

Austria moved to the verge of qualifying with a 2-0 win over Cyprus in Group H. Switzerland closed in on a World Cup berth with a 4-1 victory over Sweden, as Slovenia fell 2-0 to Kosovo. Denmark drew 2-2 with Belarus in Group C, while Scotland slipped to a 3-2 defeat in Greece. - Agencies

ROUND-UP

Omantel and OSNtv forge strategic partnership to deliver premium entertainment across Oman

Under the new collaboration, Omantel becomes the first operator in Oman to offer direct access to OSNtv's advanced Android-based set-top device and comprehensive entertainment portfolio through its 'Omantel Entertainment and Fibre' plans

MUSCAT: Omantel and OSNtv, the broadcast arm of OSN and a leading entertainment provider in the Middle East and North Africa, has announced a landmark partnership to bring an expansive suite of premium television, on-demand content and technology features to viewers across the Sultanate.

Under the new collaboration, Omantel becomes the first operator in Oman to offer direct access to OSNtv's advanced Android-based set-top device and comprehensive entertainment portfolio through its 'Omantel Entertainment and Fibre' plans. Subscribers will gain access to up to 70 Live channels including Free To Air and an extensive on-demand library, complemented by the OSNtv Companion App, extending access to the full suite of OSNtv features seamlessly across other devices at no additional cost.

Mohammed Mohsin Baqir Abdullatif, VP Consumer & General Manager of Customer Lifecycle Management at Omantel added, "Our collaboration with OSN empowers us to deliver an unmatched entertainment experience to our customers. The integration of the OSNtv proposition into our fibre packages reflects our commitment to innovation and long-term customer satisfaction."

A key initiative of the rollout is the OSNtv Box; an advanced Android-based set-top device equipped with features such as Parental control, catch-up TV, a dynamic TV guide and playback controls. The box also supports downloadable OTT apps and games, offering a versatile entertainment hub for the entire household.

"This partnership marks a significant milestone in our mission to deliver world-class entertainment to audiences across Oman," said Ellis D'Rozario, Senior Vice President of Commercial Sales at OSN. "By partnering with Omantel, we're enhancing the way Omantel customers experience our exclusive content and technology."

The offering includes OSNtv Signature Channels such as OSNtv Movies Premiere, OSNtv One, OSNtv Movies Family, OSNtv Kids, OSNtv Yahala among others, Global and Regional Favorites including Nickelodeon, Discovery Channel, CNN, Bloomberg, Sky News, as well as On-Demand Library Featuring up to 15,000 hours of top-tier movies and series.

REKSOFT

BankDhofar accelerates digital transformation by developing its technical infrastructure using AI

MUSCAT: BankDhofar, the second largest bank by branch network size in Oman, has engaged Reksoft, a multi-service technology company, to help develop a strategy for transitioning to a new IT architecture using an AI-first approach. This initiative is the first of its kind in Oman's digital banking sector.

The application of AI significantly accelerated every stage of the project — from analyzing the existing architecture (spanning more than 70 systems and 1,000 integration flows) to creating a prototype of the target architecture. These results have laid the foundation for BankDhofar's long-term competitiveness and digital agility.

The AI-first approach integrates artificial intelligence as a core element at every stage — from ideation to testing — ensuring that AI tools underpin processes rather than being applied sporadically. This method automates decision-making data generation, optimizes resource use, and accelerates development through analytics and machine learning.

As part of its wider digital transformation strategy, BankDhofar is transitioning from a monolithic architecture to a modern microservices platform. Reksoft, acting as technology partner, conducted a comprehensive review of the Bank's current IT infrastructure, including system documentation, network configurations, and integration mechanisms. It also designed the target architecture and migration strategy for more than 70 services and applications.

The work was executed in two main stages. The team had to virtually reconstruct the current IT landscape from scratch, preserving both functional and non-functional requirements. In the first stage, Reksoft used large language models (LLMs) to reverse-engineer existing integration services and architecture, quickly restoring system logic.

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) technology enabled the analysis of unsupported technologies and automated the creation of technical documentation. This produced a complete registry of systems and integrations, with details on data flows, protocols, and security levels.

In the second stage, specialists designed the target integration architecture using Apache Camel. AI assistants helped automate Python code generation for integration components, data processing routes, and architectural diagrams. Locally deployed LLMs evaluated the compatibility of existing systems with the new architecture, assessing technical complexity and business relevance. From this analysis, a migration roadmap was created, factoring in priorities and potential risks. A working prototype of the target architecture was also implemented, validating the chosen technology stack.

Commenting on the project, Dr. Tariq Saleh Mohamed Taha, Chief Information Officer at BankDhofar, said: "This project marks a strategic step in BankDhofar's digital transformation journey, laying the foundation for a modern IT ecosystem that fosters innovation and accelerates time-to-market. While microservices architecture is now the global standard for digital business, Reksoft's AI-first approach proved a true accelerator, delivering clarity and a concrete implementation plan."

Alexey Lebedev, Director of the Banking and Finance Department at Reksoft, added: "Our deep industry expertise, combined with advanced AI tools, enables us to significantly improve the efficiency and transparency of complex IT processes. The AI-first approach can deliver more than 40% in resource savings — AI can achieve in hours what might take humans months, provided experts guide it with the right context. We thank BankDhofar for their trust and the opportunity to jointly set new standards for digital banking in Oman."

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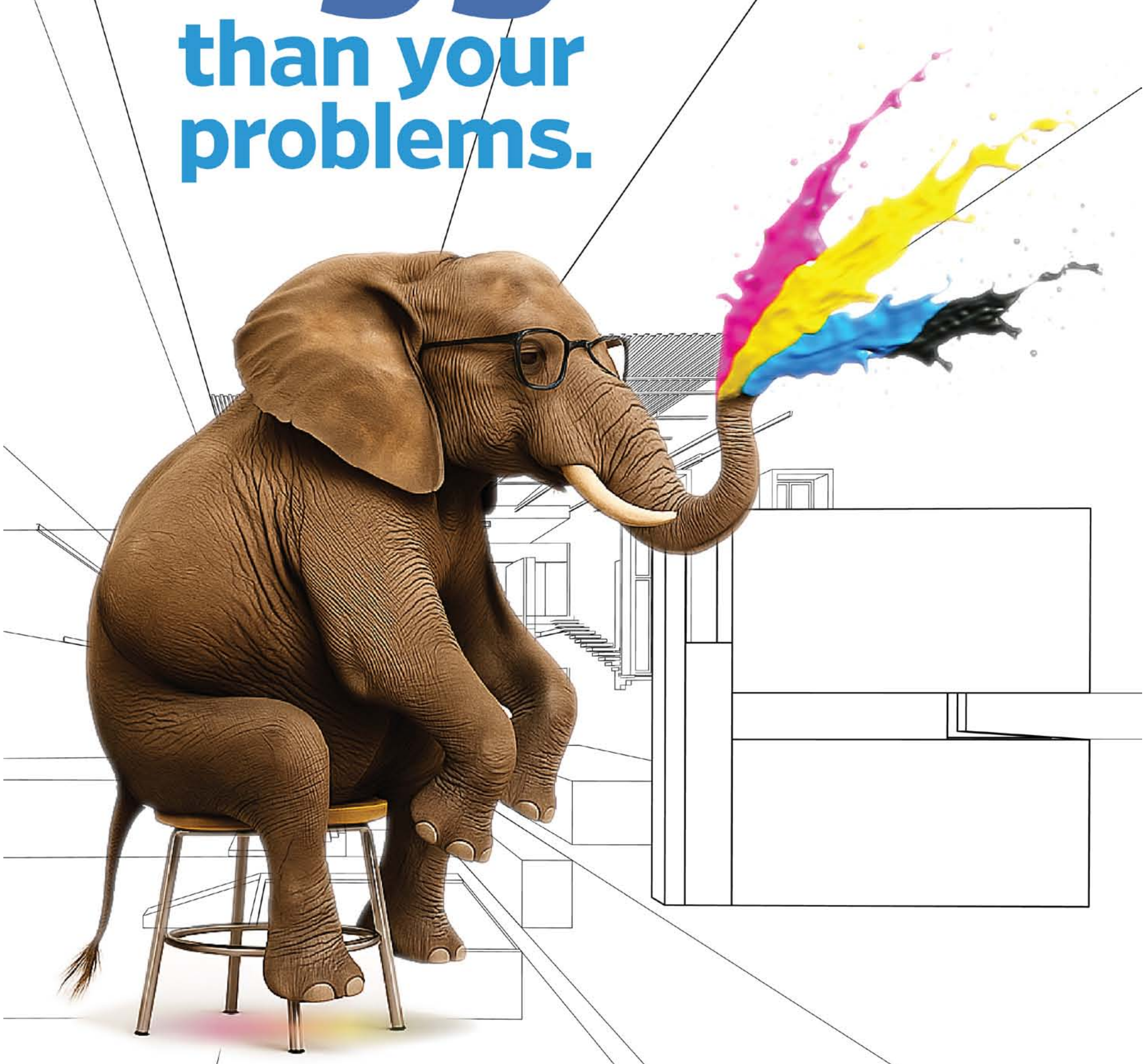

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