

Times

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF OMAN

50

YEARS OF LEGACY

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TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN
Ramadan working hours announced

1 The Ministry of Labour announced the official working hours for units of the State's Administrative Apparatus and the private sector during the holy month of Ramadan 1446 AH. For civil units of the State's Administrative Apparatus, the official working hours will be (5) continuous hours, starting from 9 am until 2 pm. **>A2**

OMAN
Hydrogen refuelling station launched

2 The first hydrogen station in Oman was launched yesterday by Oman Shell. The move comes as part of Oman Shell's drive for advancing sustainable mobility in the nation. Strategically located near Muscat International Airport, this state-of-the-art refuelling station is Oman's first green hydrogen production facility. **>A3**

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Wadi Al Jifnain Dam inaugurated in Seeb

3 The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources celebrated the opening of Wadi Al Jifnain Dam in the Wilayat of Seeb on Monday. The ceremony was held under the auspices of His Highness Sayyid Harib bin Thuwaini Al Said, Assistant Secretary-General of the Council of Ministers for Conferences. **>A3**

THE HONOURABLE LADY VOICES GREETINGS ON TEACHER'S DAY



Teacher's Day anniversary falls on February 24 every year

MUSCAT: Her Highness the Honourable Lady Assayida Ahd Abdullah Hamed Al Busaidi, Spouse of the Sultan of Oman, has addressed a message of greetings on the occasion of the Teacher's Day anniversary, which falls on 24 February every year.

The message reads as follows: "It pleases us to extend our heart-

felt greetings to all male and female teachers in our dear homeland on the occasion of Teacher's Day, which falls on 24 February every year.

As we voice our thanks and appreciation to teachers, we would like to value teachers' constant contribution to enhancing the talents of students, augmenting their potential with lofty values, sciences, as well as grooming and supplying them with different types of knowledge in a manner that assists them to bring about positive change to society. We wish teachers success in performing their noble educational mission. We would also like to express our deep gratitude to all other personnel in the education field for their sincere efforts in carrying out their duties." — **ONA**

CABLE

His Majesty the Sultan greets Emir of Kuwait

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Sheikh Mishal Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait on his country's National Day.

Progress and prosperity
In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health, happiness and long life to Sheikh Mishal. His Majesty prayed to Allah the Almighty for the return of this occasion on Sheikh Mishal at a time he has achieved aspirations of further progress and prosperity for the Kuwaiti people. — **ONA**

REVIEW RELATIONS

Sayyid Shihab meets Chinese ambassador



MEETING: His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs with Lyu Jian, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Oman. - **ONA**

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs received Lyu Jian, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Sultanate of Oman in his office at Al Murtafaa Camp on Monday.

Good relations
The meeting reviewed the advanced relations between Oman and China, in addition to discussing some topics of common concern. — **ONA**

Sayyid Asaad bids farewell to ambassadors

A2



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PRAYER
TIMINGS



Dhuhr.....12:25pm

Asr.....3:44pm

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Isha.....7:23pm

Fajr (Tomorrow).....5:16am

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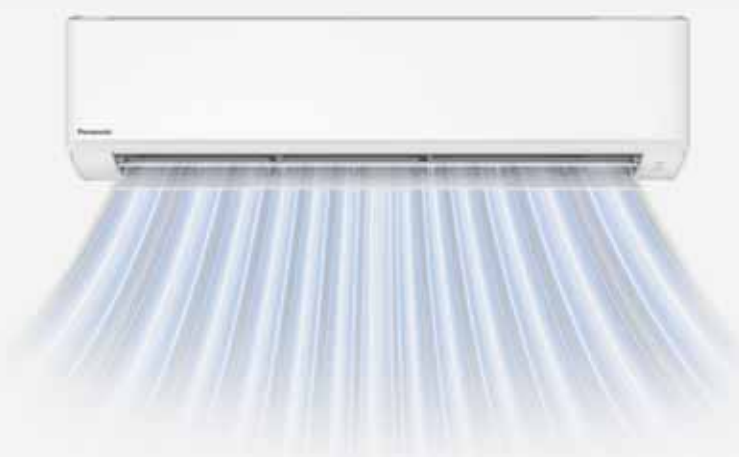
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ON BEHALF OF HM

Sayyid Asaad bids adieu to envoys of Japan, India, S Korea

MUSCAT: On behalf of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, HH Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Co-operation Affairs and Personal Representative of His Majesty the

Sultan received separately in his office on Monday Jota Yamamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Oman, Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to Oman and Keijoo Kim, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Oman, to bid them farewell at the

end of their tasks as ambassadors of their countries to Oman. The ambassadors expressed their gratitude to His Majesty the Sultan for the support extended to them during their tour of duties in the Sultanate of Oman from His

Majesty, the government and the Omani people, which had enabled them to carry out their duties. They wished His Majesty good health, happiness and long life, and the Sultanate of Oman further growth and welfare under the wise

leadership of His Majesty. In his turn, HH Sayyid Asa'ad expressed his utmost thanks to the ambassadors for the efforts they exerted in enhancing relations of cooperation and partnership between Oman and their respective

countries, wishing them permanent success, and their countries further progress, prosperity and stability. The meetings were attended by the Secretary General and the Advisor at the Office of HH Sayyid Asa'ad. -**UNA**

HOLY MONTH

Ministry of Labour announces Ramadan working hours

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Labour announced the official working hours for units of the State's Administrative Apparatus and the private sector during the holy month of Ramadan 1446 AH. The working hours will be as follows:

First: Civil Units of the State's Administrative Apparatus:

A- Official working hours will be (5) continuous hours, starting from 9 am until 2 pm.

B- In flexible working hours: The head of unit may implement the flexible working hours system and determine the start and finish times for employees during Ramadan in a manner that is consistent with the nature of the unit's work in light of the number of scheduled working hours.

This system starts from 7 am until 3 pm, and shall be calculated from the time the employee arrives until the time he/she leaves

work according to the established mechanism.

C- In remote work during Ramadan: The head of unit may implement this system for those occupying positions whose nature permits this, without disrupting the workflow.

The number of employees required to attend their workplaces shall not be less than 50% of the total number of employees.

Second: The private sector: working hours during Ramadan

for Muslims at Private Sector Establishments shall be reduced to 6 hours per day and not exceeding 30 hours per week.

The Ministry of Labour encourages private sector establishments to adopt modern methods, including the implementation of flexible working hours and remote working, whenever possible, in order to boost productivity and achieve balance between work requirements and the sanctity of the holy month of Ramadan. -**UNA**

Sayyid Badr, Uzbekistan counterpart hold talks

The two ministers discussed aspects of bilateral cooperation and means of promoting them in various fields

TASHKENT: Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister held a meeting on Monday with Bakhtiyor Saidov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The meeting took place within the context of Sayyid Badr's official visit to Uzbekistan.

During the meeting, the two ministers discussed aspects of bilateral cooperation and means of promoting them in various fields. They expressed their aspiration to boost cooperation in the economic, trade and investment sectors, in addition to the fields of education, culture, tourism and

renewable energy. The two sides also discussed opportunities for cooperation in infrastructure and logistics, in a way that enhances the economic partnership and achieves common interests.

They also touched on a set of regional and international issues of common interest, pointing to the

importance of enhancing consultation and coordination to back stability and security and achieve sustainable development for all. The meeting was attended by Sayyida Wafa Jabr Al Busaidi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Republic of Uzbekistan and several officials from both sides. -**UNA**

Recall

Recall Date : 25/02/2025



Brand of Commodity	Year of Production	Number of Affected Commodities
Nissan Armada	2008 - 2011	3606
Nissan Pathfinder	2008 - 2011	3862
Nissan Xterra	2008 - 2011	1965

Recall Cause

Due to an error in the supplier process, the driver's airbag emblem could detach from its mounting during the deployment of the airbag in the event of a road traffic accident. In such an event, the detached emblem may cause injury should it come into contact with an occupant.

Recall Cause

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Hydrogen refuelling station opened in Oman

This state-of-the-art hydrogen refuelling station is strategically positioned near Muscat International Airport

MUSCAT: The first hydrogen station in the Sultanate of Oman was launched on Monday by Oman Shell. The move comes as part of Oman Shell's drive towards advancing sustainable mobility in the nation.

Strategically positioned near Muscat International Airport, this state-of-the-art hydrogen refuelling station is the Sultanate of Oman's first green hydrogen production facility, integrating hydrogen refuelling, electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging, and conventional fuelling options into a single fuelling hub.

Built with electrolysis technology powered by solar energy, the station will produce up to 130 kg of green hydrogen per day. In addition to providing an alternative fuel source, it supports Oman's Vision 2040 and its Net Zero 2050 goals by fostering low-carbon mobility solutions.

Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, highlighted the national importance of the initiative: "The launch of the Sultanate of Oman's first green hydrogen service station marks a pivotal milestone in our nation's journey toward sustainability and energy diversification.



"This initiative reflects our commitment to implementing His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik's vision to position Oman as a key player in green hydrogen and a step towards achieving Net Zero by 2050. By integrating renewable energy, onsite hydrogen production, and advanced mobility solutions, this project demonstrates the potential of hydrogen ecosystems in attracting investment and supporting future technologies."

In his turn, Walid Hadi, Oman Shell's VP and Country Chairman, emphasized the project's contribution to Oman's sustainability journey: "The Green Hydrogen for Mobility project underscores Oman Shell's commitment to sustainable innovation in Oman."

Eng. Badr Mohammed Al Nadabi, CEO of Mwasalat, stated: "At Mwasalat, we believe that the future of transportation lies in sustainability, innovation, and the integration of smart, eco-friendly solutions. The launch of Oman's first hydrogen fueling station marks a significant step in our journey toward sustainable mobility, reinforcing the nation's



commitment to a greener future. In collaboration with Oman Shell and Nama Power and Water Procurement Company, we are introducing 15 hydrogen-powered vehicles for premium transport, a milestone in achieving Oman Vision 2040 and the Net Zero 2050 goals."

Further, Ahmed Salem Al Abri, CEO of Nama Power and Water Procurement, added: "Nama for Power and Water Procurement will provide a total of 7,000 International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-REC) to Oman Shell over the next five years until 2029, at a rate of 1,400 certificates annually. Additionally, 250,000 I-REC(E) certificates have been sold to the local market so far, and more

than 3 million I-REC(E) certificates will be issued in 2025."

Moreover, Dr. Mohammed Mahmoud Al Balushi, CEO of Shell Oman Marketing said: "At Shell Oman Marketing, we recognize that the future of mobility lies in innovation, sustainability, and collaboration."

"The launch of Oman's first green hydrogen refuelling station is more than just an infrastructure milestone — it's proof of our commitment to Oman's energy transition journey. By integrating green hydrogen into Oman's mobility sector, we are not only introducing an alternative fuel source but also setting the technology foundation for a more resilient, low-carbon transport ecosystem." -ONA

BILATERAL RELATIONS

His Majesty sends written message to Uzbekistan President



GREETINGS: The message was handed over by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister. -ONA

TASHKENT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a written message to President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of the Republic of Uzbekistan dealing with bilateral relations and means of enhancing them in various fields.

The message was handed over by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, when he was received by the President of Uzbekistan in Tashkent.

The Foreign Minister con-

veyed His Majesty the Sultan's greetings and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Shavkat. He also conveyed His Majesty's wishes of further progress and prosperity to the people of Uzbekistan.

In his turn, the President of Uzbekistan asked the Foreign Minister to convey his heartfelt sentiments and best wishes to His Majesty the Sultan. He also wished the Omani people further progress and prosperity. -ONA

ROP

Expatriate arrested for human trafficking

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A foreign woman has been arrested for human trafficking in North Al Batinah Governorate, Royal Oman Police (ROP), said. ROP said: "North Al Bati-

nah Governorate Police Command arrested a woman of Arab nationality for trafficking after she lured women of same nationality and forced them to engage in immoral acts. Legal procedures are being completed against her."

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY

Wadi Al Jifnain Dam inaugurated in Seeb

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources celebrated the opening of Wadi Al Jifnain Dam in the Wilayat of Seeb on Monday.

The ceremony was held under the auspices of HH Sayyid Harib bin Thuwaini Al Said, Assistant Secretary-General of the Council of Ministers for Conferences.

Speaking at the ceremony, Eng. Ali bin Mohammed Al Abri, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, stressed the significance of the dam which, he said, is an integrated system for protecting adjoining areas against flood risks.

As many as 200 dams have so far been set up in different governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, said Al Abri, noting that the projects included groundwater recharge dams, surface storage aquifers and flood protection dikes.

It took 3 years to implement Wadi Al Jifnain Dam project.

Eng. Yousef bin Masoud Al Manthari, Director of the Dams Department at the Ministry, said that the dam seeks to protect commercial and residential areas of Al Khoudh, Al Hail and Al Mawaleh in Muscat Governorate.

The project, implemented in accordance with standard hydrological studies, boasts advanced technologies comprising flexible concrete structures, water con-



trol systems and modern devices to monitor water levels.

He added that Wadi Al Jifnain Dam project, which cost RO 45.6 million, included construction and infrastructure tasks carried out within the scheduled timeframe under the supervision of a specialized consultant to ensure adherence to quality standards.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, HH Sayyid Harib unveiled the plaque and the attendees took tour of the project.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Saud bin Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, senior government officials and members of the State Council. -ONA

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CLIMATE ACTION

Solutions explored to mitigate impacts of climate change



MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman yesterday hosted the activities of the Oman Climate Week, under the slogan “Living in a Sustainable World”.

The event explores solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change and its applications in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, and unify global efforts to ensure the achievement of climate change mitigation goals.

The event was opened at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre under the patronage of Dr. Mahad Said Ba’Owain, Minister of Labour.

The week’s activities seek to achieve 6 main objectives, namely enhancing climate action, facilitating regional and international cooperation, promoting local, regional and international business, supporting the adoption and expansion of solutions, demonstrating the Sultanate of Oman’s commitment and encouraging community participation.

Dr. Abdullah Ali Al Amri, Chairman of the Environment Authority said in a speech that as many as 250 speakers are attending the week’s activities.

They will present research papers at the two accompanying scientific conferences, presented by researchers from more than 60 countries around the world, in addition to more than 20 dialogue sessions with the participation of more than 100 speakers, as well as 15 workshops and training programs with the participation of more than 22 trainers.

The event included the launch of three commemorative silver coins celebrating Omani wildlife, issued by the Central Bank of Oman. Each coin bears a coloured image of an element of Omani wildlife that is threatened with extinction.

On the sidelines of Oman Climate Week, a global exhibition was held featuring the latest innovations in climate and environ-

mental technology.

The week includes a high-level strategic conference bringing together global experts, policy and decision makers, and leaders to address climate challenges and explore solutions, such as mitigating the effects of climate change, adapting to climate change, climate finance, carbon markets, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, climate technologies, loss and damage, and social inclusion.

The week’s activities include an interactive platform for advanced research and technological progress, presented by scientists, students and community leaders.

As many as 250 speakers from more than 60 countries are taking part in the event.

Moreover, more than 2,000 registered participants from the Sultanate of Oman, various sisterly and friendly countries, and international and regional organisations are participating in the week’s activities. -ONA

POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

Oman, Azerbaijan hold talks

BAKU: The Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Azerbaijan on Monday held the 6th session of political consultations in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The Omani side was headed by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, while the Azerbaijani side was headed by Yalchin Rafiyev, Deputy Foreign

Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

During the session, the two sides reviewed areas of cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields. They also underscored the importance of continuing efforts to boost bilateral exchange in tourism and trade spheres.

Al Harthy expressed his appreciation to the Azerbaijani side

for the opening of the embassy in Muscat, which will boost diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Both sides exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest. They underlined the importance of deescalation in the region and finding a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestinian cause. -ONA

STRENGTHEN COOPERATION

MSX, Palestine Exchange ink agreement



EXCHANGING EXPERTISE: The agreement includes developing financial infrastructure and improving operational efficiency. -ONA

MUSCAT: Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) and Palestine Exchange (PEX) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) aimed at exchanging expertise, developing systems, enhancing market integration, facilitating broker access, and improving the investment environment in both countries.

The move comes as part of efforts to strengthen mutual cooperation and develop financial markets.

Both sides emphasised that this agreement marks a significant milestone in strengthening financial integration among Arab markets and aims to elevate the quality of financial services in both exchanges.

The MoC seeks to establish a joint framework for collaboration between the two markets by exchanging information and expertise, promoting dual listings and facilitating broker access to both exchanges.

Additionally, it includes developing advisory services and offering specialised training programmes for employees of both stock exchanges and investors, thereby enhancing knowledge of financial markets and trading mechanisms.

The agreement also includes developing financial infrastructure and improving operational efficiency through coordinated efforts between the two parties.

It aims to enhance data exchange, improve financial disclosure in accordance with global best practices, and foster cooperation in the fields of governance, sustainability, and investor education through awareness and training programs.

Both exchanges affirmed their commitment to continued joint efforts to achieve the agreed-upon objectives, serving the interests of investors and the national economies of both countries. -ONA

TENDER NOTICE

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

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	14/2024/MA FWR/ HQ-3 recall	Designing a Fire Fighting, Security and Safety System For Fisheries Harbors	Tuesday 18/2/2025	Thursday 27/2/2025	Sunday 9/3/2025	Specialized companies registered with First, Second grades	(25/-) Omani riyals for local companies (10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs
2	759/2024/MAFW R/HQ-50 recall	Consulting services for the development of poultry sector in the Sultanate of Oman	Sunday 16/2/2025	Thursday 27/2/2025	Thursday 13/3/2025	Specialized companies registered with Third grades	(25/-) Omani riyals for local companies (10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs
3	93/2025/MAFW/ HQ-12	Supply of disinfection and fumigation materials (actellic insecticide)	Sunday 16/2/2025	Thursday 6/3/2025	Thursday 27/3/2025	Specialized companies registered with Excellent, First Second, Third, fourth grades	(25/-) Omani riyals for local companies (10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs
4	96/2025/MAFW/ HQ-13	Consultancy Services For Design Review & Construction Supervision of Flood Protection Scheme In Al Dreez in Wilayat Ibri, Dhahira Governorate	Sunday 16/2/2025	Thursday 6/3/2025	Thursday 27/3/2025	Specialized companies registered with Excellent, First grades	(300/-) Omani riyals for local companies (10/-) Omani riyals for SMEs
5	101/2025/MAFW R/HQ-14	supply of research equipment of red palm weevil	Tuesday 18/2/2025	Monday 10/3/2025	Sunday 30/3/2025	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 on line 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 24402200 or etenderhd@gstb.gov.om**.

TENDERS COMMITTEE
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources

MEETING

Egyptian delegation visits Joint Command and Staff College

MUSCAT: A delegation from the Military Academy for Postgraduate and Strategic Studies of the Arab Republic of Egypt on Monday visited the Joint Command and Staff College in Muscat.

Upon the delegation's arrival at the college, they were received by Brigadier Saif Hamad Al Yousefi, Commandant of the Joint Command and Staff College.

During the visit, the delegation



watched a presentation on the college and its curricula, as well as its training and educational programmes. Moreover, the delegation toured the college's

facilities and departments.

Head of Academy for Strategic, Defence Studies receives Egyptian delegation

Maj. Gen Hamid Ahmed Sakroon, Head of the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies at Bait Al Falaj Camp on Monday received a delegation from the Military Academy for Postgraduate and Strategic

Studies of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed several academic and training matters of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by several senior officers at the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies and the military attaché of Egypt's embassy in Muscat. — **UNA**

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OF OMAN

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فلسطين

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TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Nama Dhofar Services invites the specialized companies to participate and submit their offers for the below said tenders: -

Tender Number	Tender Name	Last Date for Collection of Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) Including VAT (5%)
DISC/2025/016	Interlinking of Mittan Area with NDS Network Through the Construction of 1x3 MVA Outdoor Substation (33/11 kV) with a Single 33 kV Circuit from Al Mazayounah GSS, And Associated Works.	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	1575.000
DISC/2025/017	Replacement of the Existing 11/33kV Transformers with a New 33/11kV Transformers and Allied Works at Mazyona PSS to Facilitate Interlinking with the NDS Network.	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	525.000
DISC/2025/018	Modification Work in Farshat Qatbeet PSS to Connect with Saih Al Khairat GSS.	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	525.000
DISC/2025/019	UTILITY NETWORK EXTENSION – Lot -12C/2024	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	52.500

- To purchase the tender document website via the link or the Barcode below:
https://isupplier.nama.om:4443/OA_HTML/OA.jsp?OAFunc=XXTEN_TENDER_FLOAT_DISC_F
- Every company wishing to participate in this tender must attach with its bid a bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee from one of the banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman. Any bid that does not contain the bid bond will be disqualified.
- The original bid bond must be submitted in an envelope sealed with red wax and addressed to the chairperson of the minor tender committee and written on outside the Tender name and the Tender number and it should be paced in the tender box in Nama Dhofar Services in Salalah before 03:00 pm of the last day for submitting Bids.
- Bids shall be submitted online through using "isupplier portal". No hard copies are accepted.
- The Tender fees are not refundable. However, Tenderers who are holding "Riyada" card issued from public authority for SME development will be exempted from providing the tender fee and the Bid bond.
- The company is not obliged to accept the lowest or any other bid.
- In the event of receipt of the tender document on behalf of another company, the interested purchasers in the above tender document should provide details of the person's name and the company details.

شركة ظفار للخدمات المتكاملة

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خدمات ظفار
DHOFAR SERVICES

Recall

Recall Date : 25/02/2025

Brand of Commodity	Year of Production	Number of Affected Commodities
INFINITI Q70	2011 - 2019	32

Recall Cause

On affected Q50 and Q70 vehicles, the supplier changed the ball yoke specification of the propeller shaft without reporting it to INFINITI. This part did not match the specifications outlined for mass production. As a result, there is a risk of non-conformity with durability specifications and a potential safety risk should the part break while driving.

Recall Cause

To replace the existing propeller shaft with a countermeasure propeller shaft.

To check the serial numbers of the affected commodities, please visit the website for recalls and warnings: <http://recall.pacc.gov.om>

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Vodafone Oman marks 3 years of growth capturing nearly 14% market share with historic 5G next level network roll-out

Vodafone Oman has also increased its customer base by 18% year-on-year, and expanded its 5G NEXT LEVEL network to cover over 98% of the population, making it the fastest nationwide 5G rollout in Oman's history



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Vodafone Oman is marking its third anniversary with strong market expansion, record growth, and bold strides in digital transformation, solidifying its position as a change-driver in Oman's telecommunications sector. Just three years since its launch, the company has achieved an approximate 14% market share, increased its customer base by 18% year-on-year, and expanded its 5G NEXT LEVEL network to cover over 98% of the population, making it the fastest nationwide 5G rollout in Oman's history.

The company's rapid acceleration is a testament to its strategic vision, digital-first approach, and relentless focus on customer experience. Unlike traditional operators, Vodafone Oman entered the market as a fully cloud-based, digital-native operator, prioritizing agility, efficiency, and seamless service delivery. In 2024 alone, revenue grew by 58%, a reflection of the company's ability to scale rapidly while maintaining strong operational efficiencies.

"When we launched Vodafone Oman, we set out to challenge the status-quo and redefine connectivity. Today, we are more than a telecom provider; we are an enabler of digital lifestyles, a driver of innovation, and a trusted partner in Oman's evolving economy. Our growth is not just measured in numbers, but in the trust we've built, the experiences we've shaped, and the lasting impact we are creating," said Eng. Bader Al Zidi, CEO of Vodafone Oman.



A key pillar of Vodafone Oman's success has been its ability to anticipate and meet evolving customer needs. In 2024, the company expanded its BLACK and RED offerings, ensuring greater flexibility and value for both individuals and businesses. The launch of BLACK for Business marked a significant milestone, empowering enterprises with tailored mobility solutions designed to enhance scalability and efficiency. Additionally, student plans under RED prepaid and BLACK postpaid were introduced, featuring enhanced affordability, connectivity, and access to exclusive benefits via the International Student Identity Card (ISIC)—a first in the Sultanate.

Beyond new products, Vodafone Oman strengthened its market position through strategic partnerships including securing a long-term agreement with Friendi Mobile to transition its +700,000 customers to Vodafone's 5G NEXT LEVEL network. This move further amplifies the company's reach, reinforcing its commitment to delivering high-speed, uninterrupted connectivity at scale.

Vodafone Oman's expansion has

not only strengthened the telecom landscape but also generated tangible economic impact. In 2024, the company's In-Country Value (ICV) contribution exceeded OMR 63 million, prioritizing Omani SMEs, local businesses, and national talent development. Over the past three years, Vodafone's total ICV investment has now reached OMR 180 million, demonstrating its long-term commitment to Oman's economic growth and digital transformation.

As the digital ecosystem evolves, Vodafone Oman has positioned itself as a leader in cybersecurity as

well ensuring that both individuals and businesses remain protected against emerging threats. In 2024, the company launched CyberSafe, a comprehensive security solution designed to enhance digital protection and resilience. The company's cybersecurity efforts were recognized through a string of prestigious industry accolades, including the COMEX 2024 Cyber Security Award, CYSEC Cyber Security Leader of the Year, and the Al Roya Business Award for Cyber Security Excellence.

Looking to the future with a fully independent 5G network cov-

ering over 98% of the population, Vodafone Oman has laid the foundation for its next chapter — one focused on enhancing customer experiences, scaling enterprise solutions, and leading Oman's digital economy into the future.

"Three years in, and this is just the beginning," added Al Zidi. "We are fast-tracking into the future, delivering more innovation, more value, and setting new benchmarks for customer experience. The way we see it, Vodafone is not just a network; it's an experience, a partner, and a driver of Oman's digital progress."

Recall

Recall Date : 25/02/2025



Brand of Commodity	Year of Production	Number of Affected Commodities
Nissan Pathfinder	2022 - 2023	2
INFINITI QX60	2022 - 2023	5

Recall Cause

There is a supplier welding quality concern wherein the rear inboard seat bracket weld may detach from the driver's seat frame rail. Should this happen, in the event of a road traffic accident, the seat and the seat belt anchor may separate from the seat rail, possibly causing the position of the driver to change in relation to the airbag, potentially increasing the risk of injury.

Recall Cause

Inspect the rear inboard driver seat rail-to-frame weld and replace the driver seat cushion frame if needed.

To check the serial numbers of the affected commodities, please visit the website for recalls and warnings: <http://recall.sagp.gov.om>



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نماء
DHOFAR SERVICES



TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Nama Dhofar Services invites the specialized companies to participate and submit their offers for the below said tenders: -

Tender Number	Tender Name	Last Date for Collection of Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) Including VAT (5%)
DISC/2024/051-2	Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of submersible pumps at APS	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	105.000
DISC/2023/189-3	WRP tanks protective lining	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	525.000
DISC/2024/050-2	Construction of discharge point, Access roads, Guard rooms and CCTV at regional (Mirbat, Taqah And Hurait)	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	105.000
DISC/2024/069-2	Supply, installation & testing of Mps-01 Knife gate valve & air valve	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	52.500
DISC/2025/015	Supply of Main Water Meters for Reservoirs' Inlet & Outlet Pipes of Different Dia Salalah-Dhofar Region.	11-Mar-2025	20-Mar-2025	105.000

- To purchase the tender document website via the link or the Barcode below:
https://isupplier.nama.om:4443/OA_HTML/OA.jsp?OAFunc=XXTEN_TENDER_FLOAT_DISC_F
- Every company wishing to participate in this tender must attach with its bid a bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee from one of the banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman. Any bid that does not contain the bid bond will be disqualified.
- The original bid bond must be submitted in an envelope sealed with red wax and addressed to the chairperson of the minor tender committee and written on outside the Tender name and the Tender number and it should be placed in the tender box in Nama Dhofar Services in Salalah before 03:00 pm of the last day for submitting Bids.
- Bids shall be submitted online through using "isupplier portal". No hard copies are accepted.
- The Tender fees are not refundable. However, Tenderers who are holding "Riyada" card issued from public authority for SME development will be exempted from providing the tender fee and the Bid bond.
- The company is not obliged to accept the lowest or any other bid.
- In the event of receipt of the tender document on behalf of another company, the interested purchasers in the above tender document should provide details of the person's name and the company details.

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This Ramadan, Kia brings you bouquet of benefits to own a Kia! Discover our innovative lineup and enjoy amazing rewards and gifts when you own a Kia. Visit Kia showrooms to know more. Scheme Period: 23rd February 2025 to 23rd April 2025
Reliable International Automotive LLC, C.R. No. 1707183, Wattayah: 24579846/47; Al Mawelah: 93204360; Barka: 93201347; Nizwa: 99874368; Sohar: 92837722; Sur: 25546190/93204360; Rustaq: 92869449; Salalah: 23211460/99884217.
Saturday Showroom Timing: Muscat, Al Mawelah, Barka, Sohar & Salalah from 9.00 AM to 1.00 PM

VAT will be adjusted in the deal through a VAT Gift, equivalent to 5% of the vehicle price. This VAT gift is in addition to normal Cash Gift offer applicable on the model. VAT gift on select models such as K3, K5 PE (24MY), K8, Sorent, Seltos, Sportage 1.6T SMK & Sportage L. ## 1 EV6 Earth (24MY) Winnings are through Raffle coupons to customers will be provided only after the finalization & approval of their standard deal by their FC companies/Banks. Raffle Date: 07/05/25 at the end of campaign. Subject to full payment of purchased car. The handover of the Raffle prize will be done after 15th May 2025 upon completion of all legal & financial documents towards purchase of new vehicle such as formal delivery note & invoice and new vehicle ROP Registration. @ 1 year insurance & 1 year registration (as applicable) would be given on all models except Picanto to the extent of a private vehicle. Additional premium as per insurance term would have to be paid by the buyer. For models where insurance is offered as a benefit, additional cash gift can be availed by customer in lieu of insurance. ** - Total applicable Service benefit will be from 5 Years/50,000Kms to 10 years/100,000Kms whichever is earlier. \$ The firm timing will be of 3M colour stable (Side Glasses & Rr. Windscreen) & will be installed only in Sportage in 1.6T SMK & Sportage L Trims only after the delivery & completion of invoicing of the vehicle. All the above benefits are not applicable on Ministry, Bulk fleet, Corporate & RAC deals. Scheme Period: 23/02/2025 to 23/04/2025 Vehicles may also include some Dealer installed Accessories. Pictures & Colors are indicative. For further details, please visit your nearest Kia showroom.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

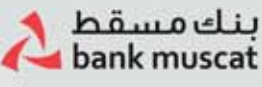
The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by April 2025 reaching \$76.59, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.97 from the price of Friday, which was \$78.56. - **ONA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,428.17 points, down by 0.6% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.05% at 408.87 points. Oman Cement, up 24.39%, was the top gainer while Gulf International Chemicals, down 5.33%, was the top loser.



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CR No: 1/14973/8

OOMCO awards contracts worth OMR1.45 million to Omani SMEs

The agreements, with durations ranging from one to five years, reaffirm Oman Oil's commitment to supporting local businesses, enhancing In-Country Value, and contributing to Oman Vision 2040

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Oil Marketing Company (OOMCO) has signed agreements with nine Omani Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), awarding contracts worth OMR 1.45 million across multiple sectors, including logistics, technology, infrastructure, and retail.

The agreements, with durations



ranging from one to five years, reaffirm OOMCO's commitment to supporting local businesses, enhancing In-Country Value (ICV), and contributing to Oman Vision 2040.

The signing ceremony took place at OOMCO's headquarters on February 18, 2025, bringing together representatives from the awarded SMEs. These agreements

provide sustainable growth opportunities for local enterprises, enabling them to expand their expertise and enhance their competitiveness in the market.

Tarik Mohammed Al Junaidi, CEO of Oman Oil Marketing Company, stated: "Our partnership with Omani SMEs underscores our dedication to fostering local talent and

strengthening the national economy. By awarding contracts across diverse industries, we are not only creating business opportunities but also driving innovation, efficiency, and sustainable growth in line with Oman Vision 2040."

The awarded contracts cover a wide range of industries and services, supporting business devel-

opment across retail, technology, engineering, and facility management. In the retail and customer service sector, the agreements include maintenance services for Ahlain shops and the introduction of a Pick-Up and Drop-Off (PUDO) logistics service, enhancing convenience for customers. Digital transformation initiatives include

the integration of a QR-based ordering platform at Café Amazon and the implementation of Know Your Customer (KYC) verification within the OOMCO Mobile App, further strengthening the company's digital capabilities.

In the engineering and infrastructure sector, the contracts cover the installation of above-ground steel tanks as well as fire engine troubleshooting and maintenance, ensuring the highest standards of safety and operational excellence. Facility management and maintenance agreements include essential upkeep for OOMCO's headquarters and the supply of receipt paper rolls for service stations across the network.

This initiative not only strengthens the role of local businesses in Oman's economy but also supports job creation and long-term SME development. By integrating digital transformation, customer convenience, and operational efficiency into its projects, OOMCO continues to set new benchmarks for corporate responsibility and economic impact.

As a key player in Oman's fuel marketing sector, OOMCO remains committed to fostering sustainable business partnerships that drive local enterprise growth while ensuring the highest standards of service and innovation.

EXHIBITION

Alizz Islamic Bank empowers SMEs

MUSCAT: Alizz Islamic Bank collaborates with the 3rd Tkaturf Gulf Exhibition for SMEs that was held under the auspices of Said bin Mohammed Al Sagri, the Minister of Economy. The bank's participation comes in line with its Corporate Social Responsibility initiative 'Alizz Cares' through which Alizz Islamic Bank is unwavering in its commitment to fostering sustainable social and economic development within the Sultanate of Oman.

Organised by Links for Social Initiatives in partnership with the SMEs Development Authority and Muscat Municipality, the three-day Tkaturf Exhibition is an effective platform that increases awareness of small businesses in the Sultanate of Oman along with various Gulf SMEs. This event has proven to enable the participants to market and showcase their products and services during the peak season. The exhibition also contributes to solidifying the position of these businesses in the market and allowing them to compete better.

The exhibition chaired by Her Highness Sayyida Hujaija bint Jaifer Al Said, founder of Links for Social Initiatives the Tkaturf Gulf Exhibitions aims to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by promoting their products and services, exchanging experiences and skills in various fields, creating business opportunities and enhancing cooperation to open horizons for the expansion and development of their projects.

Links for Social Initiatives continue to support the participating SMEs beyond the exhibition by organising free workshops for 150 Tkaturf participants to enhance collaboration and provide essential tools for success. This includes workshops aimed at improving marketing and business management skills, offering practical strategies on digital market-



ing, financial management, and customer engagement tailored for SMEs. The participating SMEs received a certificate endorsed by the Ministry of Higher Education in Oman, enhancing their credibility in the business community.

Touching upon the partnership Lina Al Abdulsalaam, Head of Marketing & Communications at Alizz Islamic Bank said "The bank takes great pride in partnering with like-minded organisations to achieve unified success that meet our strategic goals and objectives. At Alizz Islamic Bank, we believe SMEs are the cornerstone of economic prosperity and believe that it is important that we all work closely together to enable their success. Through our 'Alizz Business' value proposition we offer financial solutions and continuously address the unique challenges that SMEs face and our partnership with Links for Social Initiatives is a step towards contributing to a sustainable SME ecosystem in Oman."

Alizz Islamic Bank firmly believes that SMEs are a key driver of sustainable economic growth in Oman, whilst, 'Alizz Business' includes a comprehensive portfo-

lio of financial services designed to address the growing needs of the sector. The value proposition has been designed to meet all requirements of SMEs through various attractive savings and financing product offerings. Given the increasing financing needs of SMEs, 'Alizz Business' offers flexible and convenient financing solutions for business expansion, working capital, business line diversifications and other business growth. The value proposition also helps local entrepreneurs and business owners achieve their strategic goals through an array of innovative Shari'a-compliant solutions such as 'Alizz Connect' an internet banking platform that enables them to conduct their various business transactions online anytime, anywhere.

Alizz Islamic Bank has embarked on many projects that have a positive impact on society and with the goal being to strive to provide a better life for the people beyond their banking needs. Accompanied by a belief that investing in sustainable initiatives is the decisive element in creating a brighter future for the country and its people.

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY

Opaz launches 'Jesser' programme to enhance internal communication



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones 'Opaz launched the "Jesser" programme focused on internal communication, under the patronage of Sheikh Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidi, Chairman of Opaz, and in the presence of Engineer Ahmed bin Hassan Al Dheeb, Deputy Chairman of Opaz, along with several officials and employees of the Authority and representatives from various government and private institutions.

The launch of the "Jesser" programme comes as part of the Opaz's commitment to fostering a work environment based on values of responsibility, cooperation, transparency, and creativity.

This contributes to improving the efficiency of internal communication among employees, reinforcing the Opaz's image as an innovative, transparent, and responsible institution. It also positively impacts enhancing the experience of investors and partners and boosts productivity through



the provision of effective communication mechanisms.

The program aims to develop human resources that believe in the importance of internal communication and practice it effectively, which helps build strong relationships between management and employees, promotes teamwork, and supports employee engagement, enhancing their connection to the organization.

"Jesser" also works on creating internal and external communication channels that strengthen cooperation and effective communication between employees and help address challenges related to communication effectiveness. This is in line with Opaz's commitment to providing a healthy work environment based on the principles of constructive dialogue and teamwork.

Abdul Majid bin Abdullah Al Ansari, General Director of Support Services Sector at the Opaz, confirmed that the "Jesser" program reflects the Opaz's commitment to providing an inspiring work environment focused on continuous in-

teraction between employees and management. He explained that the program will include several interactive platforms and activities that allow all employees to participate, express their opinions, and provide suggestions, which will contribute to the development of the institutional work environment.

Al Ansari added that through this program, OPAZ seeks to establish modern institutional practices based on transparent communication and active participation, which positively impacts employee performance and contributes to achieving the strategic objectives of Opaz and the zones it oversees.

The "Jesser" logo embodies multiple management levels that reflect different forms of communication, whether leadership, upward, or horizontal, all based on a single foundation that Opaz and its employees strive for: achieving success and institutional excellence. The logo also symbolizes the building of communication bridges between various administrative levels, strengthening the bonds among employees.

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Oman Cement, up 24.39%, was the top gainer while Gulf International Chemicals, down 5.33%, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,428.17 points, down by 0.6% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.05% at 408.87 points. Oman Cement, up 24.39%, was the top gainer while Gulf International Chemicals, down 5.33%, was the top loser. Shares of OQEP were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 811 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 2.73 million, with more than 12.42 million shares changing hands.

Out of 52 traded securities, 16 advanced, 22 declined, and 14 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for RO 146K while domestic investors were net buyers for RO 136K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 10K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,700.58 points, down 0.41%. Prices of Oman & Emirates Investment, Global Financial Investments, Ominvest were up by 1.49%, 1.16%, 0.31% respectively. Prices of Muscat Finance, Ahli Bank, Bank Nizwa, Sohar International Bank, National Finance were down by 4.08%, 2.89%, 1.96%, 0.76%, 0.75% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,820.08 points, up 2.71%. Prices of Oman Cement, Al Anwar Ceramics, Muscat Thread Mill, Jazeera Steel Products, Voltamp Energy were up by 24.39%, 12.04%, 7.09%, 4.05%, 2.59% respectively. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals, Oman Flour Mills, Oman Cables Industry, Raysut Cement, A'Saffa Foods were down by 5.33%, 4.11%, 3.16%, 1.96%, 1.02% respectively.

Services Index was down by 1.45% before closing at 1,631.01 points. — **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,453.35	4,428.17	4,428.17	4,454.81	-26.64	-0.60
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,751.12	7,700.58	7,700.58	7,732.29	-31.71	-0.41
Industry Index	5,820.08	5,624.30	5,820.08	5,666.33	153.75	2.71
Services Index	1,644.28	1,631.01	1,631.01	1,655.06	-24.05	-1.45
MSX Shariah Index	413.59	408.58	408.87	409.09	-0.22	-0.05
MSX TR INDEX	6,239.10	6,203.82	6,203.82	6,241.14	-37.32	-0.60
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,806.07	8,748.64	8,748.64	8,784.68	-36.03	-0.41
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,714.98	6,489.10	6,714.98	6,537.60	177.39	2.71
SERVICES TR IDX	1,971.93	1,956.02	1,956.02	1,984.86	-28.84	-1.45
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
12,424,047	2,733,530	811	27,272,781,071	16	22	14	52

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF. BD.	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BD.	LAST OFF.	PREV. VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	260,770	138,111	58	0.541	0.541	0.451	0.510	0.410	0.100	24.390	0.510	0.451	0.450	0.100	168,745,082
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	114,428	13,294	22	0.112	0.122	0.112	0.121	0.108	0.013	12.037	0.121	0.109	0.111	0.100	26,620,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	53,015	20,201	16	0.380	0.385	0.380	0.385	0.370	0.015	4.054	0.385	0.380	0.383	0.100	48,085,715
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	79,295	27,937	23	0.358	0.358	0.350	0.353	0.346	0.007	2.023	0.353	0.331	0.370	0.100	83,452,730
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES SH.	7,000	471	2	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.001	1.483	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.100	3,257,590
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	226,000	15,409	17	0.069	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.068	0.001	1.471	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.100	46,567,235
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	105,388	9,169	8	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.086	0.001	1.163	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.100	17,400,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	1,409	455	1	0.323	0.323	0.323	0.323	0.322	0.001	0.311	0.323	0.320	0.323	0.100	215,882,033
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	14,596	8,758	4	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.000	0.600	0.591	0.600	0.100	57,000,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	928	55	1	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.000	0.000	0.059	0.059	0.064	0.100	21,011,511
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	143,884	12,372	14	0.086	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.085	0.088	0.100	15,050,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	1,320,094	87,126	62	0.066	0.067	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.000	0.000	0.066	0.066	0.067	0.100	47,150,818
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	71,124	16,725	20	0.235	0.238	0.235	0.238	0.238	0.000	0.000	0.238	0.233	0.238	0.100	183,307,600
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	2,000	538	1	0.269	0.269	0.269	0.269	0.270	-0.001	-0.370	0.269	0.269	0.275	0.100	18,934,910
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,046,357	266,366	27	0.254	0.255	0.254	0.254	0.255	-0.001	-0.392	0.254	0.253	0.257	0.100	1,906,624,854
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	166,419	21,635	5	0.130	0.131	0.130	0.130	0.131	-0.001	-0.763	0.130	0.129	0.131	0.100	860,242,015
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	1,603,185	207,443	113	0.130	0.130	0.129	0.129	0.130	-0.001	-0.769	0.129	0.130	0.132	0.100	558,650,486
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	10,587	2,193	6	0.208	0.208	0.205	0.205	0.207	-0.002	-0.966	0.205	0.205	0.207	0.100	133,443,567
OM0000002804	ASAFA FOODS	2,840	1,092	1	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.394	-0.004	-1.015	0.390	0.375	0.394	0.100	46,800,000
OM0000003036	OMAN TELECOM	239,419	204,663	46	0.858	0.859	0.835	0.835	0.860	-0.025	-2.907	0.835	0.846	0.860	0.100	628,250,000
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	85,000	7,658	14	0.092	0.092	0.090	0.090	0.093	-0.003	-3.226	0.090	0.093	0.094	0.100	85,911,476
Total	21	5,553,698	1,061,671	461												
Parallel Market																
OM0000000306	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	790	119	1	0.151	0.151	0.151	0.151	0.141	0.010	7.092	0.151	0.140	0.155	0.100	2,475,510
OM0000000361	VOLTAMP ENERGY	205,517	120,923	19	0.555	0.595	0.555	0.595	0.580	0.015	2.586	0.595	0.581	0.605	0.100	48,434,636
OM0000004669	SHARGIYAH DESALINATION	10,500	1,428	2	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.133	0.003	2.256	0.136	0.134	0.000	0.100	13,301,094
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	4,905	290	2	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.057	0.001	1.754	0.058	0.056	0.057	0.100	84,830,885
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	7,500	945	3	0.128	0.128	0.126	0.126	0.125	0.001	0.800	0.126	0.128	0.129	0.100	4,930,000
OM0000009769	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	2,845,151	884,139	127	0.311	0.312	0.310	0.312	0.311	0.001	0.322	0.312	0.311	0.311	0.010	696,000,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	28,000	2,100	2	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.073	0.080	0.100	6,375,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	84,000	5,628	4	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.100	19,369,906
OM0000003000	ALMAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	1,000	1,034	1	1.034	1.034	1.034	1.034	1.034	0.000	0.000	1.034	0.000	0.000	0.100	71,346,000
OM0000003521	GAFFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	557,300	43,997	34	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.100	16,033,929
OM0000005280	OMAN ARAB BANK	1,292	186	2	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.000	0.000	0.144	0.143	0.143	0.100	240,395,040
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	16,000	2,111	4	0.131	0.132	0.131	0.132	0.133	-0.001	-0.752	0.132	0.128	0.128	0.100	75,728,965
OM0000009906	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	825,760	82,625	60	0.100	0.101	0.100	0.100	0.101	-0.001	-0.990	0.100	0.100	0.101	0.040	345,949,085
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	3,100	282	2	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.092	-0.001	-1.087	0.091	0.090	0.094	0.100	18,200,000
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	1,258,211	430,209	36	0.345	0.345	0.340	0.341	0.345	-0.004	-1.159	0.341	0.334	0.344	0.100	68,075,740
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	10,000	760	1	0.078	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.077	-0.001	-1.299	0.076	0.076	0.079	0.100	38,655,978
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	51,721	3,363	3	0.066	0.066	0.065	0.065	0.066	-0.001	-1.515	0.065	0.062	0.066	0.100	110,170,776
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	32,042	3,205	6	0.100	0.102	0.100	0.100	0.102	-0.002	-1.961	0.100	0.100	0.101	0.100	223,695,303
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	100,000	16,800	1	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.173	-0.005	-2.890	0.168	0.168	0.177	0.100	394,742,454
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	310	760	3	2.450	2.450	2.450	2.450	2.530	-0.080	-3.162	2.450	2.450	2.485	0.100	219,765,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	100,000	4,700	2	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.049	-0.002	-4.082	0.047	0.048	0.048	0.100	14,435,877
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	500	210	1	0.420	0.420	0.420	0.420	0.438	-0.018	-4.110	0.420	0.420	0.438	0.100	66,150,000
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	110,000	7,895	8	0.072	0.072	0.071	0.071	0.075	-0.004	-5.333	0.071	0.071	0.073	0.100	1,491,000
Total	23	6,263,689	1,613,708	324												

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Contact: +968 7900 6803
Email: thirumurugan9360@gmail.com

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Contact: +968 79975864

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Indian (male), 20 yrs Oman exp, knowledge of finalisation of accounts, VAT, TAX, LCLTR, & ERP Oracle. Contact: 92383882

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

Finance manager with 15 yrs of experience in oil & gas multinational company looking for suitable placement Contact- 95230609

Experienced accounts, finance professional with 20+ yrs of experience in Oman and an MBA specialization in finance seeking a suitable opportunity. Holds a valid Oman D/L. Contact: 92916746

Indian, male, accountant with total 13 yrs GCC experience job seeking. Contact: 76406757

Sri Lankan Senior accountant, having Bachelor's Degree. 7+ yrs of experience. Expertise in finalization, audit, budgeting, MIS, VAT, income tax. Contact : 97092478

B.Com graduate with 7 yrs experience as an accountant,also experienced in store operations & document controlling. knowledge in tally,MS excel.MS office, VAT, tax filling & other finance operations. Contact: +968 7641151, WA+91 8547107262

Indian, male, Mcom. (Finance), CA(Articlesip), more than 14 yrs of work experience in accounts (mid-level) in Oman in various industries (4 yrs hospitality) Independently handling accounts up to finalization. Seeking placement. Contact-98932947

SriLankan, MBA finance, 9+ yrs experience in financial statements, auditing, budgeting, VAT, tax, fixed assets, reconciliation, payroll. Seeking a full-time or part-time position in a senior role. Contact: 93988825
Email: akramhaniffa@yahoo.com

Experienced finance professional looking for a suitable senior level opportunity. Contact: 78581435

Senior Accountant upto finalization with D/L. Contact: +968 79471027

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

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Indian MBA graduate having 2 yrs experience in accounting department.
Contact : 79819938, Email: mohammedasim955@gmail.com

Indian graduate having 2 yrs experience in accounts & sales department.
Contact: 7642 0699, Email: saqibahmed0319@gmail.com

Accounts Manager, 22 yrs of exp in accounts(20 yrs in Oman) until finalization (MIS, collections, handling inventory and payments and all related work).
Contact: 91410602

Indian, male, Accountant, M.com (finance), 12 yrs experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently, Noc & D/L available.
Contact: 99859141

Accounts manager, Ass. FM, Indian, male, B.com, MBA. More than 15yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation. Looking for immediate placement.
Contact: 91469060

Sr. Accountant, accountant, 16 yrs of experience in Oman. Accounts up to finalisation and auditing.
Contact: 94001764.

Junior accountant, Indian, male B.com graduate 2yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable job.
Contact: 78047716

Highly skilled Chief accountant looking for suitable position.
Contact: +968 79888153

Indian male, having 2.5 yrs of experience in Accounts, finance, admin looking for job.
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Indian male with 4+ yrs exp. in Oman, worked as Accounts & admin executive Bachelor Degree in Management (BBA) with valid D/L, ready to join immediately.
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ADMINISTRATION

Indian, male, have experience in project coordinator, sales and marketing have diploma in mech, valid D/L. Contact: 95645241

Indian lawyer with 5 yrs of experience seeking suitable placement.
Contact: 94309279, Email: firozshajahan.law@gmail.com

Graduate with 2 yrs of Oman experience and 7 yrs of Indian experience in search of a suitable position in Facility management, administrations.
Contact: +968 93369143

Indian (M), Oman experience in projects, corporate communications, CEO office. WhatsApp: +968 97457945.

Indian male MBA(HR) & B tech (Comp) with nearly 10 yrs of over all experience seeks job. Contact: +968 94168194, +91 9745020204, Email: gokulgopan91@hotmail.com

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

Graduate Architect with valid Oman D/L. Proficient in various Design software. Looking for Architect, interior designer roles.
Contact: 93249129, Email: psmenez2015@gmail.com

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Contact: 78177627

Msc Chemistry graduate, Indian female, looking for jobs in Oman. Preferably in Sohar.
Contact: 77198123, Email: deenafancis75@gmail.com

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Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job.
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Contact 98233405, Email: nivyakraj123@gmail.com

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Contact: +968-79366717
Email: sshahidmj@gmail.com

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Contact: 90158005

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Contact: 76409087, Email: dramitchauhan0@gmail.com

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Indian, male, having 19 yrs of experience in manufacturing & FMCG operations management 15 yrs in Oman market , looking for opportunity to join immediate.
Contact: 77431223, Email: dev4ducati@gmail.com

Finance manager with 15 yrs of experience in oil & gas multinational company looking for suitable placement.
Contact: 95230609

Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive) looking for suitable position.
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Indian, male, 20 yrs of Oman experience in Business transformation, sales, marketing,. finance, supply chain looking for management role.
Contact: 76492535

Indian, male, 25 yrs BBA, 5 yrs gulf experience with DL.
Contact: 78694538

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Israel continues offensive in Jenin and its camp for thirty-fifth day in a row

In an escalation of the aggression, the occupation army expanded its aggression on the governorate and stormed a number of its towns, amidst deliberate sabotage and destruction of the infrastructure and streets



GAZA: For the thirty-fifth consecutive day, Israeli occupation army continues its aggression on the city of Jenin and its camp, which has resulted so far in the killing of at least 27 Palestinians.

In an escalation of the aggression, the occupation army expanded its aggression on the governorate and stormed a number of its towns, amidst deliberate sabotage and destruction of the infrastructure and streets.

The occupation further sent a unit of armored tanks to the city of Jenin where it stormed the city from its western entrance and

reached the vicinity of Jenin camp and the Jabriyat area in the city.

The occupation army continued to storm the town of Qabatiya, south of the city, for the second consecutive day, where the occupation stormed the town and imposed a curfew for 48 hours, while its bulldozers destroyed the infrastructure, water and electricity lines, and swept away streets and citizens' property.

Additionally, the occupation soldiers also seized local residents' homes and turned them into military points. During the raid, they detained dozens of young men.

The occupation forces sent their military reinforcements accompanied by bulldozers to the town of Qabatiya, continuing their raid.

In the town of Yamoun, west of Jenin, the occupation bulldozed the streets, deployed snipers on the rooftops of several homes and buildings in the town, raided citizens' homes and interrogated them. The occupation's vehicles also stormed the town of Silat al-Harithiya, forcing citizens to close their shops.

At dawn on Monday, the occupation forces stormed the town of Burqin, west of Jenin and their

bulldozers carried out widespread destruction and sabotage in the streets and infrastructure, especially around the Al-Abarah roundabout. The Israeli occupation isolated the homes of citizens west of Jenin camp with barbed wire on Saturday, after forcing them to evacuate them.

The massive destruction left by the occupation bulldozers inside the camp neighborhoods is revealed, as it destroyed citizens' homes and properties and changed the camp's geography significantly.

Estimates indicated that the number of detainees in Jenin has

reached about 160 citizens, as the occupation continues to carry out widespread dentation operations from the city and the rest of the towns and villages

Israeli occupation forces continue aggression on Tulkarm

The Israeli occupation forces continued their aggression on the city of Tulkarm for the 29th consecutive day, and on Nur Shams camp for the 16th day, accompanied by military reinforcements, home demolition, and targeting of infrastructure.

The Israeli occupation forces sent military reinforcements to the city and its two camps, and deployed infantry soldiers in the streets and neighbourhoods. The forces continued to raid and search Palestinian homes, vandalise and destroy their contents and even empty them, turning them into military barracks, the Palestinian news agency (WAFA) reported.

The occupation forces are still imposing a strict siege on the Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps, preventing entry into or exit from them, and obstructing the work of relief crews while they are trying to deliver food and essential supplies to the residents who remained in their homes in some of the camps neighborhoods, amid daily appeals to secure the arrival of their basic needs of food, water, medicine, and baby milk.

The Israeli occupation forces also increased their military presence, including heavy machinery and bulldozers, along the Nablus Road that connects Tulkarm and

Nur Shams camps, especially around the residential buildings that they seized and turned into military barracks, obstructing the movement of vehicles, subjecting them to inspection and interrogation of their passengers, and often abusing them.

Over 365 Palestinians detained in northern governorates

The Palestinian Prisoners' Society (PPS) said that the Israeli occupation authorities continue to escalate detention operations and field investigations, specifically in the Jenin governorate and its camp, and Tulkarm and its camps, since the beginning of the current aggression.

PPS affirmed, in a statement that within the framework of the occupation's announcement of expanding its military aggression in the northern governorates, the number of detention operations in the Jenin and Tulkarm governorates reached about 365.

According to the PPS, this data includes those who were detained and the occupation kept them in detention, and those who were released later, and included children, women, young men, the wounded, and the elderly.

It noted that the number of detainees and those who were detained in Jenin and its camp over 35 days of aggression reached no less than 200 cases, while in Tulkarm governorate on the 29th day, the number of detentions reached at least 165, in addition to dozens who were subjected to field investigation. — WAFA

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT



India and UK resume negotiations on FTA

NEW DELHI: India and the UK have resumed negotiations towards a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two nations, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement on Monday.

This announcement has been made by the Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and his UK counterpart Jonathan Reynolds who is in Delhi, the statement said.

The two sides have agreed to resume negotiations towards a balanced, mutually beneficial and a forward-looking deal that delivers mutual growth and builds on the strengths of two complementary economies, it said.

Goyal expressed confidence that the two nations will be able to make rapid progress to meet the collective aspirations for trade, investment and mutual prosperity of the people of the two nations.

Piyush Goyal said, "I'm very confident that we will be able to make rapid progress to meet the collective aspirations for trade, investment and the mutual prosperity of the people of the United Kingdom and India. It's also very auspicious that we are restarting discussions today just before we celebrate Mahashivratri, day after tomorrow, which is the sacred union of Shiv and Shakti."

"We showed him a lot of Shiv and a lot of Durga Shakti at the National Crafts Museum today. I think that is a great messaging. I would like to reaffirm our collective commitment to meet the aspirations of the people and businesses. I would like to call this FTA a forward-looking, transparent and ambitious, equitable, balanced and mutually beneficial agreement which will be a win-

win for both our countries," he added.

The decision of two nations comes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his UK counterpart Keir Starmer met on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro in November 2024 to underline the importance of resuming trade negotiations at an early date.

"This announcement has been made by Minister for Commerce and Industry of India Shri Piyush Goyal and Secretary of State for the Department for Business and Trade of the United Kingdom the Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds who is in Delhi. This announcement is an outcome of the above stated discussions held at the level of Prime Ministers of the two countries," it added.

According to the joint statement released by the ministry, the two nations share a close partnership, built through collaboration on security and defence, new and emerging technologies, climate, health, education, research and innovation, green finance and people-to-people contacts. At the centre of this bilateral relationship is the collective aspiration to deliver economic growth and sustainable development.

"Both sides have agreed to resume negotiations towards a balanced, mutually beneficial and a forward-looking deal that delivers mutual growth and builds on the strengths of the two complementary economies. The strengthening of the trading relationship between our two countries has the potential to unlock opportunities for business and consumers across both our nations and build further on our already deep ties," it said. — ANI

ELECTION OF NEW CHANCELLOR

CDU/CSU bloc wins German election

BERLIN: The conservative Christian Democrats (CDU/CSU) have gained the highest percentage of seats in the German election with 28.5%, early results after the votes were counted show.

The far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) were the runners-up with 20.8% and coming in third were the centre-left Social Democrats with 16.4%.

However, the election of Germany's new chancellor by the Bundestag won't take place until a governing coalition has been formed. This could take months.

CDU/CSU candidate Friedrich Merz is now the frontrunner to succeed Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

Merz has already claimed victory, urging "independence" from the US.

"I never thought that I would ever need to say something like that, on television, but after the latest statements made by Donald Trump last week, it is clear, that the Americans — at any case these Americans, this administration — mostly don't care about the fate of Europe one way or another," the CDU leader said during a post-election panel airing on state broadcaster ARD.

"We have won this and we've won it clearly," he said. "I will now



attempt to form a government which represents the entire republic and which will tackle the country's problems."

He said he would prefer one coalition partner instead of two.

Chancellor Scholz acknowledged the "election defeat" and described his party's performance as a "bitter election result."

Green Party lead candidate Robert Habeck defended his party's projected 13% of the vote as "respectable," reasoning that the Greens "haven't collapsed" like the other coalition parties, the SPD and the FDP.

AfD Alice Weidel said the party

is prepared to enter a coalition government.

Weidel claimed that the CDU, which has vowed not to form a coalition with her party, have effectively adopted most of the AfD's manifesto.

"They're going to have to explain to their voters how they're going to implement those promises while working with left-wing parties. If they form a government with the SPD and Greens, then interim chancellor Merz won't last four years."

Olaf Scholz, Germany's outgoing chancellor, has addressed supporters at the Social Demo-

cratic Party (SPD)'s headquarters in Berlin.

"Yesterday was a bitter day for the SPD, and it doesn't feel any better today," he said, thanking those party members who had campaigned for the SPD as well as staff and colleagues who helped his coalition government carry out its work since 2021.

"Just as I took responsibility for the victory in 2021, I take responsibility for this result," he said.

He added that it had been a "great honour" to lead Germany in what he called "the most challenging circumstances" the country has faced "since 1945." — DW

ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY

Chinese hybrid rice thrives in Philippines

MANILA: Every day, 98-year-old Melencio Maniego walks the narrow earthen banks between his 16-hectare rice fields to inspect his crops.

"I've planted Chinese hybrid rice for over a decade," the Filipino said, gazing across the green and yellow paddies in Central Luzon, dubbed "rice granary of the Philippines."

Rice is a staple in the Southeast Asian country, and Chinese hybrid rice has gained trust among local farmers for its high yield and resilience against diseases and strong winds. "We believe in China's advanced farming technology and expertise," Maniego said.

Maniego was among the first in Victoria town, Tarlac province, to adopt hybrid rice developed by Longping High-tech, a Chinese agricultural company named after Yuan Longping, affectionately known as the "father of hybrid rice."

"Since using Chinese hybrid rice, my yield has increased by over 30 percent," he said with a thumbs-up.



As the world's top rice importer in 2024, the Philippines faces pressure to boost domestic production. "There's huge potential for agricultural cooperation between China and the Philippines," said Guo Xiaobo, head of Longping High-tech Philippine R&D Centre.

Guo, who has worked in the Philippines for nearly a decade, said his team concentrates on developing high-yield, disease-resistant rice varieties. The centre operates 200 mu (about 13.3 hectares) of

experimental fields in Nueva Ecija province, home to the Philippine-Sino Center for Agricultural Technology (PhilSCAT).

Inside the PhilSCAT's lobby, a mural depicts two doves flying towards a shower of rice grains. Nearby brass plaques in Filipino and Chinese languages highlight the center as a symbol of bilateral cooperation.

John Davidson was trained at the PhilSCAT before he got his job as a technician at Longping High-

tech in 2018.

"I learned modern farming techniques there, and the Chinese experts were willing to share their knowledge," said the 34-year-old Filipino.

Davidson said hybrid rice has steadily improved yields, strengthening food security and boosting farmers' livelihood.

"I hope the bilateral agricultural cooperation continues. It brings real benefits to us," he said.

In early February, the Philippines declared a food security emergency to bring down the cost of rice. "This emergency declaration allows us to release rice buffer stocks held by the National Food Authority to stabilise prices and ensure that rice, a staple food for millions of Filipinos, remains accessible to consumers," Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel said in a statement.

On Maniego's farm, increased production has led to higher wages for his workers.

"Thanks to Chinese hybrid rice, I'm sure a good harvest is coming soon," Maniego said. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Liverpool cruise past Man City to go 11 points clear at the top

Mohamed Salah and Dominik Szoboszlai were the key figures in Reds' 2-0 victory at Etihad Stadium

LONDON: Liverpool took a decisive step toward reclaiming the Premier League title, extending their lead at the top to 11 points with a composed 2-0 victory over Manchester City on Sunday.

The league leaders capitalised on Arsenal's shock home defeat to West Ham a day earlier and delivered a clinical performance at the Etihad Stadium, dismantling the faltering reigning champions with precision and authority.

City started brightly but were undone by a slick Liverpool set-piece routine in the 14th minute.

Mohamed Salah netted his 30th goal of the season after Dominik Szoboszlai deftly redirected Alex Mac Allister's corner into his path.



The Egyptian then turned provider eight minutes before halftime, lofting a perfectly weighted pass for Szoboszlai, who calmly slotted past Ederson to double Liverpool's advantage.

With a commanding lead secured, Liverpool expertly controlled the second half, never allowing City a foothold in the game. The victory, their first at the Etihad in the league since 2015, underscored

their relentless form and ruthless efficiency under Arne Slot.

Salah's goal cemented his place in club history, making him only the third Liverpool player - alongside Roger Hunt and Ian Rush - to record five 30-goal seasons. Szoboszlai, a tireless force in midfield, complemented Salah's brilliance, while captain Virgil van Dijk orchestrated a rock-solid defensive display.

For City, the loss further exposed a team struggling with an ageing core and key injuries, including absences for Rodri, John Stones, and Erling Haaland. Guardiola, drenched on the touchline, watched helplessly as his side's title challenge faded into the Manchester rain. With just 11 games left, Liverpool's dominance suggests the Premier League trophy may soon return to Anfield.



Isak reaches milestone

Also on Sunday, Alexander Isak scored his 50th Premier League goal as Newcastle United blitzed Nottingham Forest with a first-half masterclass before holding on for a 4-3 win at St. James' Park.

Forest took an early lead through Callum Hudson-Odoi, but Newcastle responded with four goals in 11 chaotic minutes. Lewis Miley and Jacob Murphy struck in

quick succession before Isak netted twice in two minutes, taking his season tally to 19.

Forest fought back late, with Nikola Milenkovic and substitute Ryan Yates setting up a nervy finale, but Newcastle held firm to climb to fifth in the table - strengthening their Champions League ambitions and moving within three points of third-placed Forest. - Agencies

BUNDESLIGA

Bayern rout Frankfurt to extend advantage



MUNICH: Bayern Munich extended their advantage at the top of the Bundesliga to eight points with a commanding 4-0 victory over third-placed Eintracht Frankfurt at the Allianz Arena on Sunday.

Defending champions Bayer Leverkusen had temporarily closed the gap to five points with a 2-0 win at Holstein Kiel on Saturday, but Vincent Kompany's side delivered a resounding response.

After a frustrating first half, Bayern broke the deadlock in stoppage time before the interval, with Leroy Sane setting up Mi-

chael Olise, who slotted home his seventh league goal of the season.

Sixteen minutes into the second half, Frankfurt failed to clear a corner, allowing Hiroki Ito to pounce and double Bayern's lead. Jamal Musiala made it 3-0 with a dazzling solo effort, weaving through the Frankfurt defense before blasting past Kevin Trapp.

Substitute Serge Gnabry completed the rout in stoppage time, slipping the ball through Trapp's legs.

Bayern now have the opportunity to widen the gap to 11 points when they visit seventh-placed Stuttgart on Friday. - Agencies

Kean out of hospital after pitch collapse



MILAN: Fiorentina striker Moise Kean has been discharged from hospital following tests after he collapsed on the pitch on Sunday.

The Italy forward suffered a head injury during his side's 1-0 defeat at Hellas Verona.

Kean played on for six minutes after colliding with the knee of defender Pawel Dawidowicz.

The former Everton and Juventus forward then lost his balance and fell to the floor in the 64th minute and was taken to hospital after being treated on the pitch. - Agencies

SPANISH LA LIGA

Modric magic fires Real to victory over Girona

MADRID: Luka Modric rolled back the years with a stunning goal as Real Madrid secured a 2-0 win over Girona at the Santiago Bernabéu on Sunday, moving second in La Liga on goal difference behind Barcelona.

With Jude Bellingham suspended, Modric stepped up in style, chesting down a loose ball before unleashing a thunderous half-volley from 25 yards past Paulo Gazzaniga. Vinicius Junior sealed the victory in the 83rd minute, calmly slotting home after a precise pass from Kylian Mbappe.

Girona had their chances, with Donny van de Beek forcing Thibaut Courtois into a sharp save early on. Arnaut Danjuma also squandered a golden opportunity to equalise, curling his effort wide in the 56th minute.

Real also welcomed back defender David Alaba, who made his first appearance in 434 days after recovering from an ACL injury.

Next up, Los Blancos face Real Sociedad in the Copa del Rey semi-finals on Wednesday.



Antony sees Red as Betis edge Getafe

Real Betis climbed to seventh in La Liga with a 2-1 win at Getafe, but their victory was marred by a late red card for on-loan Manchester United winger Antony.

The Brazilian, who had assisted Isco's opener, was sent off in

stoppage time for a reckless challenge on Juan Iglesias. Isco later doubled Betis' lead from the penalty spot before Domingos Duarte also saw red for Getafe.

Betis now sit level on points with sixth-placed Rayo Vallecano as they prepare to face Real Madrid next. - Agencies

21 COACHES PARTICIPATED



Oman Cricket strengthens coaching expertise with successful hosting of ICC Level 2 course

MUSCAT: Oman Cricket (OC) recently successfully hosted the first-ever practical session of the ICC Level 2 Coaching Course globally, marking a significant step in advancing the coaching landscape in the Sultanate.

The intensive programme, held at the Oman Cricket Academy, saw the participation of 21 aspiring coaches, including two female candidates, all committed to elevating cricketing standards in the region.

The course was conducted under the expert guidance of Aminul Islam, ICC Master Educa-

tor and Development Manager - Asia, alongside Coach Educators Damith Warusavithana and Desmond Berhardt.

It covered advanced coaching methodologies, biomechanics in cricket, player development techniques, and strategic game planning, equipping participants with essential skills to mentor the next generation of cricketers.

Duleep Mendis, Chief Development Officer of Oman Cricket, emphasised the programme's importance.

He said, "Coaching is the backbone of player development, and

this initiative is a crucial step in fostering skilled mentors for the future. The successful completion of the ICC Level 2 Course in Oman reinforces our commitment to enhancing cricketing excellence in the country."

With their new certifications, the ICC Level 2 coaches will take on vital mentoring roles across various age groups, contributing to a structured and professional coaching framework. This initiative not only enhances local coaching capabilities but also strengthens Oman's reputation as an emerging cricketing nation.

Oman Cricket expressed gratitude to the ICC for its continued support and reaffirmed its commitment to providing more opportunities for coaching and player development in the future.

Certified coaches: Parviz Al Balushi, Ajay Lalcheta, Hemal Mehta, Nilesh Parmar, Tariq Hussain, Sultan Ahmed, Nisal Fernando, Golam Istiaq, Anil Kumar, Rashad Al Balushi, Sijo TR, Zaman Quoraishi, Karthikeyan Venketeson, Nitish Raikar, Abdul Qayyum, Ganesh KPK, Pradeep CMR, Amir Ali, Shreyash Kankal, Hina Javed, and Priyanka Mendonca.

EVENT HELD IN INDIA

Muscat-based tennis coach clinches ITF Masters doubles title



MUSCAT: Sivan Govind, a seasoned tennis coach based in Muscat, recently captured the ITF Masters Series doubles title in the south Indian city of Thiruvananthapuram. The tournament attracted over 150 players from various countries and spanned several age categories.

Govind, who has been coaching at the Indian Social Club (ISC) in Oman for the past nine years, triumphed in the competitive 45+ doubles event alongside his partner, India's Krishan Kumar.

The duo, who entered the tournament as top seeds, dominated the final with a commanding 6-2, 6-2 victory over Rajkumar and Sugesh Kumar.

In addition to his doubles success, Govind also made a mark in the 45+ singles event. Advancing to the semi-finals, he was narrowly defeated by Kumar in a tightly contested match, 6-4, 4-6.

Govind also participated in the 40+ doubles category, partnering with Satish Kannan. The pair, however, were bested in the final by Senthil Kumar and Arun Jacob in a hard-fought match that ended 6-2, 6-4.

In his young days, Govind had competed in All-India Inter-University competitions. He also served in Dubai as a coach for 17 years before relocating to Oman. Govind has also worked at the Dubai Tennis Championship.

EDO wins ‘Hybrid Sukuk of Year’ award for \$750 million sukuk

This landmark transaction demonstrated the strong global investor confidence in the Sultanate of Oman and EDO as its national energy champion

MUSCAT: Energy Development Oman (EDO) has been awarded the ‘Hybrid Sukuk of the Year’ by Islamic Finance News (IFN) for the second successive year - for its \$750 million sukuk issuance in June 2024.

This landmark transaction demonstrated the strong global investor confidence in the Sultanate of Oman and EDO as its national energy champion.

Using an innovative structure combining Ijarah and Murabaha features, the issuance played a key role in securing cost-efficient, long-term funding to support EDO’s strategic energy investments.

“This issuance represents a further milestone for EDO, reflecting investor confidence in Oman’s energy market,” said Sultan Al Mamari, Chief Financial Officer at



EDO. “Our team worked meticulously to structure a Sukuk that meets Shariah compliance standards while providing an attractive, long-term funding source. This allowed EDO to extend the tenor of

its debt at favorable terms.”

The sukuk attracted significant global investor participation, underscoring EDO’s ability to tap into diversified funding sources. The issuance was part of EDO’s financ-

ing strategy aimed at enhancing financial stability and flexibility. By integrating innovative financing with strategic energy investments, EDO is reinforcing the Sultanate’s position in the evolving global en-

ergy landscape while driving long-term growth.

The \$750 million Sukuk issuance also set a new pricing benchmark, with a profit rate of 5.662% comprising of a margin of +135bp over

the benchmark US Treasuries. The improved margin reflects investor perception that EDO’s credit profile is of investment grade caliber and is an endorsement of Oman’s success in reducing government debt levels.

OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER



OMEGA begins countdown to Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

MUSCAT: The countdown to Milano Cortina 2026 has begun. As official timekeeper of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the Swiss watchmaker OMEGA has marked the moment with a special “One Year To Go” celebration in Milano - one of the two Italian host cities.

Especially for the occasion, the brand unveiled its stunning new Countdown Clock next to Milano’s iconic cathedral at the Piazza del Duomo. Similar to a snow globe, the giant clock has been tailor-made with a special airflow system that creates a continuous artificial snowfall effect around the competition logo. On the outside of the cube, two digital displays keep track of the days, hours, minutes, and seconds until the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games on February 6, 2026, as well as the Paralympic Winter Games, beginning on March 6.

Raynald Aeschlimann, President and CEO of OMEGA, was joined by Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee; Alain Zobrist, CEO of OMEGA Timing; and Giovanni Malagò, President of the Milano Cortina 2026 Foundation.

Raynald Aeschlimann said, “We can already feel the anticipation and excitement building for the winter events at Milano Cortina 2026. We know the athletes will have their dreams set on this huge upcoming occasion, and it makes everyone at OMEGA very proud to know we will be there to time their historic moments.”

Thomas Bach said, “The Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 are now just one year

away, and we can already feel the growing anticipation. As the days and hours countdown, we know that when the Games start our timekeeping experts OMEGA will deliver the results with precision and integrity. They have been one of the IOC’s longest-standing partners and have shown commitment and passion decade after decade so it is with great pleasure that I unveil this one-year countdown clock on behalf of the IOC.”

Speaking about the brand’s role as Official Timekeeper, Alain Zobrist said, “With our precision timing and data measurement, OMEGA looks forward to telling the full story of each event in Milano Cortina. We’re expecting another thrilling edition of close finishes and dramatic results.”

Giovanni Malagò said, “Starting the OMEGA countdown today is an emotional moment. The Opening Ceremony now feels so close and we can’t wait to host the world here in Italy. I know that Milano and Cortina will create a fantastic atmosphere, and our venues will provide the perfect stage for sporting greatness.”

OMEGA has been the Official Timekeeper of the Olympic Games since 1932, and the Official Timekeeper of the Paralympic Games since 1992. Throughout this time, the brand has introduced some of the most important timekeeping technologies in sport, while recording every performance with utmost precision. OMEGA’s critical role is essential to the successful outcome of the events and is relied upon at each edition by athletes, judges, and spectators alike.

PARTNERSHIP

Digital Private School signs Memorandum of Understanding with British Council

MUSCAT: Digital Private School, a leading International Baccalaureate (IB) school in Muscat, announce the signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the British Council Oman.

The MOU was signed by Azza Al Mahrooqi, Managing Director, and Thomas Lloyd, Country Director of British Council Oman. This partnership will involve the British Council providing an external overview and evaluation of the school’s 11th-grade exams, further enhancing students’ academic rigor and global standards.

The MOU formalizes the British Council’s role in independently overseeing the assessment process for the 11th-grade exams. With its expertise in managing international examinations, the British Council will ensure the evaluation process’s fairness, transparency, and integrity, offering valuable external insights into student performance.

Dr. Muneer Al Maskari, CEO of Digital Private School, expressed enthusiasm about the new collaboration: “We are delighted to partner with the British Council Oman. This agreement marks an important milestone in our commitment to maintaining international standards in education. Our



11th-grade students will benefit from an impartial and globally recognized evaluation, helping them comprehensively understand their academic progress.”

The British Council’s involvement in reviewing the 11th-grade exams will ensure that Digital Private School students receive an internationally recognized

perspective on their academic achievements. This aligns with the school’s continuous efforts to provide a world-class education and prepare students for success in a globalized world.

This partnership aligns with Digital Private School’s mission to foster academic excellence, critical thinking, and global citizenship – all central

tenets of the IB curriculum.

Thomas Lloyd, Director of the British Council Oman, said: “We are excited to collaborate with Digital Private School. This partnership underscores our shared commitment to providing students with the best educational opportunities and ensuring the highest standards of academic integrity.”

NETWORKING EVENT

Artha Bharat Investment Managers celebrates key milestones at exclusive event in Muscat

MUSCAT: Artha Bharat Investment Managers IFSC LLP hosted an exclusive networking event in Muscat, bringing together a distinguished audience of industry leaders, corporate executives, and business associates.

The evening was attended by Amit Narang, the Indian Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, as the Guest of Honour, alongside prominent business luminaries who gathered to celebrate the company’s recent achievements.

Held at the scenic lawns of the Intercontinental Hotel, the event marked several key milestones for Artha Bharat Investment Managers. Among the highlights was the successful transfer of the company’s first fund from Mauritius to Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in India, a strategic move aligning with the Indian government’s vision of es-



tablishing GIFT City as a world-class financial hub. Additionally, the firm celebrated the successful completion of its second fund in Gujarat, reinforcing its position as a leader in fund management.

The evening also provided a platform to honor the remarkable achievements of Ashwini Sawrikar, Chief Operating Officer of Artha Bharat Investment Managers,

who was recently recognized as the Woman Chartered Accountant of the Year by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The prestigious accolade was conferred at a grand ceremony in New Delhi by Union Minister of Law & Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal, alongside ICAI President Ranjit Kumar Agarwal and other dignitaries.

Speaking at the event, Sachin Sawrikar, Founder & Managing Partner of Artha Bharat Investment Managers, emphasized the significance of relocating to GIFT City, stating, “Artha Global Opportunities Fund became the first Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) to move its Head Office from Mauritius to India, in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision for GIFT City. The regulatory framework in GIFT City has evolved significantly, offering a business-friendly environment that supports our growth ambitions. We look forward to building on our success and launching more innovative funds in 2025.”

The celebration was further enhanced by live musical entertainment and a gourmet buffet, creating a memorable evening for the esteemed guests and employees who had come from .

ROUND-UP

MCBS celebrates 33rd graduation ceremony

This year, the ceremony honoured a diverse group of graduates, including students who completed their associate degrees, bachelor's Degrees, and MBA programs in collaboration with Franklin University and graduates from the Arabic Masters programs

MUSCAT: Modern College of Business and Science (MCBS) proudly held its 33rd Graduation Ceremony on Sunday, 23 February, to celebrate the academic achievements of its students.

The prestigious event was attended by Her Highness Sayyida Mona bint Fahad Al Said, Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Cooperation at Sultan Qaboos University, who served as the esteemed Guest of Honor.

This year, the ceremony honoured a diverse group of graduates, including students who completed their associate degrees, bachelor's Degrees, and MBA programs in collaboration with Franklin University and graduates from the Arabic Masters programs. The event marked the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance, and commitment to excellence in higher education.



Dr. Muneer Al Maskari, Executive Chairman and Founder of MCBS, presided over the conferral of the associate and bachelor's Degrees, as well as the Arabic Master's Degrees, acknowledging each student's hard work and dedication.

Dr. David Decker, President of Franklin University, also attended the ceremony and delivered an empowering speech. He conferred the MBA degrees to the graduates of Franklin University, celebrat-

ing their accomplishments and the collaborative efforts between Franklin University and MCBS in delivering high-quality education.

Dr Decker emphasized the importance of education in shaping the future of Oman and the world. In her address, she encouraged the graduates to continue their pursuit of excellence and leadership, highlighting the importance of innovation and global cooperation in today's interconnected world.

The ceremony was joyous as graduates, their families, and faculty members celebrated this remarkable milestone. The event highlighted the academic diversity of MCBS, with students receiving degrees in various fields, from business to information technology and beyond.

The graduates' success reflects the college's commitment to providing quality education that prepares students for success in a globalized workforce.

"Today marks not just the end of an academic journey but the beginning of a new chapter for these bright individuals. At MCBS, we take immense pride in the quality of education and support we provide to our students, ensuring they are prepared for the challenges of tomorrow's world. I am confident our graduates will continue positively impacting their communities, the nation, and beyond," said Dr. Al Maskari.

The 33rd graduation marks a significant milestone in the MCBS history, reaffirming its role as a leading educational institution in Oman. With a focus on academic excellence, innovation, and leadership, MCBS continues to prepare its graduates for the challenges and opportunities of the future.



Mercedes-Benz offers complimentary vehicle health check

MUSCAT: Mercedes-Benz Oman invites customers to embrace the spirit of Ramadan by prioritizing the health and performance of their beloved vehicles.

From March 1 to 20, drivers are welcomed to the Mercedes-Benz Service Centres in Muscat, Salalah, and Sohar for a complimentary 16-point vehicle health check designed to ensure optimal vehicle performance and peace of mind during this holy month. At Mercedes-Benz, customer care is an integral part of our brand's identity. We believe that luxury is not only reflected in the vehicles we create but in the entire ownership experience we offer.

Our commitment to excellence goes beyond the road, extending to the care and attention we provide to every customer.

This dedication to service exemplifies our philosophy of putting the customer at the center of everything we do, ensuring that every interaction with the brand is one of trust, comfort, and unparalleled quality.

The complimentary 16-point vehicle health check includes: engine oil level check, engine oil leak check, engine air filter check, coolant fluid level and system check, brake fluid level and condition check, windscreen wiper condition check, front and rear brake pads check, vehicle undercarriage check, AC temperature and filters check, suspension components check, steering components check, bodywork inspection, electronic diagnostic test, complimentary car wash, vacuum and tires shine.

This offer is available on all models registered before 1st January 2022.

Additionally, using StarView by Mercedes-Benz Oman, customers will receive a personalized video of their vehicle health check, shared via email and SMS, along with a detailed estimate, ensuring transparency and trust throughout the process.

Shaun Michael, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Oman, stated: "Ramadan is a time of reflection, care, and shared journeys. At Mercedes-Benz Oman, we take pride in offering this complimentary vehicle health check as a gesture of appreciation to our valued customers. With premium care tailored for your Mercedes-Benz, we aim to keep every journey smooth and memorable this Ramadan."

Make every moment on the road count this Ramadan with the assurance of certified care from Mercedes-Benz.

PROMOTION

Get everything that you wish for with Kia this Ramadan

MUSCAT: This Ramadan, fulfil your wish to own the car of your dreams. Become part of the Kia family and invest in a brand-new car, where Kia pays the VAT for you. Enjoy stress-free service plans up to 100,000 km, along with 1-year registration and 1 year insurance. Also, receive free gift of window tinting on Sportage L models and iPhone 16s when you purchase Kia's futuristic electric vehicles. Moreover, enter the grand raffle for a chance to win a Kia EV6 Crossover. Kia invites you to explore its modern range and benefit from these amazing deals.

As you gather with your loved ones this month, Ramadan is the perfect time to upgrade your ride with exclusive benefits that make buying a Kia not just a choice, but an experience. Let Kia elevate your moments, making each drive as meaningful as the memories you create them.

The Kia vehicle range in Oman includes a powerful SUV lineup, including the Sportage L 1.5T and 2.0T, Seltos 1.4T & 1.5 L, Sonet 1.5L, Sorento 3.5L & Telluride 3.5L. For sedan lovers, Kia offers high-tech, spacious, and powerful vehicles in the C-sedan segment that are unbeatable in their class & at the Kia showroom, you can explore the K3, K5, K8 and more.

Experience the brand-new, classic Kia Sportage L, reborn with



the 'Make Space for Adventure' concept, two exciting high-performance engines, and a longer wheelbase. The 2,755mm wheelbase and 543-liter luggage compartment guarantee more cargo space for your next adventure. Whether you're an urban adventurer, an off-pavement explorer, or a highway commuter, there's a Sportage for you. The first trim is available with a 2.0T engine pro-

ducing 233 HP, while the second trim features the 1.5T engine producing 197 HP. Both are mated to an 8-speed Shift-by-Wire transmission. Equipped with AWD functionality, the SUV distributes power without compromising performance or luxury.

The 2025 Kia Sonet PE combines modern design and functionality, making it an ideal choice for urban and family use

alike. Based on Kia's revolutionary Smartstream powertrain, the Sonet features a 1.5-liter four-cylinder engine producing 114 HP at 6,300 rpm, paired with an Intelligent Variable Transmission (IVT) for easy manoeuvrability in tight cityscapes. The drivetrain system offers a fuel efficiency of 17.5 km/l as per GSMO standards, allowing you to experience an SUV without breaking the bank.

Kia's flagship sedan K8 ensures a progressive, modern, and spacious cabin with dynamic driving performance and a head-turning, curvy 'fastback' rear. Built as the premium performance-oriented sedan, the front-wheel-based K8 features a 3.5 GDI Smartstream powertrain that delivers high performance, improved fuel economy with reduced carbon emissions. The K8 offers plenty of stor-

age with 510 liters of boot space, providing the freedom to travel stress-free.

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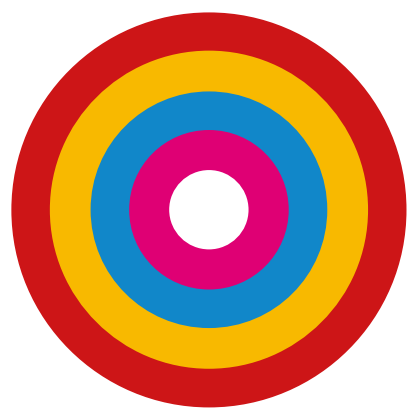
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This offer is valid from February 17, 2025, to April 16, 2025. **AAA roadside assistance is valid for the first six years from the date of retail purchase. *Manufacturer Warranty 6 years or 200,000 KMs (Whichever is earlier) for Passenger Cars & 5 Years / 250,000 KM (whichever is earlier) for JAC Truck. Please note that the vehicles depicted are for illustrative purposes only, and their specifications/colour etc., are subject to change without prior notice. For more detailed information, kindly visit your nearest JAC showroom. This offer is exclusive to private vehicle purchases and does not apply to fleet, Ministry, Taxi, Rental, or commercial car acquisitions. Offer valid as per stock availability. Terms & conditions apply.

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