

NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS

The Board of Directors,
management and staff of
Muscat Media Group and
Times of Oman extend
their heartiest greetings to
**His Majesty Sultan
Haitham bin Tarik**
on the occasion of the
53rd National Day

HM THE SULTAN TO PRESIDE OVER 53RD NATIONAL DAY MILITARY PARADE ON SATURDAY

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander, will preside over on Saturday (18 November 2023) the military parade, to be staged at the military parade ground of Adam Air Base in the Governorate of A'Dakhiliya on the occasion of the 53rd Glorious National Day.

Symbolic units represent-

ing the Royal Army of Oman (RAO), the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO), the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO), the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO), the Sultan's Special Force (SSF), the Royal Oman Police (ROP), the Royal Court Affairs (RCA), and the joint military musical band will take part in the military parade. **>A10**



Visionary leadership for a brighter future

We are inspired by His Majesty's visionary leadership of a prosperous and brighter future for our dear Oman.

Congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
and the people of Oman on the occasion of the
53rd National Day.



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53rd National Day

We extend our warmest congratulations and most sincere wishes to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on the occasion of the 53rd glorious National Day, as Sultanate of Oman continues to take steady steps toward further progress and prosperity under His wise and inspiring leadership.

عمانتل
Omantel



Ominvest extends its sincere congratulations and heartfelt greetings to

His Majesty Sultan
Haitham bin Tarik

- May the Almighty protect and bless him –

and the people of Oman on the glorious occasion of
the **53rd National Day.**

On this auspicious occasion, we extend our sincere congratulations to Your Majesty. Under your esteemed leadership, Oman continues its journey towards greater prosperity, development, and excellence. We wholeheartedly reaffirm our unwavering commitment and loyalty to Your Majesty and Oman, as we collectively pursue sustainable growth and progress.

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53

Our sincere wishes to His Majesty
Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
And the people of Oman on this glorious day. May Allah bless our great Sultanate with progress and an abundance of prosperity.



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CONTINUING THE MARCH OF NATION BUILDING

Hutchison Ports Sohar wishes a very Happy National Day to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the people of Oman.

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Heartiest congratulations to
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of Oman on the occasion of

Happy National Day
18th November

COMMENTARY

US government support to Israel: Foolish, naive or sinister?



MOHAMED ALZADJALI

In the past few days, we have seen a concerted effort by the Israeli propaganda machinery to portray their merciless genocide in Gaza as an ethical and necessary military operation.

When Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu goes in front of the camera and talks about the war in Gaza, he claims that Israel wants to avoid killing innocent people. His staff, including his Defence Minister and the spokesperson for the ministry, claim that they want people in the Gaza Strip to evacuate and head south. They talk about a 4-hour truce period daily so that people can evacuate. This is all packaged to make

it seem like Israel really does not desire violence.

The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) on Wednesday stormed into Gaza's biggest hospital, Al Shifa, and they seemed to portray as if they have conquered a military base.

If they were really serious in saving the lives of patients and children, a limited number of troops could have been sent to search rather than terrorise the patients and other civilians. Anyone wanting to leave the Al Shifa hospital is shot.

There is no actual pause in bombardment, and this is being showcased by a lot of media houses.

Witnesses have described conditions inside the hospital as horrific with bodies littered in the hospital complex and no electricity at the morgues.

Thank God for independent media houses like *Al Jazeera*, who are able to accurately showcase the reality on the ground? Everything on the ground is just the opposite of what is being claimed by Israel.

Another recent spin by Israel was when their spokesperson took some videos under the



Rantisi hospital and claimed that the place was being used by Hamas as a command centre. They showed some weapons, and vests and said that the space was being used to keep hostages, too.

I want to ask the world, when you look at these videos, don't you see these childish and

stupid efforts to conceal the facts? Whom is Israel trying to convince by showing a basement room used by security guards as a tunnel? This is all propaganda, this is all blatant lies. But lies are not new to Israel, as they started this entire genocide based on a lie.

We remember the claims

made on October 7, when they said 40 babies were beheaded and 1,400 people died. The world found out later that no babies were beheaded and that the deaths that occurred were primarily because of the actions of the IDF. Israel is addicted to lying to get away with its fake propaganda and convince the

Western world, particularly the United States, which it is on a righteous path.

And this is where the absolute agony of the matter lies. The United States, and some Western countries, believe these lies and they sing paeans for Israel and its right to self-defence. This makes me wonder, are the people in power in America really naive?

The unfortunate truth is that today, it is Israel that controls the government of the USA and not the other way around. The US and other countries have become puppets in the hands of Israel, which continues to commit war crimes with audacity, being backed by powerful countries who believe in their lies.

In the meantime, for Gaza, there is no truce, there is no rescue, and there is no stoppage in bombardment. Anyone wanting to leave is shot, man, woman or child.

The movement of the US navy flotilla, including aircraft carriers of the US near Israel coast, is not for protecting the rights of Arabs to live, but to protect Israel, and we must not forget that.



Celebrating Oman National Day

PTT Exploration and Production Public Company Limited (PTTEP) extends our warmest congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and the people of Oman on the auspicious occasion of the 53rd National Day of the Sultanate of Oman.

We pledge our commitment to work together to build a successful long-term partnership to contribute to sustainable value creation for our two countries.





We salute the visionary leadership of
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
-May Allah protect, preserve, and bless him-
and extend our greetings to the people of
Oman on the occasion of the
53rd National Day.

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An industrial powerhouse with a global presence in steel, Jindal Group is a leading player in the global steel sector. It is bolstering its commitment to the Sultanate of Oman by undertaking several strategic investments aimed at fostering socio-economic growth and supporting the nation's transition to a green, circular economy. Working in tandem with Oman's Vision 2040 plan to reduce the country's dependency on the oil and gas sector while diversifying into non-oil-based manufacturing, the group is flying the flag high. These investments under the Vulcan International Holding Company include Jindal Shadeed Iron and Steel, Sohar Steel, and Vulcan Pelletizing Plant in Sohar, in Duqm Vulcan Green Steel, and in Muscat Vulcan Green Energy.



CELEBRATING

53

GLORIOUS
YEARS OF OMAN



GREETINGS TO
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AND THE PEOPLE OF OMAN
ON THE OCCASION OF
53RD GLORIOUS NATIONAL DAY



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53RD GLORIOUS NATIONAL DAY

National Day military parade

<FROM A1 The parade will be attended alongside His Majesty the Sultan by members of the Royal Family, ministers, advisers, chairmen of the State Council and Shura Council, commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF), commanders of military and security units, heads of the diplo-

matic missions of the Arab and foreign countries accredited to the Sultanate of Oman, members of the State Council and Shura Council, undersecretaries, governors, ambassadors at the Foreign Ministry, retired military commanders, judges, members of the Public Prosecution Department, walīs, sheikhs and dignitaries of

the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah. It will be also attended by the military attaches of the Arab and foreign embassies in the Sultanate of Oman, senior military officers, senior state officials, senior retired officers, commissioned and non-commissioned officers at SAF and other military and security units. -ONA



TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT
Nama Dhofar Services invites the specialize companies to participate and submit their offers for the below said tender in Dhofar Governorate.

Tender Number	Tender Name	Last Date for Collection of Tender Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) including VAT (5%)
DISC/2023/168	UNE - LOT 10-2023	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/169	UNE - LOT 10D-2023	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/170	UNE - LOT 10E-2023	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/171	UNE - LOT 10H-2023	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/172	CONSTRUCTION EMERGENCY LAGOON PHASE III AT WRP	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 5575,000
DISC/2023/173	FENCING WITH REHABILITATION WORKS AT WRP	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/174	11 KV & LV NETWORK IMPROVEMENT WORKS OF 2023 IN ZONE-1 AND ZONE-3 (LOT 4)	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/175	11 KV & LV NETWORK IMPROVEMENT WORKS - 2023 (LOT-07)	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/176	11KV & LV NETWORK IMPROVEMENT WORKS - 2023 (LOT-09)	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 52,500
DISC/2023/177	11 KV OUTGOING FEEDERS FROM TAMIATAIR PSS	29/11/2023	14/12/2023	OMR. 105,000

- To view the tender details, you can visit www.dhofarservices.nama.om / scan the QR code
- The deposit at the last day of purchasing should be before 3.00pm
- Bids shall be submitted online through using "supplier portal". No hard copies are accepted.
- 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.
- For any clarifications contact us on: - Tel No. 23232554 - email: purchase@dhofarservices.nama.om

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خدمات
DHOFAR SERVICES

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PC 211, Salalah - Sultanate of Oman
Phone Number 23232553 , Fax 23201183
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Discussion on GCC rail project implementation

Oman was represented at the meeting by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology



GCC Secretariat General in the 28th International Conference of Parties to the Climate Change Accord.
Eng. Khamis Mohammed Al Shammakhi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology for Transport, stressed the importance of joint GCC action to develop areas of transport and logistics by completing interconnection and encouraging private sector investments.
Al Shammakhi also underscored the significance of international cooperation, economic diversification, financial sustainability, labour market, employment, governance and the optimisation of resources.
Al Shammakhi pointed out that the railway project and its services will spur economic growth and facilitate commercial exchange. In particular, the project will realise comprehensive interconnection between economic/industrial zones and the main ports in GCC states, he added. -ONA

MUSCAT: The railway project figured high on the agenda of the Committee of GCC Undersecretaries of Transport and Communications, which held its 25th meeting in Muscat on Wednesday under the chairmanship of the Sultanate of Oman.
Oman was represented at the meeting by the Ministry of Trans-

port, Communications and Information Technology.
The meeting discussed the general framework of an agreement to this effect, with emphasis on setting a date for the implementation and operation of the project.
Other topics discussed during the meeting included the protection of joint GCC projects, the GCC land transport strategy, executive regulations of the GCC law on the unified system for international land transport, the regulatory framework for conducting tests on vessels' ballast water and the participation of the



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TRANSACTIONS

Finance Ministry launches app 'Maliyah' for smart electronic devices



NEW APP: The app enables users to obtain financial reports and make payments electronically. -ONA

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Finance yesterday launched a financial services electronic application for smart devices codenamed "Maliyah".
The app seeks to facilitate the implementation of transactions among contractors (individuals and institutions) dealing with government departments.
In its current version, the application provides a number of services, including applying for new beneficiary numbers, updating, amending or renewing previous beneficiary numbers and adding or modifying bank ac-

counts, among other services.
The application also allows users to follow up the status of exchange bonds, whether the transactions are in process with the contracting party or at the Ministry of Finance or whether the endorsed sums have been deposited to the beneficiary's bank account.
The app enables users to obtain financial reports and make payments electronically.
It is noteworthy that the app is available to users in Arabic and English, through electronic stores for mobile phones. -ONA



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HERITAGE MINISTRY

Oman to hold promotional mobile workshops in Italy and Germany



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism will begin on Thursday holding mobile workshops in Italy and Germany to promote the prominent components of the tourism sector in Oman.

The workshops will see the participation of several undersecretaries, ambassadors, and a delegation from the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, as well as 22 private sector establishments operating in the tourism sector.

Further, the workshops will be held in the following cities: Milan, Rome, Berlin and Munich.

Moreover, the number of visitors to Oman from Germany reached 95,623 during the period from January to September 2023 compared to 28,144 visitors during the same period in 2022, constituting a surge by 240%. Meanwhile, the number of visitors from Italy reached 46,056 during the period from January to September 2023 compared to 12,155 visitors during the corresponding period in 2022, comprising an increase by 279%. -OMA



ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

Blue Carbon project begins

MUSCAT: The Environment Authority started transforming the cultivation of mangrove trees from traditional cultivation towards investment farming through a mega project code-named “Oman Blue Carbon”.

The project is considered the first-of-its-kind in the region. It will work on the reclamation of non-humid soil and planting 100 million mangrove trees. -OMA



Tender

جامعة التقنية والعلوم التطبيقية
University of Technology and Applied Sciences

Local Online Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender Committee at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences announces the tenders shown in the following table:

S.N	Tender No.	Tender Subject	Establishments eligible to bid	Document's Price	Last date for bid purchase online	Last date for bid submission
1	58/2023	Providing audio and video for the graduation ceremonies for the year 2023/2024 for the University of Technology and Applied Sciences	Companies specialized in this field and registered with the Tender Board at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grades	RO 25/- (Twenty Five Omani Ryals)	23/11/2023 at 02:30 pm	29/11/2023 at 10:00 am
2	59/2023	Providing cleaning services for the buildings of the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Musams Branch	Companies specialized in this field and registered with the Tender Board at the Excellent, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grades	RO 25/- (Twenty Five Omani Ryals)	26/11/2023 at 02:30 pm	05/12/2023 at 10:00 am

Tender documents may be purchased online starting from Thursday 16/11/2023 at 07:30 am through the following link: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>

Preference in awarding will be given to small and medium enterprises registered with the Authority for SME development and whose bid includes the biggest percentage of Omaniisation and a biggest purchase percentage of national products.

The University shall not be bound to accept the lowest or any other bid.

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Congratulations and warm wishes to
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of Oman on the occasion of the
NATIONAL DAY



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BILATERAL RELATIONS

Al Nu'amani meets Iran envoy

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohamed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office on Wednesday Ali Najafi Kho-shroudi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman.

The Iranian ambassador expressed his thanks and appreciation for Oman's stance regarding several regional and international issues.



During the meeting, the two sides discussed several matters viewed the march of bilateral of mutual interest. They also re- relations. -ONA

SURVEY

NCSI to conduct opinion poll on promotion of integrity in society

MUSCAT: The National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) is conducting a public opinion poll on the promotion of integrity in society during the period from 13-27 November 2023.

The survey aims to measure the level of community awareness regarding the concept of integrity, the risks of the absence of integrity in society, and awareness on the institutional role of promoting integrity.

The opinion poll targets citizens aged 18 and over and the sample size includes 1,500 Omani citizens residing in different gov-



ernorates of Oman. The survey takes into account the representation of males and females, age groups, and different educational

levels. The data for the opinion poll is being collected via phone calls. -ONA

TOURIST PROGRAMMES

Two cruise ships with 5,934 passengers dock in Salalah

SALALAH: Salalah Port yesterday received two cruise ships with 5,934 passengers on their board, including 4,359 tourists. The cruise ships have a tourist programme to visit many ports around the world.

The tourist programmes of the two cruise ships which arrived from Cyprus and Egypt included tours to tourist attractions and archaeological sites renowned in the Governorate of Dhofar, besides visiting beaches and traditional bazaars in the Wilayat of Salalah.

The Sultanate of Oman annually witnesses visits of many cruise ships, due to its sea location overlooking the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea and the Sea of Oman.



Port of Khasab

The Port of Khasab on received a cruise ship with 2,790 tourists on its board. The tourists come from various parts of the world.

The tourist programmes of the cruise ship which arrived from

Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) included tours to tourist attractions and historical

sites renowned in the Governorate of Musandam. -ONA

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE THIRD QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I have the pleasure of presenting the unaudited consolidated financial results of your company for the period ended 30th Sept 2023 (YTD Sept'23).

Operational Overview

The CT has handled 2.911 million TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units) during YTD Sept'23, as against 3.365 million TEUs the same period last year a decrease of 13.4%. The decrease in the volume is mainly attributed to the ongoing Container Terminal upgrade project.

On productivity, the CT has registered consistent improvements in Port Stay performance during YTD Sept 2023. This showcases the organization's success in focusing on continuous improvements.

The GCT has handled 15.817 million tons of general cargo during YTD Sept 2023 as compared to 13.373 million tones same period last year an increase of 18.275%. The major commodities handled are limestone, gypsum, methanol, and cement, which are exported from Salalah to nearby markets, and continue to drive the general cargo business.

Financial Overview

Consolidated net profit for YTD Sept'23 was recorded at RO 3.137 million, as compared to the corresponding period last year of profit of RO 2.153. Consolidated EBITDA was recorded at RO 11.373 million YTD Sept'23, as compared to RO 9.914 million during same period last year.

Total Revenue from Operations decreased marginally by 2% compared to same period last year mainly driven by lower container throughput..

Compared to the same period last year the operational expenses for the first 9 months of 2023 decreased by 4%. This is mainly driven by lower maintenance & repair and fuel cost.

Year 2022	Particulars	1 Jan 2023 to 30th Sep 2023	1 Jan 2022 to 30th Sep 2022
4,344	Volume		
15,296	Container Terminal (TEUs'000)	2,911	3,365
	General Cargo Terminal (Tons'000)	15,817	13,373
70,909	Revenue (RO'000)	51,835	52,880
	Profitability (RO'000)		
3,924	Net Profit before tax	3,686	2,671
3,222	Net Profit/ (Loss) after tax	3,137	2,153
	Ratios		
4.54	Net profit / (Loss) (%)	6%	4%
0.03	Earnings per share (RO)	0.02	0.01
0.41	Book value per share (RO)	0.42	0.41

Employee Development

Port of Salalah is steadfast in developing and enhancing employees' productivity as people are the primary asset of the company. Various safety, technical, management and administration training courses are given to the staff.

Safety continues to be maintained as a top priority to ensure that employees continue to perform and deliver their tasks safely.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Port of Salalah strongly believes in a CSR program that is aligned with the pillars of sustainability and volunteerism and it is fundamental to our business. During YTD Sept 2023 the company is constantly committed to local initiatives with a significant focus on education, Community development, environment, safety, and health.

Future Outlook

The global manufacturing sector and retail sales in key regions are facing difficulties that are affecting the growth prospects for global container volumes. This can be attributed to a variety of economic factors, trade disruptions, and supply chain issues. Meanwhile, the global container shipping industry is experiencing significant overcapacity. Freight rates have fallen by a substantial 61% compared to the same period in 2022, according to data from BIMCO. This oversupply of shipping capacity has driven down rates, impacting the profitability of shipping companies in the foreseeable future.

Above having said, the Port of Salalah's performance is being sustained by trade within the Middle East and the surrounding region. Transshipment volumes remain on target, indicating that the port is acting as a key hub for the movement of goods in the area. Despite the challenges in the global container shipping industry, the Port of Salalah is performing relatively well. Container volume at the port is only -1% behind the target as of Q3, however -10% behind 2022 due to the unavailability of deep-draft berths owing to ongoing expansion work.

In Q3, Import-laden container volumes at the Port of Salalah have seen a notable increase of 15% compared to the same period in the previous year. This suggests a strong demand for imported goods. In contrast, export volumes have declined by -4% due to lower demand for manufactured goods.

The outlook for Rest of the year remains along the same lines.

On the General Cargo segment, despite the seasonal slowdown in Q3, due to operational restrictions in Khareef, General Cargo Terminal performance continues to be strong driven by dry and wet bulk segments. While the months of July and August were marginally below targets the gap was bridged by the pickup in the month of September. Resulting in an overall +8% against target Year to date and +16% growth over the same period in 2022. The outlook for Q4 remains strong on the dry bulk and liquid bulk segment which are the key drivers for the performance on the General Cargo side.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Shareholders of the company, we record the sincere appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, for his strategic vision, leadership, and his continued support, without which it would not have been possible to establish and maintain this world-class port.

We also thank our customers, investors, and partners at the Salalah Hub and Ministry of Transport and Communications, and members of the Government bodies we work together with.

We place on record our appreciation for the contributions of all our employees, who continue to perform with high distinction.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

Braik Musallam Al Amri
Chairman, Board of Directors,
Salalah Port Services Co. SAOG
November 13, 2023

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Parent Company		Consolidated		Parent Company		Consolidated	
Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2022	Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2022
US \$ '000	US \$ '000	US \$ '000	US \$ '000	RO'000	RO'000	RO'000	RO'000
ASSETS							
Non Current Assets							
149,238	143,750	149,436	143,925	55,289	57,399	55,355	57,476
21,986	20,133	22,054	20,189	7,744	8,456	7,765	8,482
230	192	230	192	73	88	73	88
546	546	-	-	210	210	-	-
26,000	-	-	26,000	10,000	-	10,000	-
172,000	190,621	171,720	190,306	73,316	66,153	73,193	66,046
Current Assets							
7,937	8,816	7,937	8,816	3,390	3,053	3,390	3,053
5,120	5,113	5,120	5,113	1,967	1,969	1,967	1,969
9,233	8,693	9,233	8,693	3,343	3,551	3,343	3,551
6,373	5,515	6,688	5,498	2,121	2,451	2,115	2,572
36,201	20,601	36,201	20,601	7,923	13,923	7,923	13,923
58,252	69,374	58,252	69,374	26,682	22,405	26,682	22,405
123,116	118,112	123,431	118,095	45,426	47,352	45,420	47,473
295,116	308,733	295,151	308,401	118,742	113,505	118,613	113,519
TOTAL ASSETS							
EQUITY							
46,758	46,758	46,758	46,758	17,984	17,984	17,984	17,984
7,666	7,666	7,666	7,666	2,949	2,949	2,949	2,949
15,584	15,584	15,665	15,665	5,994	5,994	6,025	6,025
120,038	126,351	120,443	126,676	48,599	46,167	48,723	46,322
190,046	196,359	190,532	196,765	75,526	73,094	75,681	73,280
LIABILITIES							
Non Current Liabilities							
21,103	19,186	21,179	19,243	7,379	8,117	7,401	8,146
10,204	11,264	10,204	11,264	4,332	3,924	4,332	3,924
10,059	9,599	10,047	9,587	3,692	3,869	3,687	3,864
41,366	40,049	41,430	40,094	15,403	15,910	15,420	15,934
Current Liabilities							
4,950	5,338	4,950	5,342	2,053	1,904	2,055	1,904
48,619	58,531	48,103	57,744	22,509	18,699	22,206	18,502
8,960	6,278	8,960	6,278	2,414	3,447	2,414	3,447
1,175	2,178	1,176	2,178	837	451	837	452
63,704	72,325	63,189	71,542	27,813	24,501	27,512	24,305
105,070	112,374	104,619	111,636	43,216	40,411	42,932	40,239
295,116	308,733	295,151	308,401	118,742	113,505	118,613	113,519
1.06	1.09	1.06	1.09	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.41

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Parent Company		Consolidated		Parent Company		Consolidated	
Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2023	Sep-2022	Sep-2023	Sep-2022
US \$ '000	US \$ '000	US \$ '000	US \$ '000	RO'000	RO'000	RO'000	RO'000
137,479	134,771	137,486	134,771	51,835	52,877	51,835	52,880
(95,507)	(87,171)	(95,507)	(87,171)	(33,526)	(36,734)	(33,526)	(36,734)
(16,653)	(20,799)	(16,674)	(20,821)	(8,000)	(6,406)	(8,008)	(6,414)
(21,412)	(19,766)	(21,432)	(19,785)	(7,602)	(8,234)	(7,609)	(8,241)
174	27	174	27	11	67	11	67
1,985	1,086	1,985	1,086	417	763	417	763
6,066	8,148	6,032	8,107	3,135	2,333	3,120	2,321
2,170	2,600	2,170	2,600	1,000	834	1,000	834
(1,255)	(1,126)	(1,258)	(1,130)	(433)	(483)	(434)	(484)
6,981	9,622	6,944	9,577	3,702	2,684	3,686	2,671
(1,348)	(1,429)	(1,348)	(1,429)	(549)	(518)	(549)	(518)
5,633	8,193	5,596	8,148	3,153	2,166	3,137	2,153
5,633	8,193	5,596	8,148	3,153	2,166	3,137	2,153
5,633	8,193	5,596	8,148	3,153	2,166	3,137	2,153
5,633	8,193	5,596	8,148	3,153	2,166	3,137	2,153
0.03	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01

FIRST SESSION

State Council holds first sitting, elects two Deputy Chairmen



MUSCAT: The State Council on Wednesday held its first session of the eighth term's 1st sitting to elect the two deputy chairmen and members of the council's office. The session was held under the chairmanship of Sheikh Abdulmalek Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council. Opening the session, the Chairman of the State Council, said: "We discern with pride from the speech of His Majesty Sultan

Haitham bin Tarik many important issues that will be a milestone in the Council's work provides an integrated mechanism for the next stage. Because of its clear and practical vision and a comprehensive outlook that can be applied and translated to reach the desired goals in various fields, and towards a sustainable future built on solid foundations that link the past and the present and establish an honorable future."



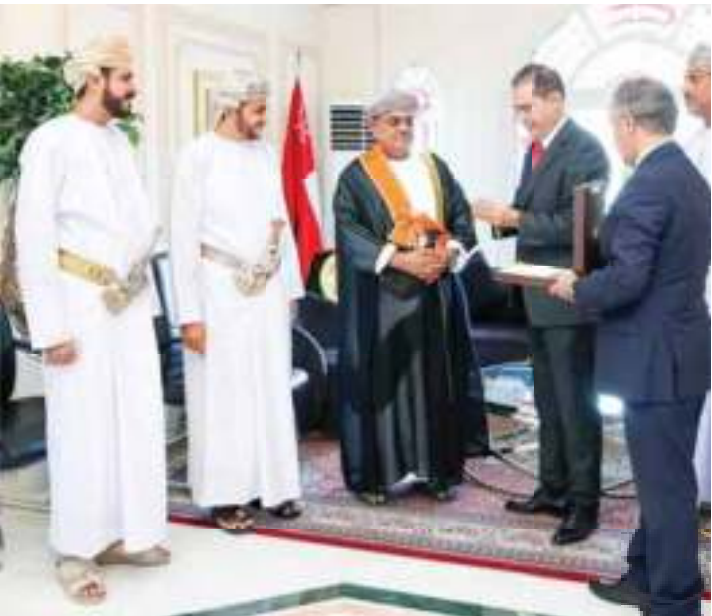
He stressed that the Council of Oman is an essential partner in the state system, and this partnership is a great responsibility, calling on them to be responsible, to keep the interest of the country in mind, and to be guided by the principles of the basic system of the state and the laws regulating their work.

Election
During the session, Salim Mus-

allam Qutn and Sheikh Dr. Hilal Ali Al Hinai were elected as Deputy Chairmen. The two positions were contested by 17 members (6 of whom were female). As for members of the State Council's Office, the following were elected as members: Mohammed AbuBakr Al Ghassani, Eng. Ahmed Saleh Al Jahdami, Sayyida Rawam Ahmed Al Buisaidi and Dr. Aisha Hamad Al Darmaki. **ONA**

ORDER OF THE THRONE

Morocco King honours former envoy of Oman



MUSCAT: King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco granted the Order of the Throne (Grand Cordon) to Dr. Said Mohammed Al Baramée, former ambassador of Oman to Morocco. The order was handed over to Al Baramée by Tarek Lahssisne, Ambassador of Morocco to Oman. Moreover, the ceremony, held at

the Moroccan embassy in Muscat, was attended by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Diplomatic Affairs, Najeeb Yahya Al Balushi, Acting Head of the Protocols Department, Sheikh Faisal Omar Al Marhoon, Head of the Arab Department and several diplomats from the Moroccan embassy. **ONA**

AL JABAL AL AKHDAR

Over 22,000 visitors see pomegranate harvesting

Times News Service

AL JABAL AL AKHDAR: Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran Group), the leading integrated tourism and urban development company in Oman, proudly announces the wrap-up of the inaugural "Rummana" experience. Supervised by Janaen, the agri-tourism development company, and organised by Teepee & IPS, this initiative marks a significant milestone in agri-tourism projects within the region. Over a span of 12 weeks, the Rummana initiative, held in Al Jabal Al Akhdar, highlighted unique agricultural and touristic experiences centred around the pomegranate harvesting season, attracting over 22,000 visitors. The event culminated with the sale of more than 1,800 kilograms of local pomegranates, highlighting its popularity and success. Eng. Mazen bin Issa Al Raisi, General Manager of Janaen, expressed his pride in the initiative's achievements. "Rummana has played a vital role in promoting the concept of eco-friendly agritourism. We are dedicated to fostering this emerging sector as an increasingly attractive tourism activity that significantly



contributes to the local economy and sustainable agriculture," said Al Raisi. Omaima Mahmood Al Hinai -Teepee's Co-Founder reflected on the initiative's impact: "Our goal was to highlight Al Jabal Al Akhdar's distinctive terrain and abundant seasonal fruits, creating an ideal destination for agri-tourism enthusiasts. The overwhelming response we have received inspires us to continue developing similar ini-

tiatives in the future." "Rummana" is part of Omran Group's strategic efforts to diversify Oman's tourism offerings, emphasising agricultural tourism, environmental tourism, and adventure tourism as some of the fastest-growing sectors globally. The Group is committed to collaborating with stakeholders to enhance sustainable agritourism, supporting job creation, and unlocking new investment opportunities.

MUSANDAM

Marine mammal species survey project results

KHASAB: Preliminary results after the completion of the implementation of the second phase of the 2023 marine mammal species survey project in Musandam Governorate showed that three species of dolphins were recorded. The species are: the general bottlenose dolphin with the yellow spot, the spinner spinner dolphin and the Indian Ocean humpback dolphin. The three-year project aims to know the number of marine mammal species in Musandam Governorate, their locations and the seasons in which they are found, in addition to creating a database of marine mammal viewing sites, and preserving the governorate's natural resources and protecting them from depletion and extinction. In its second phase, the project team discussed the project with companies and fishermen. **ONA**

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We extend our best wishes to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the people of Oman: on the auspicious occasion of the 53rd National day

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FAX NO : +968 24813379

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Congratulations and warm wishes to
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of Oman on the occasion of the 53rd National Day

Indian School - Muscat	Indian School - Al Ghubra	Indian School - Al Wadi Al Kabir	Indian School - Darsait	Indian School - Al Seeb
Indian School - Al Mabella	Indian School - Salalah	Indian School - Sohar	Indian School - Nizwa	Indian School - Al Muladha
Indian School - Sur	Indian School - Ibra	Indian School - Ibra	Indian School - Jalan	Indian School - Rustaq
Indian School - Khasab	Indian School - Buraimi	Indian School - Masirah	Indian School - Thumrait	Indian School - Saham
Indian School - Bousher		Care and Special Education		

بورصة مسقط
MSX

Tender Announcement

Muscat Stock Exchange SAOC invites Bidders to submit their proposal for the below detailed tender.

Tender No.	Description	Tender Fee (Non-refundable)	Tender Purchase Last date	Clarification Deadline	Tender Submission Date
2023/ 02	Cleaning & Gardening Services	100,000 OMR	29-11-2023	10-12-2023	17-12-2023

Bank Name & Account Number : AHLI BANK 5101090177001

Terms & Conditions

Collection of Tenders: Interested, specialized companies and establishments registered under Grade 1 (in C.R) with minimum 3 years' experience in the same field can collect the tender documents from the procurement department by sending the copy of the payment slip to Khalifan.hosni@msx.om

Offer Submission: The Tender bid should be submitted in a sealed envelope and addressed to The Head of tenders committee in BoD of Muscat Stock Exchange SAOC marked with the tender number and subject. Other marks or any reference must not be printed outside the envelope. The exterior of the envelope containing the tender document must not reveal the identity of the bidder.

Submission Location: The bid should be deposited in the tender box at Muscat Stock Exchange SAOC office located in Hayy Al Souq Al Mall RUWI before 1:00 pm on the submission date.

Any Bid received after the specified date or if it does not meet the conditions will not be considered.

Muscat Stock Exchange SAOC reserves the right to accept, reject or cancel the tender without giving any reasons.

Muscat Stock Exchange is not bound to accept the lowest bid or any other bid without any reason.

Muscat Stock Exchange SAOC, PO Box 3265, PC 112, Ruwi Muscat www.msx.om

KOHLI, IYER HIT TONS AS INDIA STORM INTO FINAL



Mohammed Shami's lethal 7-wicket haul powered India to the final of ICC World Cup 2023, beating New Zealand by 70 runs

MUMBAI: Kohli's 'Virat' show at the Wankhede Stadium followed by Mohammed Shami's lethal 7-wicket haul powered India to the final of ICC World Cup 2023, beating New Zealand by 70 runs in a mouth-watering semifinal clash on Wednesday.

Daryl Mitchell's vigilant knock of 134 runs came up short against Shami's lethal spell as the India pacer led India's effort in the field to help the hosts seal a place in Sunday's final.

Earlier, Virat Kohli became the first man in the history of One Day

International (ODI) cricket to score 50 centuries in the format as India's relentless No.3 helped the team put together a first-innings score of 397/4.

Kohli's classy century (117) built on a blistering start from the Indian openers, as the tournament hosts got off to a flier in Mumbai.

With wickets in hand and plenty of power to come, India were eyeing a huge score even once Kohli departed for 117. And Shreyas Iyer's own stunning hundred (105) helped them set the biggest-ever total in a Men's Cricket World Cup semi-final, bringing up his ton off 67 balls.

Tim Southee took three of the four wickets to fall but finished with expensive figures of 3/100.

Kohli broke the record of India legend Sachin Tendulkar, who had scored his 49th hundred in his 451st ODI innings, while Kohli broke the record in his 279th innings. But that wasn't the only record of Tendulkar's that Kohli broke during his historic hundred. He also went past Tendulkar for the most runs in a single edition of the ODI World Cup.

Tendulkar had scored 673 runs in the 2003 World Cup; Kohli passed that tally when he scored his 80th run and went on to become the first batter to score 700 runs in a ODI World Cup. By the time Kohli was dismissed for 117 off 113 balls, he had 711 runs in the tournament at an average of 101.57.

"It's stuff of dreams, Anushka was sitting right there, Sachin paaji was there in the stands," Kohli said while being interviewed during the innings break. "I mean, it's very difficult for me to explain this, but if I could paint the perfect picture, I would want this to be the picture. My life partner, the person I love the most, she's sitting there. My hero, he's sitting there. And I was able to get the 50th in front of all of them and all these fans at Wankhede as well, such a historic venue. It was amazing."

Brief scores: India 397/4 (Virat Kohli 117, Shreyas Iyer 105, Shubman Gill 80*, Rohit Sharma 47, KL Rahul 39*; Tim Southee 3/100, Trent Boult 1/86) beat New Zealand 327 (Daryl Mitchell 134, Kane Williamson 69; Mohammed Shami 7-57). -ANI

DECISION AFTER POOR WORLD CUP

Babar Azam resigns as Pakistan skipper

LAHORE: Babar Azam on Wednesday resigned as Pakistan captain in all formats following their poor 2023 ODI World Cup campaign, where they failed to qualify for the semi-finals with just four wins in nine matches.

"Today, I am stepping down as the

captain of Pakistan in all formats. It's a difficult decision but I feel it is a right time for this call. I will continue to represent Pakistan as a player in all three formats. I am here to support the new captain and the team with my experience and dedication."

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Greetings to
A Great leader and Visionary

His Majesty
Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
and
the people of Sultanate of Oman
on the occasion of the
53rd National Day

Bangladesh School Muscat

18 November Street, Al Ghubrah, Muscat

Sultanate of Oman

PARTNERS IN
PROGRESS

53

18th OF NOVEMBER
NATIONAL DAY

Heartiest congratulations to
HIS MAJESTY
SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and
the people of Oman on the occasion of the
53rd National Day

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Congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik

And the people of Oman on the Joyous Occasion of
The 53rd National Day of the Renaissance



Steering Ahead with Remarkable Progress Fuelled by the Nation's Strength

Oman, guided by the wise and visionary leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, is making remarkable progress in line with Oman Vision 2040. While fostering progress and shaping excellence, Oman is increasingly making a prominent place as a destination for investments, diversification and an unwavering focus on development of the national talent.

Today, Saud Bahwan Group reiterates its commitment to recognising promising Omani talents, nurturing their true potential and offering numerous opportunities to make significant contributions in every functional area.

On the 53rd Oman National Day, Saud Bahwan Group extends its felicitations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the people of Oman.



SAUD BAHWAN Group

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



OMANTEL NET PROFIT RISES BY 28.7%

Oman Telecommunications Company Group (MSX: OTEL) reported significant growth for the nine months ended September 2023, net profit increasing 28.7 per cent from OMR195 million to OMR251 million at the end of September 2023.



Heartfelt congratulations

We extend our warmest greetings to

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

-May the Almighty protect and guide him-

On the blessed occasion of Oman's 53rd National Day, may the Divine Grace shower Oman, its people and its esteemed leader with ever-increasing prosperity and progress.

Oman is boldly advancing towards the creation of a sustainable, economically resilient and socially progressive nation. In doing so, we wholeheartedly reiterate our dedication to providing everything required to realise the goals set forth in Oman's visionary roadmap for 2040.



MARKET



MSX index ends higher

Al Madina Investments, up 10.00 per cent, was the top gainer while, Al Batinah Power, down 8.70 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,583.61 points, up by 0.16 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.00 per cent at 438.38 points. Al Madina Investments, up 10.00 per cent, was the top gainer while, Al Batinah Power, down 8.70 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of OQGN were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1062 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR3.66 million, with more than 17.68 million shares changing hands. Out of 36 traded securities, 11 advanced, 6 declined, and 19 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net buyers for OMR836,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR583,000, followed by domestic investors for OMR253,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,489.33 points, up 0.13 per cent. Prices of Al Madina Investments, Al Batinah Development Company, National Bank Oman, Al Anwar Investment, and Oman Arab Bank were up by 10.00 per cent, 4.44 per cent, 1.70 per cent, 1.37 per cent, and 0.77 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman & Emirates Investment, Al Madina Takaful, and Bank Muscat were down by 1.96 per cent, 1.18 per cent, and 0.74 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,325.93 points, down 0.11 per cent. Prices of Oman Cement were up by 2.99 per cent. Prices of Galfar Engineering were down by 3.75 per cent.

Services Index was down by 0.13 per cent before closing at 1,552.18 points. Prices of Al Batinah Power, and Shell Oman Marketing were down by 8.70 per cent, and 1.19 per cent respectively. — **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev . Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,589.52	4,573.79	4,583.61	4,576.22	7.39	0.16
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,494.40	7,479.27	7,489.33	7,479.55	9.79	0.13
Industry Index	5,329.22	5,293.88	5,325.93	5,331.95	-6.01	-0.11
Services Index	1,559.90	1,552.18	1,552.18	1,554.14	-1.96	-0.13
MSX Shariah Index	438.38	436.17	438.38	438.40	-0.02	0.00
MSX TR INDEX	6,049.53	6,028.80	6,041.75	6,032.01	9.74	0.16
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,177.77	8,161.26	8,172.24	8,161.56	10.68	0.13
SERVICES TR IDX	1,735.38	1,726.79	1,726.79	1,728.96	-2.18	-0.13
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	5,692.93	5,655.18	5,689.42	5,695.85	-6.42	-0.11

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
17,681,511	3,658,551	1,062	23,774,324,300	11	6	19	36

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (KD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	1,880	583	1	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.301	0.009	2.990	0.310	0.299	0.318	0.100	102,570,540
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	30,000	8,970	2	0.299	0.299	0.299	0.299	0.294	0.005	1.701	0.299	0.291	0.299	0.100	486,157,960
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	951,205	979,601	27	1.022	1.030	1.021	1.022	1.014	0.008	0.789	1.022	1.022	0.913	0.100	766,500,000
OM0000002440	AL SHARGIYA INVESTMENT HO	14,000	952	3	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.068	0.065	0.068	0.100	6,120,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	4,999	1,950	2	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.000	0.000	0.390	0.391	0.000	0.100	92,199,900
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	2,849,582	284,114	19	0.100	0.100	0.099	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.099	0.100	0.100	546,785,850
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	338,888	67,777	9	0.190	0.200	0.190	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.100	11,000,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,151,614	307,311	47	0.270	0.270	0.265	0.267	0.269	-0.002	-0.743	0.267	0.267	0.243	0.100	2,004,208,016
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	19,250	1,617	4	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.085	-0.001	-1.176	0.084	0.084	0.085	0.100	14,700,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO	5,278	267	2	0.051	0.051	0.050	0.050	0.051	-0.001	-1.961	0.050	0.051	0.055	0.100	6,093,750
Total	10	5,366,696	1,653,142	116												
Parallel Market																
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	74,285	3,269	12	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.040	0.004	10.000	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.100	3,740,000
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	110,992	10,214	15	0.092	0.105	0.092	0.105	0.098	0.007	7.143	0.105	0.092	0.104	0.100	3,150,000
OM0000002580	OMAN EDUCATION & TRAINING INVESTMENTS	3,125	1,000	2	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.300	0.020	6.667	0.320	0.282	0.330	0.100	22,400,000
OM0000002366	AL BATINAH DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT HO	1,830	155	3	0.085	0.094	0.083	0.094	0.090	0.004	4.444	0.094	0.083	0.094	0.100	2,820,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	252,656	18,839	23	0.074	0.075	0.073	0.074	0.073	0.001	1.370	0.074	0.072	0.074	0.100	15,244,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	14,928	1,258	8	0.084	0.086	0.084	0.085	0.084	0.001	1.190	0.085	0.084	0.085	0.100	7,225,000
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	6,373	835	1	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.130	0.001	0.769	0.131	0.131	0.142	0.100	218,692,710
OM0000001095	DHOFAR INSURANCE	696,565	128,865	20	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.000	0.000	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.100	20,195,500
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	182,160	25,605	17	0.141	0.141	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.000	0.000	0.139	0.139	0.143	0.100	27,800,000
OM0000001426	OMAN REFRESHMENT	5,454	8,181	3	1.500	1.500	1.500	1.500	1.500	0.000	0.000	1.500	1.500	0.000	0.100	75,000,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	127	22	1	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.000	0.170	0.160	0.170	0.100	389,441,769
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	13,607	1,643	6	0.120	0.122	0.120	0.122	0.122	0.000	0.000	0.122	0.120	0.122	0.100	9,931,136
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	12,398	1,178	8	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.096	0.100	212,510,538
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	166,000	14,940	15	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.100	85,911,476
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	700	16	1	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.023	0.021	0.023	0.100	16,431,346
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,906	102	2	0.054	0.054	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.053	0.052	0.053	0.100	77,517,877
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	1,000	95	1	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.097	0.100	19,000,000
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	11,100	1,354	1	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.000	0.000	0.122	0.122	0.125	0.100	61,988,633
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	1,224,864	360,046	24	0.293	0.295	0.293	0.294	0.294	0.000	0.000	0.294	0.294	0.295	0.100	226,438,800
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	9,277,874	1,380,166	753	0.149	0.150	0.148	0.149	0.149	0.000	0.000	0.149	0.149	0.150	0.100	645,262,964
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	90	75	1	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.840	-0.010	-1.190	0.830	0.830	0.850	0.100	78,850,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	211,300	31,603	21	0.155	0.155	0.147	0.154	0.160	-0.006	-3.750	0.154	0.147	0.160	0.100	31,259,913
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	15,000	320	3	0.022	0.022	0.021	0.021	0.023	-0.002	-8.696	0.021	0.021	0.023	0.100	14,172,636
Total	23	12,284,334	1,989,778	941												

FUEL-EFFICIENT

Oman Air Cargo marks delivery of first 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter



MUSCAT: Oman Air Cargo has received delivery of its first dedicated cargo aircraft, a 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter (BCF). The fuel-efficient aircraft boasts up to 20 per cent lower fuel use and CO² emissions per tonne compared to the previous generation of standard-body freighters

and will support the airline's growing customer base with the ability to carry up to 23.9 tonnes of freight at a range of 3,750km. The delivery marks a significant milestone for Oman Air as it continues to pursue its ambitious cargo growth strategy and support the development of Oman's air cargo logistics sector.

SIGNIFICANT GROWTH

Omantel's net profit rises to OMR251mn by September end

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Telecommunications Company Group (MSX: OTEL) reported significant growth for the nine months ended September 2023, net profit increasing 28.7 per cent from OMR195 million to OMR251 million at the end of September 2023.

Group revenue grew 10.6 per cent from OMR1981.5 million to OMR2192.5 million at the end of September 2023.

Omantel's domestic operations performance

At the level of domestic operations, Omantel's revenues grew by 8.2 per cent to reach OMR458.1 million, compared to the corresponding period. Revenue growth is mainly coming from wholesale transit voice revenue which increased by OMR17 million and device revenue which increased by OMR10.9 million.



Growth in retail revenue is contributed by mobile postpaid revenue which increased by 11.4 per cent and fixed broadband revenues which increased by 4.4 cent from.

Net profit for the nine months ended September 2023 stands at OMR54.7 million compared to OMR54.9 million in the previous period. Despite the aggressive competition in both mobile and fixed segments, net profit is maintained at similar levels compared to last year on account of sustain-

able revenue growth in postpaid mobile revenue, fixed broadband revenue and reduction in finance cost and tax expense.

Zain Group performance

Zain Group, a subsidiary of Omantel Group, announced its financial results yesterday, reporting a growth of 11 per cent in its revenues, to reach \$4.6 billion, while net profit rose by 13 per cent to reach \$561 million, compared to the corresponding period in 2022.

ELECTRONIC SERVICE

CMA creates webpage on Consumer Protection Statistics

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Capital Market Authority (CMA) launched an electronic service available to the public on its website titled 'Customer Protection Statistics' in the capital market and insurance sectors.

It is an electronic page that is automatically updated according to the movement and activity of electronic systems and services concerned with communicating with individuals and institutions in the two sectors. The page includes indices and data related to the details of inquiries and complaints submitted to the CMA, besides monitoring the execution status of such transactions. The page also allows the public to view the total number of comments received through the whistleblower system. The page reviews the level of customer satisfaction with the services provided by the CMA.

CMA seeks, by making the statistics related to the reality of communication with the public available, to complete its efforts to enhance direct and effective communication with the public through a package of electronic services to facilitate the public's access, solve their problems, and deliver their messages through the available channels.



Happy National Day, Oman!

As we celebrate Oman's 53rd National Day, FRIENDi mobile extends its heartfelt greetings to the wonderful people of this great nation. On this special occasion, we come together to commemorate the rich history, vibrant culture, and enduring spirit of Oman.

On this joyous day, we also extend our warmest wishes and congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik.

Under His Majesty's wise leadership, Oman has continued to thrive and flourish. We salute His Majesty's vision for a brighter future for Oman and his dedication to the well-being of its citizens.





FASTING FOR 14 HOURS IMPROVES HUNGER, MOOD, SLEEP



Eating within a 10-hour window is related to increased energy and improved mood as well as decreased appetite, according to recent findings from the largest UK community research study of its kind.

The trial's findings were presented today at the European Nutrition Conference by researchers from King's College London. Intermittent fasting (IF), or limiting your meal consumption to a specific time frame, is a popular weight loss method. With a ten-hour window, you limit your daily eating schedule to 10 hours and fast for the remaining 14 hours. For example, if you consume your first mouthful at 9 a.m., you must finish by 7 p.m. Those who were consistent with their eating window had greater benefits than those who varied their eating window day to day. Despite the fact that certain intermittent fasting advocates frequently promote restrictive eating windows as short as six hours, data presented in the abstract suggest that eating within a less restrictive window of ten hours has beneficial health effects such as changes in mood, energy, and appetite. Dr Sarah Berry from King's College London and chief scientist at ZOE said, "This is the largest study outside of a tightly controlled clinic to show that intermittent fasting can improve your health in a real-world setting."

What's really exciting is that the findings show that you don't have to be very restrictive to see positive results. A ten-hour eating window, which was manageable for most people, improved mood, energy levels and hunger. We found for the first time that those who practised time-restricted eating, but were not consistent day to day, did not have the same positive health effects as those who were dedicated every day. " 37,545 people on the ZOE Health app completed the core intervention period of three weeks. Participants were asked to eat as normal for the first week and then a ten-hour eating window for two weeks. More than 36,231 participants opted for additional weeks and 27,371 users were classified as highly engaged. Highly engaged participants were 78% female, with a mean age of 60 and a BMI of 25.6. Participants with a longer eating window before the intervention saw an even greater benefit to their health. Kate Bermingham PhD, from King's College London and ZOE, said: "This study adds to the growing body of evidence showing the importance of how you eat. The health impact of food is not just what you eat but the time at which you choose to consume your meals, and eating window is an important dietary behaviour that can be beneficial for health. Findings show that we don't need to be eating all the time. Many people will feel satiated and even lose weight if they restrict their food to a ten-hour window."

-ANI

Oman confident of a winning start

Hosts take on Chinese Taipei on Thursday to kick off their campaign in the Preliminary Joint Qualification Round 2 of the FIFA World Cup 2026 and the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027

MUSCAT: A much higher-ranked Oman aim for a winning start as they launch their campaign in the Preliminary Joint Qualification Round 2 of the FIFA World Cup 2026 and the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027 against Chinese Taipei at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex on Thursday. The match kicks off at 7pm.

Oman head coach Branko Ivankovic of Croatia sounded confident ahead of the game with the Red Warriors undergoing an intensive camp ahead of the match.

Oman, ranked world No.72 in the FIFA Rankings, are up against Chinese Taipei, ranked lowly No.152.

A victory on Thursday will set the tone of Oman's campaign that will see the Red Warriors travel soon after the game to Bishkek, capital city of Kyrgyzstan, for the second match at Dolen Omurzakov Stadium in Group D against the hosts on November 21.

Of the 48 berths on offer at the 23rd FIFA World Cup, to be co-hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States, eight and a half have been allocated for the AFC's national teams, and Ivankovic hopes to make history with Oman's maiden qualification into the global showpiece.

Speaking at the pre-match press conference on Wednesday, Ivankovic said, "We enter the qualifiers with confidence and we hope to achieve our goals of qualifying for the World Cup following the expansion of the World Cup to 48 teams and Asia having a total of eight and half slots.

He added: "The opening match is always difficult. We have to re-



spect our opponents despite the gap in rankings. I am fully satisfied with my players' discipline and performance during the training camp. I am confident that my players will showcase a strong display and earn full three points."

Oman captain Harib Al Saadi said: "We have completed ten days of training camp ahead of this crucial game and the readiness of the team is at a good level."

Oman's best qualifying result to date came in 2014 when they reached the fourth round. Chinese Taipei, winners against Timor-Leste in Round 1, will hope to move into the third round for the first time and also avenge both defeats to Oman during the 1994 Qualifi-

ers - the only two previous meetings between this pair.

Head coach of Chinese Taipei, Gary White, said: "My players are in good condition after several days of training. They are fit for the match. The main focus is to rebuild the team as we have a good mix of young and experienced players."

"I had closely observed Oman team in their last friendlies against Palestine and USA. They have quality players. It will be challenging match to play against a much higher ranked team."

Group D also features Malaysia and Kyrgyzstan and all four teams are vying for their maiden FIFA World Cup qualification. Malaysia (ranked No. 137), the hosts,

welcome Kyrgyzstan (ranked No. 97) at the National Stadium Bukit Jalil in Kuala Lumpur. Harimau Malaya's only previous meeting with the visitors in October 2018 resulted in a friendly defeat, and both sides will hope to progress past the second round for the first time in history.

Oman's domestic camp began a week ago and except for injury concerns for Salah Al Yahyaei, who will miss the game on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Oman Football Association (OFA) announced the sale of match tickets on Monday. The general stands gate tickets are being sold for OMR2 while a seat in the VIP gallery will cost OMR20.

Format

In the joint second round 36 teams have been drawn into nine groups of four, within which they will face each other twice in a home-and-away round-robin format between November 16, 2023 and June 11, 2024.

All nine group winners and their respective runners-up will advance to the third round of FIFA World Cup qualifying, and at the same time seal their places at the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027.

A total of 12 teams will target a return to the global showpiece: Australia, China PR, DPR Korea, Indonesia (as the Dutch East Indies), Iraq, Islamic Republic

of Iran, Japan, Korea Republic, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

This will mark the 11th instance of standalone FIFA World Cup qualifying with direct slots available for Asia's teams since the AFC's establishment in 1954 and is the third time that the first two rounds will also serve as part of the Qualifiers for the Asian Cup.

Oman's fixtures: November 16: vs Chinese Taipei (Muscat), **Nov 21:** vs Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek), **March 21, 2024:** vs Malaysia (Muscat), **March 26:** vs Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), **June 6:** vs Chinese Taipei (Chinese Taipei), **June 11:** vs Kyrgyzstan (Muscat).

NEW INITIATIVE

OFA-JSIS Football Talent Development Centre launched

MUSCAT: Oman Football Association (OFA) in partnership with Jindal Shaded Iron and Steel (JSIS) launched the ambitious Football Talent Development Centre at the Seeb Sports Stadium on Tuesday.

The inauguration ceremony was held under the auspices of Basil bin Ahmed Al Rawas, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth.

In line with Oman Vision 2040, OFA entered into a partnership agreement with JSIS for the inaugural project. For JSIS, it demonstrates a steadfast commitment to sports and youth development in Oman.

JSIS is driven by its active societal role and genuine desire to foster a dynamic environment for the identification and cultivation of talent that ultimately benefits both clubs and national teams.

This national project is part of the Talent Support Programme initiated by the FIFA, the world football governing body, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth and in partnership with JSIS.

JSIS envisions cultivating a generation of talented athletes, aiming to amplify their potential and empower them to proudly represent the nation, showcasing its colours in diverse international competitions and events by the project's completion.

Al Rawas said, "Sports possess the transformative power to inspire, unite, and build character. This initiative stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to nurturing the potential of our youth and elevating Oman's football to unprecedented heights. It underscores our ambitions for the future of Omani football, forging a robust pathway for youth to actively participate and excel."

He added, "Football is poised



for a positive and ambitious future, given the nation's abundant talents, capabilities, and growing interest. I am delighted by the ministry's active participation in this project, and I am confident in its success through the close cooperation and sustainable partnership between the public and private sectors.

"The strategic partnership between OFA and JSIS serves as a commendable example of collaboration between the public and private sectors. I hope the programme will play a pivotal role in talent selection and yield outcomes that align with the progress observed across various sectors of the country. This partnership also underscores the private sector's eagerness to contribute to achieving sports goals at elevated levels befitting our dear country."

Al Rawas said: "We anticipate the project will yield promising qualitative outcomes by the end of 2026, benefiting Omani football and aligning with its goals, as well as fulfilling the aspirations of the fans."

Sheikh Salim Al Wahaibi, the OFA chairman, extended his grati-



tude to Basil bin Ahmed Al Rawas and FIFA for their support. He praised the significance of the sustainable strategic partnership with JSIS, expressing hope for the project's success in positively impacting the football landscape in the Sultanate of Oman.

Al Wahaibi said, "We take pride in our strategic partnership with JSIS to inaugurate this national project aimed at supporting and developing talent in the Sultanate of Oman. This partnership exemplifies our dedication to talent development and a sincere aspiration to attain sporting excellence. We firmly believe that the project will serve as a great source of inspiration for numerous ambitious

young individuals, reflecting the nurturing environment fostered by the programme."

Harsha Shetty, Chief Executive Officer of JSIS, said: "Sports holds a unique position in nation-building. On the field, we imbibe the essence of teamwork, humility in defeat, camaraderie of sportsmanship, and the profound honour of representing our country and team. At JSIS, we wholeheartedly champion sports and youth, placing them at the core of our focus. Our ongoing support for the Oman Hockey Association and the successful partnership with the Oman Football Association last year underscores our commitment to nurturing athletic talent and con-

tributing to the growth of Omani youth through various sporting initiatives."

He added, "We are thrilled to collaborate with OFA in launching the first-ever football academy in Oman. The inception of this Talent Centre marks the beginning of many as we strive to inspire and consistently cultivate our youth's potential. This aligns seamlessly with our identity as an Omani company devoted to social investment and responsibility."

"Youth and sports stand as integral pillars of Oman Vision 2040. JSIS remains steadfast in ensuring that its endeavours harmonise with the vision of the Sultanate of Oman, considering these centres

as a positive stride toward realising the overarching goal of supporting sports and bolstering the role of youth.

Mohsin Al Masroori, OFA's vice-chairman, said, "According to the five-year plan for the project, the training schedule is set to commence in its initial phase with the establishment of four training centres in Muscat, three for juniors, and a fourth centre dedicated to girls. The project's scope is projected to expand, with a possible the launch of eight new centres across the Sultanate in 2024."

Also present on the occasion was Ali Al Habsi, the legendary Omani goalkeeper, who is also a JSIS ambassador.

Malabar Gold unveils special array of jewellery to celebrate National Day



Priced at OMR 53, the collection has been crafted in Omani theme, making it an ideal option for self-gifting or gifting to loved ones during the National Day celebration. Available across all of the brand’s outlets in Oman, the exclusive collection is available in 10 designs and is part of the brand’s Mine Diamond jewellery array

MUSCAT: To pay tribute to the glorious spirit of the nation on the occasion of Oman’s 53rd National Day, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewellery retailer globally with over 335 showrooms across 11 countries, has launched a special collection of diamond pendants and rings.

Priced at OMR 53, the collection has been crafted in Omani theme, making it an ideal option for self-gifting or gifting to loved ones during the National Day celebration. Available across all of the brand’s outlets in Oman, the exclusive collection is available in 10 designs and is part of the brand’s Mine Dia-

mond jewellery array.

“We are very excited to join in the 53rd Oman National Day celebrations by launching a limited-edition collection of pendants and rings. As the country and its residents celebrate this momentous occasion, Malabar Gold & Diamonds is proud and honored to be a part of Oman’s rich legacy of culture and heritage. With 13 world-class showrooms across the Sultanate and more showroom openings in the pipeline, Malabar Gold & Diamonds’ stature as the go-to jewellery retailer in Oman will further be strengthened in the coming years,” said Najeeb K, Regional Head – Oman, Malabar Gold & Diamonds.

Winner of Oman’s Most Trusted Brand Award for 6 times in a row, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has a strong retail presence of 13 showrooms across Oman, located at Ruwi, Bausher, Seeb, Muthra Souk, Al Khoud, Barka, Sohar, Salalah, Nizwa & Ibri.

ISLAMIC BANKING



Meethaq takes part in Omani Islamic Banking Conference

MUSCAT: In order to shed light on the Islamic banking sector in the Sultanate of Oman, and to discuss challenges and potential solutions to expand the range of Islamic services and products, Meethaq Islamic Banking by Bank Muscat participated in the 2nd edition of the Oman Islamic Banking Conference entitled (Islamic Banking and Finance: Augmenting Competitiveness and Generating Investment Opportunities).

The event was recently organised at the Crowne Plaza Muscat Hotel, Qurm, under the patronage of is Dr. Mohammed Bin Said Bin Khalfan Al Mamari, Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs and attended by a large number of officials from banking sector and various other institutions.

Reflecting a strategic partnership with the Central Bank of Oman, the conference focused on Islamic banking and financing sector in Oman and its ability to generate sustainable investment opportunities through accelerating the sector’s growth pace and enhancing its contributions to the advancement of social and economic progress.

During the conference, Ali bin Ahmed Al Lawati, Assistant General Manager, Meethaq Corporate Banking, delivered a paper titled ;Islamic capital markets and investment opportunities;. He talked about Islamic financial markets and the financial products, the efforts of the Capital Market Authority in development of Islamic capital markets in the Sultanate, and the role of Meethaq Islamic Banking in the development of Islamic financial markets including capital markets and challenges facing the sector and various initiatives.

The conference touched upon the reality and future of Islamic banking sector in the Sultanate of Oman, mechanisms that help enhancing the competitiveness of the sector and raising the level of its contribution, current legal and legislative framework and its ability to promote the growth of the sector and meet the challenges, and the ability of the Islamic banking and finance sector in the Sultanate to create real and sustainable investment opportunities. The attendees got acquainted with the contribution and potentials of Islamic capital markets in financing development projects, structure of Islamic banking industry and the requirements of consumer, investment and economic activity for individuals, private and the public institutions.

FUTURE OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE MANAGEMENT

Al Hashar Pharmacy unveils new generation medication

MUSCAT: Recent data from the Oman World Health Survey estimated the prevalence of high blood pressure at 41.5% compared to 27% reported by the National Blood Pressure Survey in 1991. The increasing prevalence of high blood pressure is directly linked to a surge in diseases related to the heart and kidneys.

High blood pressure is often referred to as the “silent killer” due to its asymptomatic nature. Alarminglly, hypertension is no longer a condition restricted to older individuals; a growing number of the younger population is also affected, raising concerns about future health trends.

Al Hashar Pharmacy, a renowned name in the pharmaceutical industry, has proudly announced its latest achievement - the receipt of the Ministry of Health’s approval to introduce Cilacar (Cilnidipine), for the management of hypertension, commonly known as high blood pressure. This revolutionary new-generation medication offers several advantages over its predecessors, including enhanced blood pressure control and a reduced risk of side effects. Patients suffering from high blood pressure can now benefit from a more comprehensive and advanced treatment option.

In a recent scientific symposium held in Muscat, Dr Shahid Merchant; Senior Interventional Cardiologist from India, commented, “The availability of Cilnidipine will contribute to better disease management, potentially reducing the incidence of associated heart diseases and kidney diseases. Cilnidipine’s unique dual selectivity and potential for fewer side effects, particularly peripheral edema, makes it an attractive option for a broader range of patients, including those with challenging-to-treat hypertension or kidney issues,” he added.

Senior interventional cardiologist Dr Prashanth Panduranga from Royal Hospital, Oman, took the helm in chairing the session, while interventional cardiologists Dr Gamesan Ramchandran



from Badr Al Sama group of hospitals and Dr Vivek Muthukumarasamy from KIMS Health Hospital, Muscat, participated the panel discussion.

Speaking about this groundbreaking development, Suresh Gandhi, CEO, Al Hashar Pharmacy & Capital Pharmacy, expressed their excitement and commitment to improving healthcare in Oman. “We are delighted to introduce Cilacar to the people of Oman. This new generation of medication represents a major step forward in the treatment of hypertension, offering a more effective approach. Our mission has always been to provide high-quality healthcare solutions to the community and contribute towards improving their quality of life. Introduction of Cilacar is a testament to that commitment.”

The COO, Sachin Agrawal, added, “Our team is working diligently to ensure that Cilacar is readily available and accessible to all patients who require it. We believe that THIS new generation medication will make a positive impact on the overall health and well-being of our community.”

Al Hashar Pharmacy and the drug manufacturer JB Pharma India, are now actively preparing for the introduction of Cilacar (Cilnidipine) in Oman.

“Cilacar, renowned as a market leader; has become the trusted choice of healthcare professionals and patients, in India.

“With regulatory approval in hand, we are working closely with healthcare professionals and Al Hashar Pharmacy to ensure widespread availability of this new generation high blood pressure medication for the people of Oman,” said Samir Kohari, Regional Head, JB Pharma.

As Cilacar prepares to enter the Oman market, it brings with it the promise of better control and management of hypertension and other cardiovascular conditions, potentially leading to an improved quality of life for those affected by this condition. With this latest development, Al Hashar Pharmacy reaffirms its position as a trusted partner in promoting health and well-being within the Sultanate of Oman.

Salutations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the people of Oman on the occasion of the 53rd National Day

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ROUND-UP



Alizz Islamic Bank wins award for Excellence in Sharia Compliant Banking Services

MUSCAT: Alizz Islamic Bank was recently felicitated with the award for 'Excellence in Sharia Compliant Wholesale Banking Services, at the inaugural OER Business Excellence awards. Mustafa Al Lawati- AGM – Head of Corporate Banking collected the award on behalf of the bank at the exclusive gala dinner.

Winning this award is a significant recognition of the bank's commitment to continuously provide its Wholesale Banking customers with the best products and services. Alizz Islamic Bank continues to be a highly innovative bank with customer experience at the core of everything it does.

Alizz Islamic Bank's Wholesale Banking Group caters to the needs of corporate and institutional entities, supporting a multitude of economic sectors and industries. Wholesale Banking serves various segments, including government and government related entities, large corporates, mid-sized corporates and small & medium enterprises (SMEs). The bank endeavours to partner with its customers and support them to identify appropriate and value adding finance related opportunities, in a cost-effective manner. Its team of Wholesale Banking experts has developed a comprehensive suite of Sharia compliant products & services that are designed to cater to the needs of every customer.



AL MAHA RECEIVES CORPORATE EXCELLENCE AWARD 2023

OER and Moore Stephens conducted a survey of companies listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange and identified top-performing companies. Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company is among the recipients of the OER Corporate Excellence Awards 2023, which took place on November 8 and was hosted by His Highness Sayyid Firas bin Fatek Al Said. Ahmed Bakhit Al Shanfari, Division Head – Marketing and Business Development, accepted the award on behalf of Al Maha. — Supplied picture



DHOFAR UNIVERSITY JUMPS BY 20 POINTS IN TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD RANKING

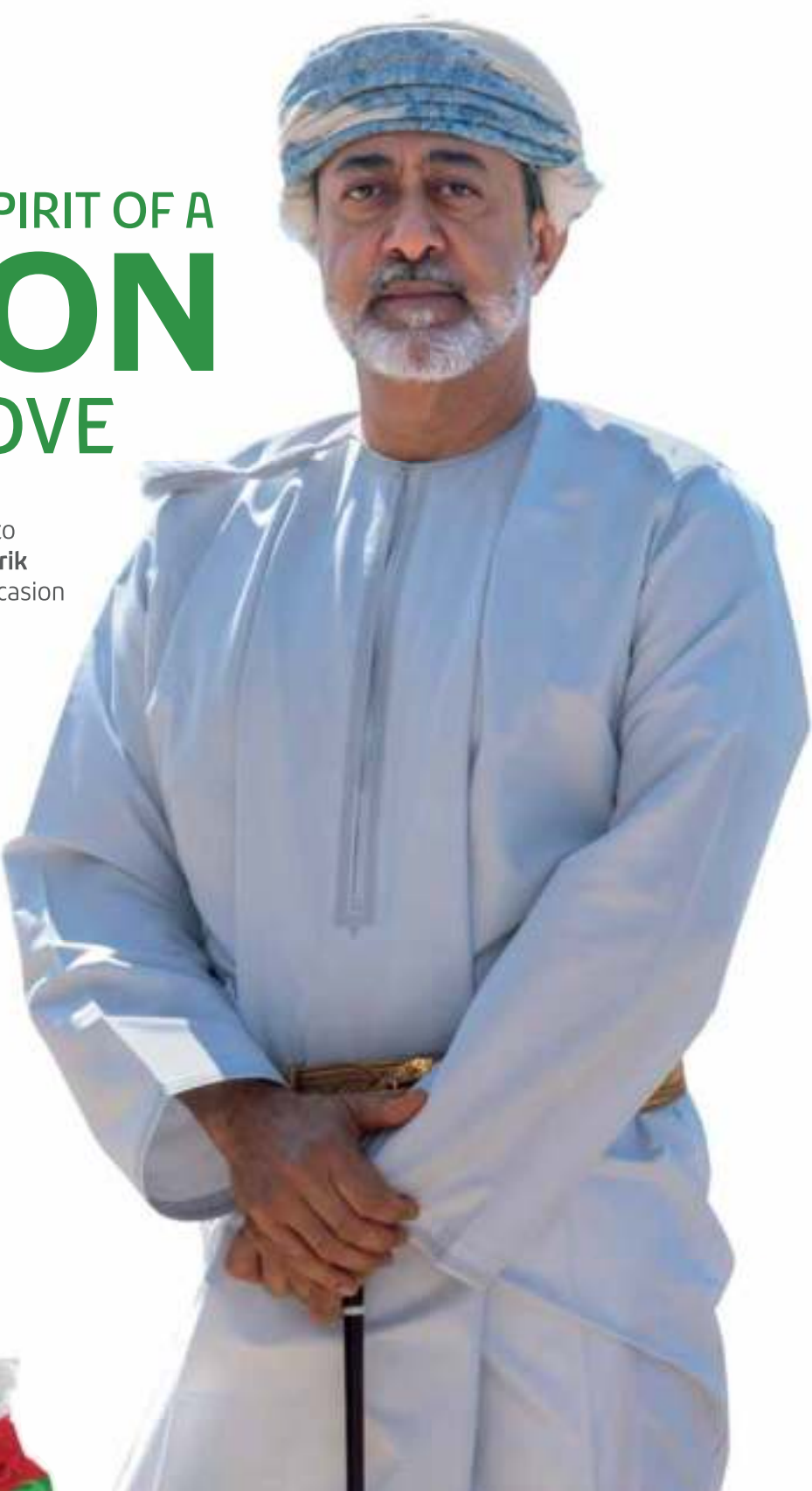
Dhofar University has jumped by 20 points in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings of Arab Universities for the year 2023, advancing from last year's band (120-140) to (101-120) to reach the second position at the national level after Sultan Qaboos University. — Supplied picture





THE RESOLUTE SPIRIT OF A NATION ON THE MOVE

Congratulations and warm wishes to **His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik** and the citizens of Oman on the occasion of the 53rd National Day.



The values of peace and growth around which Oman has built its vision and development over the years continue to guide a nation on the move towards prosperity.

Lulu Group is proud to be an integral part of this illustrious march of progress and pledge our loyalty to the wise and visionary leadership of **His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik** on this glorious occasion.



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