

Times

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50

YEARS OF LEGACY

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MEETING

ILO Director-General
lauds labour policies

MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, received on Tuesday Gilbert Hougbo, Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO), at the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry.

During the meeting, mutual emphasis was placed on the co-operation relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the international organisation and the continuation of work programmes and constructive consultation between the two sides.

The Foreign Minister expressed the appreciation of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman for the pivotal role of the ILO in assisting member states to develop their labour systems in line with the best international practices and standards.

He highlighted Oman's interest in its positive and beneficial relations in this context and the tangible role of the Director-General in developing relevant frameworks and concepts.

For his part, the Director-General commended the development and achievements realised by the Sultanate of Oman in the field of labour policies, labour market development, and the relationship between the parties of production.

He expressed the ILO's commitment to continuing constructive cooperation and positive partnership with the Sultanate of Oman in various related aspects



and areas of mutual interest, especially in the areas of skills development and capacity building, and supporting training and employment programmes, consistent with national development priorities and the goals of Oman Vision 2040.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation and ways to maximise benefit from the organisation and its specialised programmes aimed at continuing the development of labour legislation, and enhancing labour market efficiency and institutional capabilities.

The meeting was attended by Khalid bin Salim Al Ghamari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour for Labour Affairs, Dr. Ruba Jaradat, Regional Director for Arab States at the ILO, and a number of officials from both sides. -OMA

INDIAN PM ARRIVES IN OMAN TODAY,
MANY AGREEMENTS LIKELY TO BE INKED



During the trip, Indian Prime Minister is scheduled to engage in discussions with His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

MUSCAT: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive in Muscat on Wednesday for an official two-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During this trip, he is scheduled to engage in discussions with His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik.

Accompanying the Prime Minister will be an official delegation from the Indian Government.

The Republic of India is the sixth-largest trading partner with the Sultanate of Oman in terms of total exports.

The volume of trade exchange between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of India

reached approximately OMR 1,000,627,000 by the end of last September.

Issa Saleh Al Shaibani, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Republic of India, stated that Omani-Indian relations are distinguished by historical depth and a renewed strategic vision, having witnessed a qualitative shift in recent years.

Faisal Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said: "Omani-Indian relations are a model for fruitful cooperation, with India being one of Oman's largest trading partners."

Ahead of Modi's visit, India's Ambassador to Oman, GV Srinivas, emphasised the robust partnership between Oman and New Delhi. He stated, "With bilateral trade exceeding \$10 billion, we are expanding our collaboration into future-oriented sectors such as green hydrogen and sustainable development." The Ambassador believes that the Prime Minister's timely visit will enhance the relationship between the two nations, with the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) potentially doubling trade in the next five years.

Ambassador Srinivas remarked, "This is the second visit by Prime Minister Modi in eight years. >A4

OMAN

Call for repatriation
of Omani heritage

1 The National Museum organised the National Symposium on the Repatriation of Omani Cultural Property Abroad. The event was held under the auspices of Eng. Ibrahim bin Said Al Kharousi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for Heritage. >A3



OMAN

Social protection,
trade union reviewed

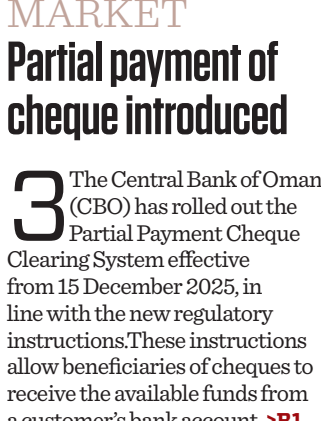
2 A delegation from the International Labour Organization (ILO), led by Gilbert Hougbo, Director-General of the ILO, paid an official visit to the Social Protection Fund. The visit aimed to enhance cooperation between the ILO and the Social Protection Fund. >A5



MARKET

Partial payment of
cheque introduced

3 The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) has rolled out the Partial Payment Cheque Clearing System effective from 15 December 2025, in line with the new regulatory instructions. These instructions allow beneficiaries of cheques to receive the available funds from a customer's bank account. >B1





White coat
ceremony for 184
future doctors held

A4

ICONIC TROPHY

Cricket fever grips Oman as ICC T20 World Cup Trophy arrives

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Cricket fever has descended on Oman as the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Trophy makes a glittering stop in the capital.

Fans have a rare chance to get up close to the iconic prize, as the excitement of the world's premier T20 championship comes to their doorstep.

On Wednesday, December 17, the trophy will be on public display at Oman Avenues Mall from 3:00pm to 4:30pm, before moving to the Oman Cricket Academy in Al Amerat from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Cricket enthusiasts will be able to capture memories with the coveted prize, celebrating Oman's achievements on the global cricket stage.

Beyond public viewings, the trophy is embarking on an exclusive photo tour of Oman's top tourism landmarks to promote the Sultanate as a vibrant travel destination.

The Royal Opera House Muscat, Al Mirani Fort, Qurum Beach at sunset, Across the Ages Museum, and the breathtaking Jabal Akhdar will provide spectacular backdrops for official shoots, blending the glamour of cricket with Oman's rich culture, natural beauty, and modern infrastructure.

Associate Asian nation

Oman, coached by Duleep Mendis, has qualified for the 2026 ICC T20 World Cup for the fourth time, marking their second consecutive appearance and making them the Associate Asian nation with the most tournament participations.

The team is drawn into Group B, alongside Australia, co-hosts Sri Lanka, Ireland, and Zimbabwe, setting up high-profile clashes and a chance to shine on the global stage.

The tournament, co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka from February 7 to March 8, 2026, will feature 20 teams across four groups battling it out in 55 high-octane matches.

The opening day promises thrilling action with India vs USA in Mumbai, Pakistan vs Netherlands in Colombo, and West Indies vs Bangladesh in Kolkata.

Matches will be played across eight stadiums in India and Sri Lanka - The Narendra Modi Stadium (Ahmedabad), MA Chidambaram Stadium (Chennai), Arun Jaitley Stadium (New Delhi), Wankhede Stadium (Mumbai), Eden Gardens (Kolkata), R. Premadasa Stadium (Colombo), Singhalese Sports Club Cricket Ground (Colombo) and Pallekele International Cricket Stadium (Kandy). Phase I ticket sales are already live from December 11, starting at just INR 100 (\$1.11) in India and LKR 1,000 (\$3.26) in Sri Lanka, giving fans worldwide a chance to secure their place at this landmark 10th edition of the T20 World Cup.

More than 2 million tickets will go on sale in the first phase, with Phase II ticket sales set to be announced soon.

The 2026 tournament will be played using the same format as the 2024 event, with the 20 teams placed into four different groups of five sides ahead of the Super Eights phase that will include the top two finishers from each group.

The Super Eights will feature two groups of four sides, with the top two finishers from each group then progressing to the knockout semi-finals.



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OMAN

PRAYER
TIMINGS



Dhuhr.....12:08pm
Asr.....3:08pm
Maghrib.....5:28pm
Isha.....6:44pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....5:22am

Oman, India forge path for deeper economic integration



PM Modi's visit marks an important milestone in the course of the historical relations

MUSCAT: The Omani-Indian relations are witnessing remarkable growth across various fields, particularly in the domain of economic integration, which stands as a fundamental pillar aligning with the ambitions and shared aspirations of the two nations.

In this context, the upcoming visit of Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India to the Sultanate of Oman marks an important milestone in the course of the historical relations between the two friendly countries, rooted in centuries of economic, cultural, and commercial ties between the Omani and Indian peoples.

The Republic of India is the sixth-largest trading partner with the Sultanate of Oman in terms of total exports. The volume of trade exchange between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of India reached approximately OMR1,000,627,000 by the end of last September.

According to statistics released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information, the value of Omani exports to the Republic of India reached approximately OMR528.7 million by the end of last September, while total Omani imports from the Republic of India amounted to about OMR1,076.9 million.

The volume of direct Indian investment in the Sultanate of Oman reached OMR268.4 million by the end of the second quarter of this year. Meanwhile, the volume of direct Omani investments in the Republic of India by the end of 2024 was about OMR5.5 million. The number of establishments with investment from the Republic of India in the Sultanate of Oman till 2024 reached approximately 61, while the number of Indian visitors till November 2025 was about 609,789.

Issa Saleh Al Shaibani, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Republic of India, stated that Omani-Indian relations are distinguished by historical depth and a renewed strategic vision, having witnessed a qualitative shift in recent years. Key highlights include the visit of His Majesty the Sultan to India in December 2023, the issuance of the "Shared Vision" document, and the enhancement of defense and security cooperation, with the Sultanate of Oman being the first Gulf state to conduct joint exercises with various branches of the Indian forces, he added.



“On the economic front, the Omani market includes over 6,000 joint projects with investments exceeding \$7.5 billion. Furthermore, Oman's participation as a guest of honour at the G20 Summit in India was recognition of its balanced and positive role on the regional and international stages,” said Al Shaibani.

The Ambassador pointed out that the visit of the Indian Prime Minister to the Sultanate of Oman comes at a strategic time to enhance political coordination and exchange viewpoints on regional and international issues. It also constitutes an opportunity to push towards signing the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which would contribute to supporting economic diversification efforts and stimulating investment in line with Oman Vision 2040, he further added.

He explained that Oman and India share a clear vision in strategic sectors. For example, in the energy field, there is growing cooperation in green hydrogen and ammonia projects, leveraging Omani resources and Indian expertise. In the ports and logistics sector, Oman is working to develop maritime connectivity with India through the ports of Sohar, Duqm, and Salalah, aiming to position Oman as a center for regional trade and reduce supply chain costs.

He clarified that Oman and India share ambitious priorities in the field of clean energy, having launched joint industrial investments for the production of green hydrogen and ammonia. Oman's strategic location also makes it an ideal logistical hub connecting Asian markets with the region, with a shared interest in developing ports and linking supply chains, he affirmed.

The Ambassador explained that this visit carries a clear message signifying Oman's commitment to a long-term strategic partnership based on mutual respect. He said: “It affirms the desire of both countries to expand areas of cooperation, especially in the digital economy, clean energy, food security, and healthcare. It also emphasizes the importance of intensifying institutional work to implement bilateral initiatives, serving the aspirations of the two friendly peoples.”

In his turn, Faisal Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said: “Omani-Indian relations are a model for fruitful cooperation, with India being one of Oman's largest trading partners. Work is ongoing to continuously expand the scope of cooperation to align with the priorities of Oman Vision 2040 and global economic transformations.”

He added that this visit will open wider horizons for cooperation in promising fields, including renewable energy and green hydrogen, digital technologies, food security, and pharmaceutical industries, in addition to enhancing the role of small and medium enterprises in building direct partnerships between the two sides.

For her part, Lujaina Mohsin Darwish, Honorary Chairperson of the Omani-Indian Friendship Association, clarified that this visit represents a strong boost to the trajectory of economic relations between the two countries. The Omani business sector views this visit as a promising opportunity to enhance the strategic partnership and open new horizons for investment, she pointed out.

She said that business leaders hope this visit will contribute to simplifying procedures, facilitating visas, and developing logistical connectivity, which would support trade movement and increase the attractiveness of joint investment. The private sector also anticipates the visit will yield new economic initiatives, particularly in technology, renewable energy, and manufacturing industries, she added.

She affirmed that the visit represents an opportunity to pave the way for joint projects between Omani and Indian companies, in addition to opening wider marketing outlets for products from both countries and enhancing industrial and commercial cooperation. This, she said, would positively reflect on the business ecosystem and strengthen Oman's position as a regional centre for trade and investment.

For his part, Faisal Alawi Al Dheeb, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kingdom Investment Services, explained that this visit represents a pivotal stage in the path of strategic relations between the two countries, given the promising opportunities and direct positive implications it holds for the economic and investment sectors.

He pointed out that Omani business leaders view this visit with great optimism, especially in light of the shared orientations of Oman and India towards enhancing economic integration and developing cross-sectoral partnerships.

He expressed his hope that this visit would contribute to building a clearer framework to facilitate mutual investments, modernise regulatory procedures, and open more flexible pathways for companies seeking to enter into joint projects or expand in regional markets. — OMA



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Oman–Singapore direct flights set to boost trade, and tourism

Singapore’s Changi Airport is one of the world’s leading aviation hubs and it will serve as a critical gateway for connecting traffic into Southeast Asia and the Pacific



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The launch of the first-ever direct flights between Oman and Singapore is expected to significantly deepen bilateral trade, stimulate two-way tourism and open new commercial gateways across Asia-Pacific through the oneworld alliance, senior officials said.

Oman Air will begin four weekly non-stop services between Muscat and Singapore from 2 July 2026, marking a historic milestone in relations between the two countries as they celebrate 40 years of diplomatic ties.

Describing the new air link as transformational, Syed Nouredin bin Syed Hassim, Charge d’Affaires and Minister-Counselor at the Embassy of the Republic of Singapore, said direct connectivity would unlock untapped potential across tourism, trade and investment.

In his exclusive remarks to Times of Oman, he said: “This is a very exciting and meaningful development, coming in the 40th

anniversary year of Singapore–Oman diplomatic relations.”

“For the first time, we have true point-to-point connectivity between our two countries, and that fundamentally changes the possibilities for travel, business and people-to-people exchanges.”

He noted that Oman remains a “hidden gem” for many Singaporeans and Southeast Asian travellers, despite its growing reputation as a premium, experience-led destination.

“Once visitors experience Oman, they are genuinely taken by what the country has to offer,” he said. “With direct flights, even short leisure breaks become possible, and that is something Singaporean travellers are already very accustomed to.”

Trade poised for next phase of growth

Beyond tourism, officials expect the new route to accelerate commercial engagement between the two economies. Bilateral trade currently exceeds OMR500 million annually, with petrochemicals accounting for a significant share.

“At over half a billion rials, trade between Singapore and Oman already has a strong base, but there

is clear scope for growth,” Syed Nouredin said.

“Greater awareness, easier access and more frequent business travel will naturally lead to deeper commercial ties.”

He highlighted emerging opportunities in logistics, digital services, Fintech, renewable energy and advanced manufacturing, noting that both countries are strategically positioned at opposite ends of the Indian Ocean.

“Oman and Singapore can function as complementary hubs — Oman serving the GCC, East Africa and Europe, and Singapore connecting into Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia and the wider Asia-Pacific,” he said. “This is where the real strategic value lies.”

Syed Nouredin also pointed to strong alignment in sustainability and clean energy ambitions.

“With Oman’s solar and wind potential and Singapore’s energy transition needs, there is significant scope for cooperation in renewables and green technologies,” he said.

Oneworld alliance opens global networks

The Muscat–Singapore route

Oman Air, IndiGo in codeshare talks, plan network expansion

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air is in advanced discussions with India’s IndiGo Airlines to establish a codeshare partnership, a move expected to significantly expand the airline’s reach across the Indian market, according to Mike Rutter, Chief Commercial Officer of Oman Air.

Rutter said the proposed agreement would allow Oman Air to access a wider network of Indian cities through IndiGo’s extensive domestic and regional footprint, strengthening connectivity between India, Oman and onward destinations via Muscat.

India remains one of Oman Air’s largest and most strategic markets, and the airline has already increased frequencies to several Indian destinations while pursuing further growth under existing bilateral frameworks.

Meanwhile, Oman Air CEO Con Korfiatis confirmed that the airline is actively evaluating four to five new destina-

tions for launch in 2026, in line with its long-term network strategy following its entry into the oneworld alliance.

Korfiatis said the airline is working with a five-year network plan, with new routes being assessed based on commercial sustainability, fleet availability and strategic alignment.

To support this expansion, Oman Air is also undertaking a phased fleet growth programme. The airline currently operates nine Boeing 787 wide-body aircraft, with one additional aircraft expected to rejoin the fleet in the near term, taking the total to ten. A further six Boeing 787s are scheduled for delivery from 2027 onwards.

On the narrow-body side, Oman Air’s Boeing 737 fleet will continue to grow, with another aircraft joining the fleet in January, and additional narrow-body capacity planned from 2026 to support regional and medium-haul network expansion.

“These links are not new — they go back centuries through maritime trade across the Indian Ocean,” Syed Nouredin said. “What we are doing now is modernising and institutionalising those connections for the next phase of growth.”

He added that stronger air connectivity would deepen cultural understanding and people-to-people exchanges, reinforcing the long-standing friendship between the two nations.

“Singapore and Oman share common sensibilities as maritime nations that value openness, international law and cooperation,” he said. “This direct air link reflects that shared outlook and our mutual respect.”

The Muscat–Singapore service will initially operate four times a week using Boeing 737 MAX aircraft, with ambitions to scale up to daily flights as demand grows.

For Oman, the route positions Muscat as a strategic stopover hub linking Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and Europe, while for Singapore, it opens direct access to one of the Gulf’s fastest-emerging tourism and investment destinations.

As Korfiatis summed up: “With demand growing for distinctive destinations and high-quality travel experiences, this service expands choice for both leisure and business travellers. It also reinforces Muscat’s role as an important hub between East and West, enabling efficient connectivity between Asia-Pacific markets and Europe complemented by our oneworld partners.”

Lim Ching Kiat, Executive Vice President, Air Hub & Cargo Development of Changi Airport Group added, “Oman Air’s new direct service to Muscat will introduce an exciting city link to Changi Airport’s wide connectivity network, while creating new travel opportunities between the two markets.”

NATIONAL MUSEUM

Emphasis on repatriation of Omani cultural property

MUSCAT: The National Museum, in collaboration with a number of government institutions, on Tuesday organised the National Symposium on the Repatriation of Omani Cultural Property Abroad.

The event was held under the auspices of Eng. Ibrahim bin Said Al Kharousi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for Heritage.

The symposium aimed to raise national awareness on the importance of Omani cultural property as a core pillar of national identity and the historical memory of the community.

It also sought to shed light on the legal and international aspects associated with cultural property repatriation operations, particularly relevant international conventions and charters, including the Omani Cultural Heritage Law and the 1970 UNESCO Convention.

Dr. Fatima Mohammed Al Balushi, Advisor to the Secretary-General for Museum Affairs at the National Museum and Head of the Team for Repatriation of Omani Cultural Property Abroad, presented a paper titled “The Importance of Repatriating Omani Cultural Property Abroad.”

She reviewed the pivotal status of cultural heritage as one of the essential components of peoples’ identities and historical memory,



and its role in documenting their civilisational journey and humanitarian contributions throughout the ages.

She indicated that Omani cultural property, including artifacts, manuscripts, archaeological pieces, and historical possessions, represents authentic evidence of the depth of Omani civilisation and its historical role in cultural and commercial exchange.

She affirmed that the repatriation of these properties is a strategic choice that integrates with the goals of Oman Vision 2040, which places great emphasis on preserving cultural heritage and reinforcing national identity.

The symposium concluded with a number of recommendations aimed at enhancing integration between national bodies and

supporting the protection and recovery of Omani cultural heritage.

The most prominent recommendations included: intensifying cooperation and awareness to strengthen the role of national institutions in documenting cultural property, and urging institutions and individuals to register cultural property in the Cultural Heritage Register to facilitate its documentation, proof of ownership, and future claim.

The recommendations also stressed the importance of reporting missing Omani cultural property to the relevant authorities, and working to prepare a national list of lost properties to facilitate their local and international identification and curb the transfer of their ownership to others. -ONA



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NUST

White Coat Ceremony held for 184 future doctors



SOHAR: Represented by the College of Medicine and Health Sciences in Sohar, the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) yesterday held the White Coat Ceremony for its 21st batch of future doctors, a total of 184 medical students.

The ceremony was held under the auspices of Dr. Ahmed bin Salim Al Mandhari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Planning and Health Regulation.

Dr. Ali bin Saud Al Bimani, Vice-Chancellor of National University of Science and Technology, affirmed the university's commitment to establish an advanced educational environment, coupled with strong cooperation with the

Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, the Ministry of Health and peer government and private institutions.

Al Bimani added that such cooperation and support has contributed to grooming a generation of world-class doctors who are capable of providing the highest levels of healthcare to their community.

For his part, Prof. Mohammed bin Ali Al Shaf'ee, Dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, said that the annual White Coat Ceremony constitutes a global tradition that symbolises the start of clinical training. The ceremony, he observed, paves the way for the realisation of professional ethical values and introduces the

batch to a noble humanitarian mission lying ahead.

Al Shaf'ee added that the White Coat is a symbol of confidence, humility and responsibility. Along with the performance of the Medical Oath, the White Coat incarnates a pledge to adhere to medical ethics when serving patients, the community and humanity at large.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the chief guest felicitated a number of public health institutions and doctors in appreciation for their cooperation in clinical training of students of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences. Then, he presented the White Coat to the future doctors. — **ONA**



Oman participates in conference on combating corruption

The Omani delegation is headed by Sheikh Ghuson bin Hilal Al Alawi, Chairman of the State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority



DOHA: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority, is participating in the 11th Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, hosted by the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority in Qatar.

The session is held during the period from 15 to 19 December 2025.

The Omani delegation is headed by Sheikh Ghuson bin Hilal Al Alawi, Chairman of the State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority, accompanied by a number of officials and specialists from

the Authority.

The conference will see broad international participation from the heads of anti-corruption agencies and bodies, international organisations, international community institutions, universities, professional institutions and researchers.

The conference is one of the most important events dedicated to combating corruption and promoting integrity at the international level, bringing together all 192 signatory states to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Sheikh Ghuson bin Hilal Al Alawi, Chairman of the State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority delivered the Sultanate of Oman's statement at the conference, affirming the Sultanate of Oman's keenness to actively participate with the international community in the areas of promoting integrity and combating corruption.

This is based on Oman's firm belief in the importance of exchanging experiences and knowledge among States Parties to promote the values of integrity and support the achievement of sustainable de-

velopment for peoples.

He further noted that this participation is a practical reflection of the future vision "Oman Vision 2040" launched by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, which includes strategic programmes and initiatives aimed at strengthening effective oversight mechanisms, establishing principles of accountability, and improving the efficiency in the use of public fund, thereby adding value to the national economy, enhancing the efficiency of government performance, and raising levels of integrity.

The Chairman further affirmed that since its accession to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in 2013, the Sultanate of Oman has been keen to achieve the objectives of the Convention by strengthening measures to prevent and combat corruption and establishing the principles of integrity and accountability in the management of public fund.

As a culmination of these efforts, the Sultanate of Oman launched the National Integrity Promotion Plan 2022-2030, which was prepared based on international best practices.

The Plan aims to unify the efforts of the government, the private sector and civil society through key areas that include legislative development, institutional integration, societal awareness and international cooperation, with a clear definition of the roles and responsibilities of each party.

At the conclusion of the statement, the Chairman of the Authority highlighted the Sultanate of Oman's commitment to supporting international efforts aimed at promoting integrity, combating corruption and mitigating its effects.

The conference program included a number of items, most notably a review of the report on the implementation of the United Nations

Convention against Corruption, as well as a discussion of the mechanism for reviewing the implementation of the Convention.

The first cycle included a review of the implementation of Chapter III (Criminalization and Law Enforcement) and Chapter IV (International Cooperation) of the Convention. The second review cycle included the implementation of Chapter II (Preventive Measures) and Chapter V (Asset Recovery) of the Convention, as well as a review of the results of the Special Session of the General Assembly on the challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and enhance international cooperation. Additionally, the conference addressed the Secretariat's memorandum on the activities of meetings of government experts in the field of strengthening international cooperation within the framework of the UN Convention.

On the sidelines of the conference, the Omani delegation will present a working paper titled "The National Integrity Promotion Plan in the Sultanate of Oman and its Impact on Achieving Integrity and Combating Corruption" as part of the joint side event for agencies responsible for protecting integrity and combating corruption, which will be held on Thursday, 18 December. — **ONA**

PM'S VISIT

Oman and India committed to trade pact: Ambassador

FROM A1 "Two years ago, His Majesty the Sultan visited India. Leadership from both sides will offer guidance and support for overall growth, particularly in trade and economic sectors. We are optimistic that this visit will further solidify our relationship across various domains."

India-Oman FTA
Discussing the India-Oman Free Trade Agreement, the Ambassador noted significant progress made over the past two years. He stated, "Economic ties serve as a strong foundation for our partnership. Over the last 5,000 years, the India-Oman relationship has evolved organically, with both countries engaging on multiple fronts. This



year marks the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations, although business interactions have been ongoing for 200-250 years."

He continued, "Both sides are committed to creating a mutually beneficial Free Trade Agreement, and we anticipate some advance-

ments in this area soon."

The Ambassador highlighted Indian investments in sectors such as metallurgy and steel, as well

as emerging industries like green hydrogen.

People-to-people connections
He also noted the importance of people-to-people connections in education and capacity building, mentioning the substantial Indian diaspora of 675,000 in Oman contributing to the nation's economic development.

The Prime Minister's agenda is packed, including participation in a business summit and interactions with Indian students. "During his meeting with His Majesty the Sultan for delegation-level talks, preparations for the Business Summit are underway. PM Modi will also engage with the Indian community and students.

Notably, the CBSE education system is celebrating its 50th anniversary in Oman, and discussions regarding this milestone will also take place," he added.

Well-established relationship
The Ambassador stressed that the relationship is well-established, encompassing all sectors, including political, defence, and security, with regular joint exercises among the three branches of the armed forces. This visit coincides with the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Oman and follows the Sultan of Oman's state visit to India in December 2023.

The Prime Minister will focus on his five pillars: talent, tradition, tourism, trade, and technology.

ILO delegation reviews social protection, trade union systems

The visit aimed to enhance cooperation between the ILO and the Social Protection Fund

MUSCAT: A delegation from the International Labour Organization (ILO), led by Gilbert Houngbo, Director-General of the ILO, paid an official visit to the Social Protection Fund.

The visit aimed to enhance co-operation between the ILO and the Fund and review the efforts undertaken by the Sultanate of Oman in strengthening its social protection system.

During the visit, a meeting was held to review a number of subjects related to the social protection system and discuss the ongoing cooperation programme between the Fund and the ILO.

The Director-General of the ILO praised Oman's efforts in en-



hancing and developing the social protection system, noting the importance of sharing this successful experience with neighboring countries to foster regional cooperation in this field.

He stressed the necessity of joint action to face challenges encountered by social protection institutions in various countries.

He clarified that social protection is one of the most prominent topics discussed in important international forums, such as the G20 Summit, to ensure the rights of all segments of society, including migrant workers, and to provide social guarantees that contribute to enhancing social justice at the global level.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Faisal bin Abdullah Al Farsi, CEO of the Social Protection Fund, and a number of officials from the ILO and the Social Protection Fund.

The ILO delegation also visited the General Federation of Oman Workers (GFW) to review the GFW's experience and the trade union system in the Sultanate of Oman.

This visit aims to reinforce efforts directed at improving legislation supporting trade union rights and freedoms, paving the way for the Sultanate of Oman to sign ILO conventions related to trade union



rights and freedoms.

A meeting was held during the visit to discuss avenues for ongoing cooperation between the GFW and the ILO and to develop areas for future partnership.

This reflects the level of progress in dialogue and partnership among the three parties of production in the Sultanate of Oman.

Legislative amendments, represented in the Labor Law and the Social Protection Law, were also discussed, along with ways to implement the priorities and axes included in the National Programme for Decent Work, and joint activities with the ILO in this regard.

Furthermore, the GFW's efforts to enhance tripartite social dialogue among the parties of production according to international labor standards were reviewed.

The meeting included a presentation that shed light on trade union structures in the Sultanate of Oman, numbers and distribution of labor unions and general sectoral unions and key activities, programs, and awareness campaigns implemented by the GFW.

It also highlighted the participation of women in trade union work, major legislative developments included in the Labor Law and the Social Protection Law and the lat-

est local legislation related to the protection of rights of non-Omani workers. The Director-General of the ILO praised the efforts of the General Federation of Oman Workers and the evolution of the roles of labor unions, considering them a pioneering model in the region.

He affirmed his readiness to enhance the existing paths of cooperation between the GFW and the ILO as required by the current stage. The meeting was attended by Nabhan bin Ahmed Al Batashi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Federation of Oman Workers, and a number of officials from both sides. -ONA

UNIFIED MODEL OF E-REPORTING

Muscat Governorate conducts workshop

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Muscat Governorate, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior representing the General Directorate of Governorates Affairs, conducted an introductory workshop regarding the unified model of electronic reports of the Muscat Governorate's works within the Tanmeyah system.

This workshop targeted officials involved in preparing reports in the Muscat Governorate and the Walis' Offices, to introduce them familiar with the system and boost the efficiency of reports preparation and unify their output.

During the workshop, numerous primary topics were highlighted. They included introducing the system and objectives,



reviewing advantages and outputs, explaining the system working in terms of accessing, using icons, and inputting data.

This system aims to enable governorates and wilayats to input data associated with work reports in a unified electronic form and provide qualitative and quantitative details on the work of governorates and wilayats.

Thus it contributes to following

up on performance reports, identifying challenges, enhancement opportunities.

As well as, efficiently managing, organising, and storing data to simplify research, analysis and procedures, accelerate workings, and enhance performance quality.

The Tanmeyah system offers numerous features. For example, comprehensive report automation, evaluation, attaching supportive documents, a flexible authorisation system, and a performance-monitoring dashboard.

The system outputs comprise a statistical information page, annual reports of the governorate and wilayat's works, evaluating projects and events, statement of the implementing position of the Governorate and wilayat's works, and the user manual.



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
P.O. BOX 2470, P.C 112, RUWI, SULTANATE OF OMAN
Phone: 00968-24702567, Ext. 108,
Email: purchase@ismoman.com - www.ismoman.com



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

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

- Supply and installation of customized or readymade Student Furniture for the Kindergarten Section (720 Nos)

Interested parties shall collect the tender documents from the school cash counter against the payment of **RO.10/-** as a non-refundable tender fee from **17th December 2025 to 25th December 2025** during the working days of the school between **7.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.**

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

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

Last date of tender submission: 07th January 2026



وزارة التنمية الاجتماعية
Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender committee of Ministry of Social Development hereby announces the following tender :-

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-retundable)	
					small and Medium companies	local companies
672/2025	Maintenance of two computers, a central computer, a backup, and a Unix backup system	Companies specialized in designing, installing and maintaining information programs and systems / equipping information data centers registered with the Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority in the excellent, first, second, third or fourth class	Thursday 25-12-2025 02:00 PM	Sunday 04-01-2026 10:00 AM	10 R.o	25 R.o

❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the **Tender Board** may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Wednesday 12/2025/ 71

❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402200)

" The lowest or any other tender shall not be binding to the Ministry "

www.mosd.gov.om



سلطنة عُمان
Sultanate of Oman
وزارة التراث والسياحة
Ministry of Heritage and Tourism

Announcement of an Internal Tenders - 2025

Tender No.	172/2025/MHT/HQ-41 - Recall - 1	Tender Name	Oman Botanic Garden Retail Shop Fit-Out Works
Fees of Tender Documents (Non-refundable)		25 R.O	
Tender Document Sales End Date		1/1/2026	
Last Date for Bid Submission		21/1/2026	
Grade		Excellent/ First	
E-Tendering Portal		https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om	
Interested Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority (in the mentioned Grade) may obtain Tender documents from the E. Tendering website: https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om , against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of documents.			
The Tenderers must acknowledge commitment to the bid.			
All companies submitting bids for this tender are required to attach a valid and recently issued Omanization Compliance Certificate from the Ministry of Labour, provided that the certificate is not older than 30 days from the date of issuance. This certificate is considered a mandatory document, and failure to submit it — for any reason — shall result in the outright disqualification of the bid, without being evaluated technically or financially. The certificate must also demonstrate the company's compliance with the Omanization percentage required by the Ministry of Labour. If the required percentage is not met, the bid shall be automatically disqualified.			
The Ministry shall not be obligated to accept the lowest or any other bids			
The bid submission period starts after the end of the inquiry period shown in the e-tendering system, until the last date for submitting bids before (10:00 am, Oman time).			
Support and inquiries		For more information, related to the tender, kindly communicate through the website of the e-tendering system: https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om For inquiries related to the technical support for the e-tendering system, kindly communicate through etenderhd@ptlc.gov.om or 24402200	
For further information		Email : sotic@mht.gov.om Phones : 22088348 - 22088085	

Oman and Thailand review bilateral ties

The Omani side was headed by Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs. The Thai side was headed by Sirilak Niyom, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MUSCAT: The second session of political talks between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Thailand was held on Tuesday at the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry.

The Omani side was headed by Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs. The Thai side was headed by Sirilak Niyom, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the session, the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries were discussed in the



fields of logistics, the health sector and energy.

In addition, the two sides discussed the exchange of investments and cultural cooperation. They also considered and con-

sulted on a number of regional and international issues of mutual concern.

The session was attended by Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Mohammed Al Hosni, Head of the Asia and

Pacific Department at the Foreign Ministry, Warunee Pan Krajang, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Sultanate of Oman, and a number of officials from both sides. — **ONA**



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EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
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ROYAL NAVY OF OMAN



RNO personnel presented certificates

MUSCAT: Rear Admiral Saif Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO), on Tuesday presented certificates of commendation to a number of RNO personnel, in appreciation for their sincere efforts in performing their duties.

Rear Admiral Al Rahbi congratulated the honoured personnel and encouraged them to maintain their standards of excellence in the tasks entrusted to them. He wished all success in their future missions. — **ONA**



COMMUNITY ROLE

Oman attends Arab Scout Committee meeting in Cairo

CAIRO: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Education, participated in the 184th Arab Scout Committee meeting, which discussed the development of scouting work and the enhancement of its educational and community role, in line with the aspirations and future vision of the Arab Scout Movement. The meeting, held at the Arab International Scout Centre in Egypt, also reviewed the decisions of the 31st Arab

Scout Conference, alongside the triennial scouting plan and the operational framework for the years (2025–2028). It reviewed the minutes of the 183rd Arab Scout Committee meeting, examined the status of the Arab International Scout Centre and the Arab Scout Funding Fund, and discussed the mechanisms for awarding the 2025 Excellence in Scouting Medal in recognition of distinguished scouting efforts across the Arab world. — **ONA**

SOUTH AL BATINAH

Emergency management panel reviews preparedness

A'RUSTAQ: The sub-committee tasked with emergency management in the South Al Batinah Governorate yesterday reviewed the preparedness of its sectors to deal with any incidents.

The discussion took place during the committee's meeting chaired by Brigadier Mohammed Awadh Al Shanfari, Commander of South Al Batinah Governorate's Police, Chairman of the Governorate's Emergency Sub-Committee. The meeting was attended by representatives of supporting committees from other sectors.

The meeting affirmed the readiness of all key sectors, including the Aid and Relief Sector, the Basic Services Sector and the Medical Response Sector. — **ONA**



OUR-YEAR-LONG RUNNING WAR

Ukraine-Russia peace deal 'closer than ever', says Trump amid talks in Berlin

WASHINGTON DC: US President Donald Trump late on Monday stated that the peace deal to end the four-year-long running war between Ukraine and Russia is 'closer than ever' following ongoing talks between European leaders and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Berlin.

Speaking at the White House, Trump emphasised that the United States is receiving "tremendous support" from European leaders, including Germany, Italy, France, the UK, Poland, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and the Netherlands, who also wish to see an end to the conflict.

"We are going to get it done. I think we are closer now, and they will tell you that they are closer now with numerous conversations with President Putin of Russia. And I think we are closer now than we have ever been... We want to save a lot of lives," Trump said.

"We are getting closer. We are having tremendous support from European leaders that want to get it ended also," he added.

The US President also noted the challenge of aligning Russia and Ukraine on the timing and terms of a potential deal, saying, "At this moment, Russia wants to get it, but the problem is they will



want to end it, and all of a sudden they want it, and Ukraine will want to get it ended and all of a sudden they won't. We have to get them on the same page."

Trump's comments come after hours-long diplomatic discussions between the US, European, and NATO leaders and Zelenskyy in Berlin to negotiate a resolution to the war in Ukraine.

According to Al Jazeera, European leaders have agreed to be part of any Western security guarantees for Ukraine, with con-

trol over territory remaining one of the main obstacles.

Earlier, the Ukrainian President previously indicated that Ukraine is ready to forgo its NATO membership ambitions in exchange for security assurances from the West.

Meanwhile, overnight, Russia launched 153 drones at Ukraine, with Ukrainian officials reporting that 17 reached their targets, while Russia's Defence Ministry claimed its forces destroyed 130 Ukrainian drones. — **ANI**

NEPAL

Campaign in full swing ahead of election to choose top leadership of CPN-UML

KATHMANDU: Election campaign is in full swing ahead of voting to elect the top leadership of CPN-UML led by former Nepali PM KP Sharma Oli in Kathmandu.

The voting which is scheduled after subsequent delays cited due to technical problems, supporters of the candidates standing for over 300 posts within the party are making last-minute campaigning.

During the campaign, supporters of candidates from both panels are chanting slogans and urging voters to cast their ballots.

"What does the Lipulekh Kalapani say? Bring KP Oli", "What does the Madhesh want, KP Oli" are the slogans that are echoing outside the general convention venue.

The party is conducting the election through electronic voting machines. According to the UML Central Election Commission, additional time was required to upload candidates' names and photographs into the electronic system, prompting the postponement of voting from the earlier scheduled time of 1 pm to 4 pm.

Oli is being challenged by his Senior-Vice Chairman, Ishwar Pokharel, for the top position within the party in the ongoing 11th



General Convention of the party in Kathmandu.

The contest for the new leadership has intensified as incumbent chairman KP Sharma Oli and senior vice-chairman Ishwar Pokharel are facing each other with separate panels. Due to delays in finalising the candidate list, technicians responsible for preparing the voting machines received the final list only at around 1 am (local time) on Tuesday.

According to the preliminary list published by the Election Commission, Oli and Pokharel are directly competing for the post of chairman with their respective panels. UML Election Commission Chair Dr Bijay Subba said 80

electronic voting machines will be used for the election.

He added that it is estimated to take a single voter around 25 to 30 minutes to cast their vote due to the large number of candidates. A total of 2,263 representatives are participating in the general convention.

As per the published list, incumbent chairman KP Sharma Oli and senior vice-chairman Ishwar Pokharel have filed their candidacies for the chairmanship. Candidates have also been registered from their respective panels as well as independently for other office-bearer positions and central committee membership. — **ANI**

US PUBLISHER

‘Slop’ chosen as Merriam-Webster’s 2025 Word of the Year

MASSACHUSETTS: US publisher Merriam-Webster has picked out the word “slop” as its 2025 Word of the Year amid an online proliferation of low-quality content generated by artificial intelligence.

While the potential of AI can dazzle and terrify, the growing use of the term slop reflects a recognition that — at least for now — the technology has its limitations.

What does slop mean?

Merriam-Webster says the original sense of the word, from the 1700s, was “soft mud.”

By the 1800s, the meaning shifted more to that of food waste, as in “pig slop,” and then more generally,

“rubbish” or “a product of little or no value.”

That sense is now widely applied to AI computer-generated content.

“We define slop as ‘digital content of low quality that is produced usually in quantity by means of artificial intelligence,’” said Merriam Webster, the leading US producer of language reference works.

Among the examples of AI slop given by the publisher were:

- “absurd” videos
- “off-kilter” advertising images
- “cheesy” propaganda
- “junky” AI-written books
- fake news “that looks pretty real”
- lots of talking cats

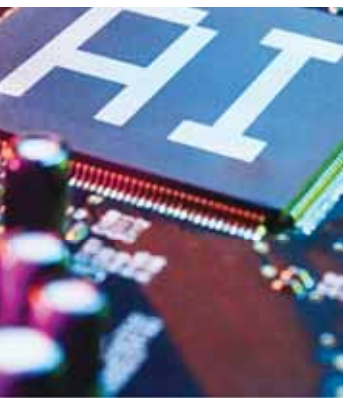
“People found it annoying, and people ate it up,” Merriam Webster said.

Why did Merriam-Webster choose ‘slop’ as its Word of the Year?

The publisher highlighted the word as a celebration of the fact that, at present, the power of AI is not unlimited.

“In 2025, amid all the talk about AI threats, slop set a tone that’s less fearful, more mocking. The word sends a little message to AI: when it comes to replacing human creativity, sometimes you don’t seem too superintelligent,” it said.

“All that stuff dumped on our screens, captured in just four let-



ters: the English language came through again.”

Merriam-Webster’s president, Greg Barlow, told the AP news agen-

cy that slop was chosen because it’s “such an illustrative word.”

“It’s part of a transformative technology, AI, and it’s something that people have found fascinating, annoying and a little bit ridiculous,” he said.

What other words were chosen?

Other lexicographical high-flyers of 2025 reflected the year’s political and cultural scene. They were:

- Gerrymander** — Manipulate voting district boundaries to give one political party an unfair electoral advantage
- Touch grass** — Slang urging someone to disengage from excessive online life and reconnect with real-

world activities

- Performative** — Actions done mainly for show or image-boosting, especially common in social media politics, activism, and culture
- Tariff** — A government-imposed tax or duty on imported (and sometimes exported) goods
- Six seven** — Gen Alpha slang with no real meaning, popularized by a viral song and memes, used as a playful chant or interjection
- Conclave** — A secret, closed-door meeting of Catholic cardinals to elect a new pope
- Lake Charygoggagoggmanchaug-gagoggchaubunagungamaugg** — A famously long Massachusetts lake name that surged in searches due to an online spelling game — **DW**

HELLENIC COAST GUARD

Migrant boat sinks off Greek island, 28 rescued

ATHENS: A total of 28 people were rescued, while three others remained missing, after a boat carrying irregular migrants from Türkiye sank off the Greek island of Samos on Tuesday, Greek authorities said. A search-and-rescue operation was underway to locate the missing ones, the Hellenic Coast Guard said, adding that winds of up to force 5 on the Beaufort scale were affecting the area.

According to the Coast Guard, the migrants were found near the coastline after their boat crashed into rocks. They were taken to a local hospital for first aid, while an injured baby in serious condition was airlifted to Athens, local media outlet Samos Today reported. The nationalities of the migrants have not yet been confirmed.

Greece has been a key entry point for irregular migrants and refugees into the European Union since 2015. Over the past decade, more than one million arrivals have been recorded, while hundreds of people have lost their lives during dangerous sea crossings.

Data released recently by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) showed that irregular migration flows through the Eastern Mediterranean declined by 30 percent in the first 11 months of 2025 compared with the same period in 2024. — **Xinhua**

US lawmakers press Hegseth to release boat strike video

The incident has drawn growing outrage from legal experts and members of Congress, who said the killing of unarmed civilians breaches laws of war



The fallout unfolds against the backdrop of US President Donald Trump’s vow to take military action, if necessary, against all nations that distribute illegal drugs to the United States, a policy accompanied by a significant US military buildup near Venezuela.

On Friday, congressional Democrats sent a letter to the Pentagon, asking for the full video to be released to lawmakers before the end of December.

“We also urge you to expedite the public release of the video, taking into account appropriate precautions to protect sources and methods, so that the American people can judge for themselves the legality and necessity of their government engaging in such activities that potentially put

our men and women in uniform at risk,” it read.

The letter came on the heels of numerous Republicans’ calls for the video release.

Earlier this month, GOP Senator Thom Tillis demanded the video’s release. Senator Tom Cotton, the top Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee, said he would not oppose the release, but added that there was nothing “remarkable” in the footage.

This followed Republican Senator Rand Paul’s public demand for Hegseth to testify before Congress regarding the orders given for the attack. Paul also urged the video to be released.

Meanwhile, a coalition of advocacy groups, including the Center for Constitutional Rights and the

American Civil Liberties Union, has become involved.

The groups have sued for the immediate release of the Justice Department’s memo that gives the legal green light for the deadly strikes. They contended the public has the right to know what legal argument was used to justify the attacks.

Hegseth has told lawmakers that the video footage is under review to assess potential national security implications before any release.

US forces have launched over 20 attacks on alleged drug-transporting vessels in the Caribbean Sea since September, resulting in the deaths of more than 80 individuals, according to reports.

Some legal experts said the killing of survivors could be a violation of the Geneva Conventions, which set the rules for international armed conflict and forbid the targeting of wounded participants. Some deemed that killing survivors could even be interpreted as war crimes.

Critics labelled the US strikes as extrajudicial, arguing that the use of military force was not needed and that non-lethal options were available to prevent drugs from being transported to the United States.

The Trump administration claimed that the alleged transpor-

tation of drugs via these vessels to the United States justified military force.

The administration maintained that its actions complied with the international rules and norms of armed engagement. Within this framework, the boats and their cargo were considered targets, and those on board were considered combatants subject to deadly force. Clay Ramsay, a researcher at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, told Xinhua there are two different contexts in which the case is viewed.

The first way is to accept the Trump administration’s view that the United States is at war with a non-state actor.

However, if the United States were involved in a war, it would be against the laws of war to kill those manning a sunken ship or other craft while they are floating in the water, Ramsay said.

The second way to look at it is to regard this as dealing with criminals. “If we take that view, then these were extrajudicial killings,” Ramsay said.

Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Michael O’Hanlon told Xinhua: “In my judgment, but it is judgment ... Neither the strikes nor the second strike seems legal, or ethical, or smart, to me.” — **Xinhua**

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 Tender Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) Including VAT (5%)
DISC/2025/181	Consultancy Services For Design and Construction Supervision (Optional) of wastewater system for Extension of North Awqad, Al Murooj , North Side Rural Areas and Airport City connection Point	30- Dec-2025	13- Jan-2026	525.000
DISC/2025/182	DESIGN, BUILD AND OPERATE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT OF 300 (2 x 150) CU.M. PER DAY CAPACITY AT SDAH WILAYAT	30- Dec-2025	13- Jan-2026	262.500
DISC/2025/183	Supervising & executing shutdown and energizing activities for distribution network extension and improvement projects	30- Dec-2025	13- Jan-2026	262.500
DISC/2025/184	11kV Outgoing Feeders from Fushi and Hasik PSS	30- Dec-2025	13- Jan-2026	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 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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شركة ريسوت للأسمنت ش.م.ع.ع
Raysut Cement Company S.A.O.C
P.O. Box: 1020 | PC 211| Salalah, Saltanat of Oman

TENDERS

The Raysut Cement Company invites specialized companies to participate in the tender:

Sr. No	Tender Ref:	Descriptions	Tender Fee	Deadline for Request for Tender.	Deadline for Submission of offers.
01	RCC/PRO/2025-013	Outsourced Manpower	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.
02	RCC/PRO/2025-014	Cement transportation local – In Oman	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.
03	RCC/PRO/2025-015	Supplying Gypsum	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.
04	RCC/PRO/2025-016	Supplying Moderate limestone	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.
05	RCC/PRO/2025-017	Extraction Iron Ore from RCC – IBRA – Quarry.	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.
06	1000010719	GGBFS (Ground. Granulated Blast-Furnace Slag)	Free	21 st December 2025, 2359, Hrs.	28 th December 2025, 2359, Hrs.

Tender documents can be obtained by sending a request to tenderdocs@raysutcement.com & purchasing@raysutcement.com.om with the subject showing "Tender No." and "Tender Description." enabling the company to provide the tender documents through email to your company. Contact details: Office number: +968 23221509.

The last date for submission of offers is on **Sunday 28 December 2025, 2359 Hrs.** detailed date on the above table mentioned against each subject. Please submit your offer with the company letterhead only (English/Arabic or both languages).

Mode of submission: - **Sealed envelope through Postal/Courier/ by Hand.**

Please address to: -
Group Head of Supply Chain
Procurement Department.
Raysut Cement Company- Salalah
Raysut Industrial Area, Post Box: 1020, Postal Code: 211, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman.
Phone: +968 23221505

SPORTS

Cameron Green becomes most expensive overseas IPL player

The Australian all-rounder averages 33.35 with the bat and 34.42 with the ball in 63 T20s

ABUDHABI: Australia all-rounder Cameron Green became the most expensive overseas signing in Indian Premier League (IPL) history when he was bought for INR25.2 crore (£2.1m) by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) during the 2026 auction at the Etihad Centre in Abu Dhabi, UAE, on Tuesday. The successful bid surpassed the INR24.75 cr (£2.3m based on exchange rates at the time) that KKR paid for Australia pace bowler Mitchell Starc at the 2024 auction. Green also became the third most expensive player in IPL history. India wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant set the record at the 2025 auction, joining Lucknow Super Giants for INR27 cr (£2.54m), after India batter Shreyas Iyer was signed by Punjab Kings for INR26.75 cr (£2.51m) earlier that day. Green, 26, has played for Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the IPL, scoring 707 runs at a strike-rate above 150 and taking 16 wickets in 29 games. Green, however, will get only INR18 cr due to a maximum salary



cap imposed by the IPL on overseas players at mini-auctions. The bid amount in excess of INR18 cr (INR7.2 cr) will go to the BCCI for player welfare. Although he was sold in the capped batters category, Green said he will be available as an all-rounder and attributed the listing to a “stuff-up” by his management. Green has struggled with back injuries throughout his career and missed the 2025 IPL following surgery. He returned to action as a specialist batter in June but is being used an all-rounder by Australia in the ongoing Ashes series against England. The limelight on auction day,

however, was stolen by the uncapped Indian players, with 20-year-old left-arm spin all-rounder Prashant Veer and 19-year-old wicketkeeper Kartik Sharma going to Chennai Super Kings (CSK) for a staggering INR14.2 cr each. Both of them broke Avesh Khan's record in 2022 of INR10 cr for the most expensive uncapped Indian player bought at an IPL auction. Jammu and Kashmir fast bowler Auqib Nabi also had a big payday, with Delhi Capitals buying him for INR8.4 cr. Later KKR also bought the second-most expensive player at the IPL 2026 auction - Sri Lankan fast bowler Matheesha Pathirana for INR18 cr.

The mini-auction saw 369 players go up for sale, with the 10 franchises filling 77 slots between them.

Players bought at auction
KKR: Cameron Green, Finn Allen, Matheesha Pathirana, Tejasvi Dahiya, Kartik Tyagi, Prashant Solanki, Rahul Tripathi, Tim Seifert, Mustafizur Rahman, Sarthak Ranjan, Daksh Kamra, Rachin Ravindra, Akash Deep.
LSG: Wanindu Hasaranga, Anrich Nortje, Mukul Choudhary, Naman Tiwari, Akshat Raghuvanshi, Josh Inglis.
DC: David Miller, Ben Duckett, Auqib Nabi, Pathum Nissanka, Lungi Ngidi, Prithvi Shaw.
RCB: Venkatesh Iyer, Jacob Duffy, Satwik Deswal, Mangesh Yadav, Jordan Cox, Vicky Ostwal, Luke Wood, Vihaan Malhotra, Kanishk Chouhan.
MI: Quinton de Kock, Danish Malewar, Mohammed Izharr, Atharva Ankolekar, Mayank Rawat.
RR: Ravi Bishnoi, Sushant Mishra, Yash Raj Punja, Vignesh Puthur, Ravi Singh, Aman Rao, Brijesh Sharma, Adam Milne, Kuldeep Sen
CSK: Akeal Hosein, Kartik Sharma, Prashant Veer, Matthew Short, Aman Khan, Sarfaraz Khan, Matt Henry, Rahul Chahar, Zak Foulkes
GT: Ashok Sharma, Jason Holder, Tom Banton, Prithvi Raj.
SRH: Shivang Kumar, Salil Arora, Sakib Hussain, Omkar Tarmale, Amit Kumar, Praful Hinge, Krains Fuletra, Liam Livingstone, Shivam Mavi, Jack Edwards.
PBKS: Cooper Connolly, Ben Dwarshuis, Praveen Dube, Vishal Nishad. - Agencies

ASHES SERIES

Khawaja left out for Stokes' most 'important game'

ADELAIDE: Australia have opted against recalling batter Usman Khawaja for the vital third Ashes Test – a match Ben Stokes has called the ‘most important game’ in his time as England captain. The match begins on Wednesday. England, 2-0 down after defeats in the first two Tests, must win in Adelaide to keep their hopes of regaining the urn alive. Defeat would mean a fourth successive series loss in Australia, extend England's run without winning the Ashes to at least 12 years and heap significant pressure on the tourists' management. The positions of Stokes, head coach Brendon McCullum and managing director Rob Key would all come under significant scrutiny. “Throughout my career I've been involved in quite a few big moments. This is another one and I'm really, really looking forward to it,” Stokes told BBC Sport. “I've enjoyed the build-up, I've enjoyed the pressure of what this game means. As its come closer and closer, it's become a lot easier. That's how I deal with big things and big moments – look at it front on, take it on and deal with all the emotions that come with it. “What else are you supposed to do? Don't let the moment overcome me or feel like it's going to control me. I'll go out, put all that



stuff to one side and do what I need to do in every situation I get put in, and try my absolute best.” Pat Cummins will return to lead Australia after missing the first two Tests as he recovered from a back problem. Pace bowler Cummins and off-spinner Nathan Lyon are added to the Australia team that won the second Test in Brisbane, replacing Michael Neser and Brendan Doggett. It means no return for opener Khawaja, who missed the Test at the Gabba because of back spasms. Khawaja turns 39 on Thursday and may have played the last match of an 85-Test career. Travis Head and Jake Weatherald will continue as the opening partnership

Australia were 2-0 ahead in the last Ashes in the UK in 2023, only for England to fight back to draw 2-2. Cummins said his team have learned a “few lessons” from that experience and was also adamant he is fit enough to bowl without restrictions in Adelaide. The 32-year-old has not played since the tour of West Indies in July after scans detected the back issue. Match fitness could be crucial in the high temperatures that are forecast for when the match starts on Wednesday. “I had 16 weeks completely off bowling, made sure the bone heals well and from there it's ramping up,” said Cummins. “Normally you ramp up over maybe three or four months, but that would have meant missing the Ashes. I'm feeling great, probably better than I would have thought. The back has healed well, so, here we are.” **Australia XI for third Ashes Test:** Travis Head, Jake Weatherald, Marnus Labuschagne, Steven Smith, Cameron Green, Alex Carey, Josh Inglis, Pat Cummins (captain), Mitchell Starc, Nathan Lyon, Scott Boland. **England XI:** Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (captain), Jamie Smith, Will Jacks, Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer, Josh Tongue.

HEAD COACH

Azhar Mahmood ends coaching stint with Pakistan Test squad

LAHORE: Azhar Mahmood's stint as the head coach of Pakistan's Test side has come to an end. Azhar was appointed as the acting head coach in June this year, with his contract due to run until March 2026. But with no Tests in the calendar until an away series in Bangladesh in March-April next year, a mutual decision has been taken to end the stint now. It brings to an end a longer association for the former all-rounder with the Pakistan side. He was originally appointed as an all-formats assistant coach in April 2024, to support Gary Kirsten with the white-ball sides and Jason Gillespie with the red-ball team. He had also overseen a white-ball series earlier that month in an interim capacity. In his acting role, Azhar only oversaw one Test series, a creditable 1-1 draw at home with world Test champions South Africa. “I was appointed by the PCB for a specific tenure, during which I carried out my responsibilities with professionalism and dedication,” Azhar told ESPNcricinfo on Tuesday. “My contract has now come to an end, and I extend my best wishes to the team for their continued success in their future endeavours.” This was Azhar's second stint



with the Pakistan team, having served as a bowling coach during Mickey Arthur's coaching tenure, between 2016 and 2019. He is currently fast-bowling coach at the table-topping Desert Vipers in the ILT20 and a return to the league circuit in coaching capacities is likely. He's been head coach at Islamabad United in the PSL and was assistant coach at Surrey before joining the Pakistan side.

His departure means the churn in Pakistan's management of the national side continues. Though there is no urgency, they will start the search for an eighth head coach since 2021 for their Test side. That includes a period in which the structure of the coaching set-up also changed (when Mohammad Hafeez was team director, or when Grant Bradburn was coach but Arthur the team director). - Agencies

TO FACE MOROCCO IN FINAL

Jordan edge Saudi Arabia to book spot in FIFA Arab Cup final

DOHA: Nizar Al Rashdan's brilliant header proved the difference as Jordan dispatched ten-man Saudi Arabia 1-0 at the Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar, on Monday to set up a FIFA Arab Cup battle royale with Morocco on December 18, Thursday. Jordan were without star forward Yazan Al Naimat, who suffered a serious knee injury in the quarter-final victory over Iraq. But the FIFA World Cup participants showed just why they are the highest-scoring nation at the tournament as they ground out a deserved victory against the Green Falcons. After an opening half of few chances for either team, the game opened up when Al Rashdan met an inswinging cross from Mahmoud Al Mardi with a power-



ful leaping header to give Jordan the lead. It was Jordan who had the first look on goal in the 12th minute through Ahmad Hamdouni, with Saudi Arabia threatening six minutes later after Nawaf Bu Washl

pulled his volleyed attempt wide. Saudi Arabia looked more threatening as the match progressed and their sustained pressure almost earned them the advantage in the 38th minute after Abdullah Al Khaibari's volleyed



attempt caught the arm of Jordan's Mohannad Abutaha inside the box but there was no penalty awarded after a VAR review. Jordan came alive in the second half with Al Rashdan forcing a fine save from Nawaf Al Aqidi a minute

after the restart, with the Saudi Arabia keeper then staying alert to produce a punching save to deflect Hadi Alhourani's in-swinging corner. The deadlock was finally broken after Saudi Arabia were caught napping in the 66th minute when

Mahmoud Mardi delivered a perfect cross for Al Rashan, who rose highest to power home his header past Al Aqidi. Saudi Arabia came fighting back with Musab Al Juwayr setting up Feras Al Brikan nicely inside the box, only to see the Al Ahli Saudi FC forward's shot saved by Jordan keeper Yazeed Abu Leila. Saleem Al Dawasari, who had a relatively quiet outing, skied his long-range effort in the 78th minute with Saleh Al Shehri failing to connect to Al Juwayr's long pass into the six-yard-box moments later. Saudi Arabia's hopes were dashed in stoppage time when Waleed Al Ahmad received the red card for impeding Al Olwan as Jordan took their spot in the final. Saudi Arabia will face the United Arab Emirates in the third-place.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by February 2026 reaching \$60.03, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 1.30 \$ from the price of Monday, which was \$61.33. - **ONA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 5,928.25 points, down by -0.96% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by -0.83% at 524.13 points. Majan Glass, up 18.18%, was the top gainer while, Jazeera Steel Products, down 3.40%, was the top loser.

CBO rolls out Partial Payment Cheque Clearing System

The new framework, which will apply to all types of cheques regardless of the value, aims to enhance financial discipline by improving cash flows for individuals and businesses and to minimise legal disputes related to returned cheques



MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) has rolled out the Partial Payment Cheque Clearing System effective from 15 December 2025, in line with the new regulatory instructions on Partial Payment of Cheque. These instructions allow ben-

eficiaries of cheques to receive the available funds from a customer's bank account in cases where the account balance is less than the cheque amount. The new framework, which will apply to all types of cheques regardless of the value, aims to en-

hance financial discipline by improving cash flows for individuals and businesses and to minimise legal disputes related to returned cheques. The cheques eligible for Partial Payment of Cheque are Crossed cheques or Account payee

cheques, Cash, Bearer or Order Cheques drawn on a licensed bank in the Sultanate of Oman. Although, it is mandatory for the beneficiaries of the cheque to accept partial payment, the customer has full right to re-present the cheque to the bank to receive the

outstanding amount of the partially paid cheque, subject to the terms and conditions prescribed by the Central Bank of Oman. In all cases the beneficiary retains their full legal right of recourse to the drawer for the outstanding amount in the cheque, in accordance with the provisions contained in Article (566) of the Commercial Law and the relevant provision in the Penal Code. The Central Bank of Oman has enhanced the Electronic Cheque Clearing System with features to support the functionality of Partial Payment of Cheques, for the inter-bank clearing process among licensed banks in the Sultanate of Oman. The Central Bank of Oman emphasised that the introduction of Partial Payment of Cheques represents an important regulatory step aimed to enhance the efficiency of banking transactions, contributing to the stability of the overall financial system. - **ONA**

BRIEFS

Oil prices decline again in early trading



SINGAPORE: Oil prices fell in early trading yesterday, extending losses from the previous session. Brent crude futures slipped 24 cents, or 0.40%, to \$60.32 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures fell 22 cents, or 0.39%, to \$56.60 a barrel. Crude futures have declined by more than 4% in recent days, amid growing expectations of a global oil surplus in 2026. Meanwhile, economic data released on Monday showed that China's industrial production growth slowed to its weakest pace in 15 months, while retail sales recorded their slowest growth since December 2022. The data raised concerns over the sustainability of China's export-led strategy to offset weak domestic demand, as a slowing economy could further weigh on oil demand from the world's largest crude importer.

Gold gains as markets price in further rate cuts



SINGAPORE: Gold prices edged higher yesterday, supported by expectations that the United States may cut interest rates next month. Spot gold rose about 0.1% to \$4,304.92 per ounce, while US gold futures climbed to \$4,333.20 per ounce. Gold has gained more than 64% so far this year, hitting multiple record highs and emerging as one of the best-performing assets in 2025. Among other precious metals, spot silver slipped 0.5% to \$63.60 per ounce, while spot platinum rose 0.8% to \$1,797 per ounce. Palladium fell 0.3% to \$1,561.94 per ounce. The US Federal Reserve cut interest rates by 25 basis points last week in a split decision, but signaled a possible pause in further easing amid persistent inflation and uncertainty surrounding the labor market. Investors are now pricing in the possibility of another rate cut at the Fed's next policy meeting.

Dollar nears two-month low in early trading

SINGAPORE: The US dollar yesterday fell in early Asian trading, hovering near its lowest level in nearly two months. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of major currencies, slipped 0.2% to 98.261, close to its weakest level since 17 October 2025. The dollar also eased 0.1% against the Japanese yen to 155.07, as markets awaited the Bank of Japan's interest rate decision next Friday. Meanwhile, the euro traded at \$1.17535, while the British pound was steady at \$1.3376. - **ONA**

TAMKEEN INITIATIVE

OCCI launches initiative for enabling SMEs to contest government tenders

MUSCAT: Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) yesterday launched an initiative codenamed "Tamkeen" (empowerment) to enable small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to opt for government tenders. The initiative was launched at the OCCI premises in Muscat Governorate, in cooperation with "Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit" and the "Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority".

As part of the initiative, two training programmes will be implemented in the governorates of the Sultanate of Oman during 2025 and 2026. The programmes are designed to raise the standards of SMEs so that they could benefit from 10 percent allocated to them in government purchases and tenders. The move will enhance the contribution of SMEs to national projects and enable them to support economic growth and expansion.

Faisal Abdullah Al Rawas, Chairman of OCCI Board of Directors, said that the new initiative constitutes a milestone in the Chamber's ongoing efforts to empower the private sector and boost its readiness to actively engage in the business environment that, he observed, is undergoing rapid development. Al Rawas added that the active engagement in the government procurement system has become a fundamental pillar for the growth of SMEs and the sustainability of their businesses.

Eng. Badr Salim Al Maamari, Chairman of "Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority", described Tamkeen as a "model of institutional integration between government and private establish-



Unit to support the private sector and enhance its role in developing the national economy.

The first training programme of Tamkeen initiative kicked off at the OCCI premises in Muscat Governorate today. The programme included working papers on steps to apply for government purchases and tenders, and on how to register companies on the government portal "Esnad platform".

The training programme will be implemented in the governorates as follows: It will be implemented in South Al Batinah Governorate on 17 December 2025; in AdDakhiliyah Governorate on 18 December 2025; in Al Wusta Governorate on 21 December 2025; in AdDahirah Governorate on 24 December 2025; in Al Buraimi Governorate on 25 December 2025; in North A'Sharqiyah Governorate on 28 December 2025; in Musandam Governorate on 1 January 2026; in Dhofar Governorate on 4 January 2026; in South A'Sharqiyah Governorate on 7 January 2026 and in North Al Batinah Governorate on 8 January 2025. - **ONA**

ment". Al Maamari pointed out that the initiative would bolster the readiness of SMEs and enable them to efficiently compete within the government projects and procurement system.

In further comments, Zakaria Abdullah Al Saadi, CEO of the OCCI, said that Tamkeen initiative was one of the key outcomes of a "Strategic Approaches Workshop" organized earlier by the OCCI. The workshop, he ex-

plained, focused on three basic themes: "Improving the business environment", "Expanding the base of economic diversification" and "Consolidating partnership in the economic development of Omani governorates".

In February 2025, the OCCI launched 14 initiatives to achieve its strategic approaches, within the context of the Chamber's co-operation with the Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up

AMID FOREIGN OUTFLOWS

Indian Rupee breaches 91-mark against USD

NEW DELHI: The Indian rupee touched a historic low on Tuesday, breaching the 91-mark against the US dollar for the first time. The sharp fall highlights growing pressure on the domestic currency amid continued foreign fund outflows and weak capital inflows.

Market experts said the rupee has entered an unfamiliar zone, making it difficult to predict how much further it could weaken in the near term. The fall comes at a time when global uncertainty remains high and year-end trading volumes are low, which is adding to market volatility.

K N Dey, a currency expert, told ANI, "Rupee has moved in an uncharted area very difficult to say how far will it go. With Year end approaching markets will be thin but the volatility could be high as

we saw today. Even if there is a revision of US tariff I feel it may not bring any major relief to the Rupee. We will have to wait till the mid of January for new inflows to come in".

He further said that fresh inflows may only come after the middle of January, which means pressure on the rupee could continue for some time.

Kishore Narne, Director and Head of Commodity at Motilal Oswal Financial Services, told ANI that a weaker currency comes with clear trade-offs.

He said, "A weaker rupee has clear trade-offs: it raises imported inflation, especially through energy and commodities widens the current account deficit (CAD), and increases the cost of servicing dollar debt. At the same time,

it provides some relief to exporters, helping them absorb tariff and global demand pressures".

Ajay Bagga, Banking and Market Expert, told ANI that continued net outflows by foreign portfolio investors, low foreign direct investment flows, and the lack of progress on the US trade deal are the main reasons behind the rupee's fall.

He stated, "Continued FPI net outflows, low FDI flows, and the impact of the lack of progress on the US trade deal are the main contributors to the fall in the Rupee. The RBI has been largely on the sidelines even as the Rupee has fallen the weaker US dollar. In contrast, currencies like the Thai Baht are up 8 per cent this year, despite all the political turmoil and economic weakness in Thailand. India, despite the strong domestic

consumption, strong macro and large FX reserves, has seen the worst performing currency in Asia in CY2025".

In contrast, he said India, despite strong domestic consumption, stable macroeconomic conditions and large foreign exchange reserves, has seen the worst-performing currency in Asia in calendar year 2025.

Overall, experts believe that the combination of foreign outflows, weak inflows, uncertainty around the US trade deal and limited central bank intervention has pushed the rupee to a record low.

While exporters may see some benefit, the sharp fall in the currency has raised concerns about inflation, external balances and market stability in the near term. - **ANI**

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Majan Glass, up 18.18%, was the top gainer while, Jazeera Steel Products, down 3.40%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,928.25 points, down by -0.96% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by -0.83% at 524.13 points. Majan Glass, up 18.18%, was the top gainer while, Jazeera Steel Products, down 3.40%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 3606 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 38.21 million, with more than 152.13 million shares changing hands. Out of 79 traded securities, 15 advanced, 36 declined, and 28 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net buyers for RO 417K while domestic investors were net sellers for RO 250K, followed by foreign investors for RO 167K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 9,701.61 points, down -0.92%. Prices of National Finance, Oman Qatar Insurance, Liva

Group were up by 2.00%, 1.03%, 0.70% respectively. Prices of Bank Nizwa, Bank Dhofar, Sohar International Bank, Oman Unit-ed Insurance, DIDIC were down by 2.68%, 2.00%, 1.81%, 1.56%, 1.51% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 7,770.38 points, down -0.61%. Prices of Majan Glass, Raysut Cement, Gulf International Chemicals, Oman Cement, Oman Flour Mills were up by 18.18%, 5.26%, 1.43%, 1.02%, 0.42% respectively. Prices of Jazeera Steel Products, A'Saffa Foods, Gulf Mushroom Products, Al Maha Ceramics, Al Anwar Ceramics were down by 3.40%, 2.00%, 1.27%, 0.71%, 0.54% respectively.

Services Index was down by -0.63% before closing at 2,446.39 points. Prices of Oman National Engineering, Sharqiyah Desalination, Dhofar Generating, SMN Power Holding, Phoenix Power were up by 1.41%, 1.34%, 1.14%, 0.88%, 0.65% respectively. Prices of Majan College, Oman Oil Marketing, National Gas, Al Suwadi Power, Abraj Energy were down by 2.99%, 2.83%, 2.11%, 1.80%, 1.73% respectively.—United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	5,985.66	5,921.05	5,928.25	5,985.66	-57.42	-0.96
FINANCIAL INDEX	9,791.62	9,689.99	9,701.61	9,791.62	-90.01	-0.92
Industry Index	7,828.15	7,751.09	7,770.38	7,818.03	-47.65	-0.61
Services Index	2,462.00	2,434.44	2,446.39	2,462.00	-15.61	-0.63
MSX Shariah Index	528.53	522.18	524.13	528.53	-4.40	-0.83
MSX TR INDEX	8,996.78	8,899.67	8,910.49	8,996.78	-86.30	-0.96
FINANCIAL TR IDX	11,632.79	11,512.04	11,625.85	11,632.79	-106.94	-0.92
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	9,651.43	9,556.42	9,580.20	9,638.95	-58.75	-0.61
SERVICES TR IDX	3,210.63	3,174.69	3,190.28	3,210.63	-20.35	-0.63
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,206.62	1,206.62	1,206.62	1,206.62	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
152,130,156	38,213,493	3,606	32,126,062,764	15	36	28	79

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

SEC. NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF. RD.	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAV. VALUE	MARKET CAP
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REGULAR MARKET

OMI0000004925	ALBATTINAH POWER	126,657	20,733	17	0.163	0.164	0.162	0.164	0.163	0.001	0.613	0.164	0.164	0.100	110,681,529
OMI0000003988	COBREDCO	4,161,951	1,222,675	109	0.292	0.296	0.287	0.296	0.295	0.001	0.339	0.296	0.296	0.100	192,679,492
OMI0000004482	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	93,156	21,555	11	0.370	0.376	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.000	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.100	801,603,151
OMI0000001533	OMINVEST	30,000	9,960	6	0.332	0.332	0.332	0.332	0.000	0.000	0.332	0.332	0.333	0.100	310,556,250
OMI0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	107	1,960	1	2.511	2.511	2.511	2.511	0.000	0.000	2.511	2.511	2.560	0.100	225,586,700
OMI0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	8,200	1,558	4	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.187	0.190	0.100	8,140,108
OMI0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	905,500	83,294	34	0.070	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.066	0.073	0.100	24,528,011
OMI0000002440	AL SHARQIYA INVESTMENT HO	18,000	1,746	3	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.095	0.098	0.100	8,730,000
OMI0000003125	GULFAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	17,725	2,754	11	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.000	0.000	0.206	0.206	0.208	0.100	41,900,000
OMI0000003254	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	51,790	169,688	28	0.322	0.332	0.330	0.332	0.000	0.000	0.332	0.330	0.333	0.100	78,484,120
OMI0000004788	MAJAN GLASS	97,428	14,954	31	0.096	0.096	0.095	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.095	0.096	0.100	17,428,000
OMI0000003651	VOITAMP ENERGY	37,528	35,553	37	1.061	1.060	1.060	1.061	-0.001	-0.004	1.060	1.060	1.079	0.100	49,229,552
OMI0000003236	OMAN TELECOM	3,652,015	2,298,102	64	0.078	0.078	0.075	0.078	-0.003	-0.278	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	896,250,000
OMI0000002188	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	409,344	75,747	21	0.184	0.188	0.184	0.185	0.001	0.538	0.185	0.185	0.182	0.100	40,700,000
OMI0000002798	OMAN MUSEUM	89,759,000	12,438,454	432	0.341	0.341	0.337	0.337	0.004	1.462	0.337	0.337	0.337	0.100	2,539,554,810
OMI0000000072	OGAS NETWORKS	5,026,437	973,830	387	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	0.000	0.195	0.193	0.195	0.100	835,810,417
OMI00000011067	OMAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE	29,298	9,520	6	0.052	0.050	0.049	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.049	0.050	0.100	1,490,000
OMI0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,279,479	778,521	308	0.345	0.345	0.340	0.340	0.006	1.754	0.340	0.339	0.340	0.100	261,980,000
OMI0000004853	AL SUWADI POWER	63,890	10,477	18	0.164	0.165	0.163	0.164	0.001	0.736	0.164	0.164	0.165	0.100	11,490,000
OMI0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	39,979,325	6,529,524	402	0.165	0.165	0.162	0.163	0.003	1.807	0.163	0.163	0.163	0.100	1,076,611,142
OMI0000002804	SAFFA FOODS	1,500	785	2	0.489	0.489	0.488	0.489	-0.001	-0.006	0.488	0.488	0.515	0.100	23,800,000
OMI0000004420	BANK NIZWA	1,638,476	179,083	62	0.113	0.113	0.108	0.109	0.012	0.003	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.100	243,827,880
OMI0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	41,739	25,998	11	0.625	0.628	0.611	0.625	0.047	-0.022	0.625	0.620	0.649	0.100	78,661,225
Total	29	94,944,102	24,862,756	2,048											

Parallel Market

00000000002848	NATIONAL FINANCE	12,000	1,832	4	0.153	0.153	0.152	0.153	0.150	0.003	2.000	0.153	0.150	0.152	0.100	93,043,360
00000000002229	OMAN INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	26,132	4,482	6	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.001	1.429	0.071	0.071	0.073	0.100	1,490,000
000000000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV	34,405	4,358	6	0.143	0.143	0.144	0.144	0.143	0.002	1.408	0.144	0.139	0.148	0.100	21,620,000
00000000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	15,700	2,859	6	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.002	1.432	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.100	14,788,126
00000000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	27,100	24,130	17	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.100	19,730,360
00000000001749	OMAN NATURAL INSURANCE	9,000	9,000	5	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.194	0.002	1.041	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.100	17,165,440
00000000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	34,110	12,418	12	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.421	0.005	1.020	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.100	163,751,291
00000000003652	PHOENIX POWER	14,600	12,418	12	0.226	0.226	0.228	0.228	0.227	0.002	0.881	0.228	0.228	0.224	0.100	14,788,126
00000000005983	PHOENIX POWER	14,600	22,246	43	0.185	0.185	0.183	0.186	0.185	0.001	0.845	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.100	24,121,210
00000000001400	OMAN OIL MILLS	10,520	5,218	4	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.483	0.002	0.417	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.100	72,710,174
00000000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	33,400	2,511	2	0.082	0.082	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	12,900	506	3	0.040	0.040	0.039	0.040	0.040	0.000	0.040	0.039	0.042	0.100	3,400,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000003281	TAJEREE FINANCIAL & TRAINING INV.	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.087	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000004778	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000007310	AMAN REAL ESTATE	2,000	632	2	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.079	0.078	0.079	0.100	13,800,000	
00000000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	15,700	2,839	6	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.000	1.432	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.100	14,788,126
00000000008710	BARAKA DESALINATION	3,500	532	3	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.150	0.002	0.845	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.100	11,479,344
00000000001888	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000004735	SEMCOOR SALALAH	585,453	119,040	53	0.204	0.206	0.201	0.202	0.203	0.000	-0.483	0.202	0.201	0.219	0.100	192,823,524
00000000003338	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000008908	OGAS NETWORKS	5,026,437	973,830	387	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	1.754	0.195	0.193	0.195	0.100	835,810,417
00000000002200	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,279,479	778,521	308	0.345	0.345	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.006	1.754	0.340	0.339	0.340	0.100	261,980,000
00000000005605	ALANBAR	71,600	12,175	7	0.171	0.171	0.170	0.170	0.171	0.001	0.585	0.170	0.170	0.172	0.100	440,136,005
00000000001772	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000001772	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000001806	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000009759	OGAS NETWORKS	5,026,437	973,830	387	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	1.754	0.195	0.193	0.195	0.100	835,810,417
00000000002848	NATIONAL FINANCE	12,000	1,832	4	0.153	0.153	0.152	0.153	0.150	0.003	2.000	0.153	0.150	0.152	0.100	93,043,360
00000000002229	OMAN INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	26,132	4,482	6	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.001	1.429	0.071	0.071	0.073	0.100	1,490,000
000000000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV	34,405	4,358	6	0.143	0.143	0.144	0.144	0.143	0.002	1.408	0.144	0.139	0.148	0.100	21,620,000
00000000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	15,700	2,859	6	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.002	1.432	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.100	14,788,126
00000000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	27,100	24,130	17	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.100	19,730,360
00000000001749	OMAN NATURAL INSURANCE	9,000	9,000	5	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.194	0.002	1.041	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.100	17,165,440
00000000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	34,110	12,418	12	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.421	0.005	1.020	0.426	0.426	0.426	0.100	163,751,291
00000000003652	PHOENIX POWER	14,600	12,418	12	0.226	0.226	0.228	0.228	0.227	0.002	0.881	0.228	0.228	0.224	0.100	14,788,126
00000000005983	PHOENIX POWER	14,600	22,246	43	0.185	0.185	0.183	0.186	0.185	0.001	0.845	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.100	24,121,210
00000000001400	OMAN OIL MILLS	10,520	5,218	4	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.483	0.002	0.417	0.485	0.485	0.485	0.100	72,710,174
00000000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	33,400	2,511	2	0.082	0.082	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	12,900	506	3	0.040	0.040	0.039	0.040	0.040	0.000	0.040	0.039	0.042	0.100	3,400,000	
00000000001390	OMAN NATIONAL MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	3,541	2,511	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	15,525,000	
00000000003281	TAJEREE FINANCIAL & TRAINING INV.	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.087	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000004778	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000007310	AMAN REAL ESTATE	2,000	632	2	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.079	0.078	0.079	0.100	13,800,000	
00000000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	15,700	2,839	6	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.180	0.000	1.432	0.181	0.180	0.181	0.100	14,788,126
00000000008710	BARAKA DESALINATION	3,500	532	3	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.150	0.002	0.845	0.152	0.148	0.152	0.100	11,479,344
00000000001888	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000004735	SEMCOOR SALALAH	585,453	119,040	53	0.204	0.206	0.201	0.202	0.203	0.000	-0.483	0.202	0.201	0.219	0.100	192,823,524
00000000003338	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000008908	OGAS NETWORKS	5,026,437	973,830	387	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	1.754	0.195	0.193	0.195	0.100	835,810,417
00000000002200	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,279,479	778,521	308	0.345	0.345	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.006	1.754	0.340	0.339	0.340	0.100	261,980,000
00000000005605	ALANBAR	71,600	12,175	7	0.171	0.171	0.170	0.170	0.171	0.001	0.585	0.170	0.170	0.172	0.100	440,136,005
00000000001772	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000001772	OMAN OIL MILLS	11,000	1,430	20	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	11,000,000
00000000001806	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	7,274	97	6	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	1,490,000	
00000000009759	OGAS NETWORKS	5,026,437	973,830	387	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	1.754	0.195	0.193	0.195	0.100	835,810,417
00000000002848	NATIONAL FINANCE	12,000	1,832	4	0.153	0.153	0.152	0.153	0.150	0.003	2.000	0.153	0.150	0.152	0.100	93,043,360
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00000000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	27,100	24,130	17	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.100	19,730,360
00000000001749	OMAN NATURAL INSURANCE	9,000	9,000	5	0.196	0.196	0.196</									



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DOCUMENT CONTROLLER

Experienced document controller seeking immediate placement in Oman. QA/QC, project coordination, skilled in EDMS, sharepoint, Aconex, and administrative support.

Contact: +971 585841339
Email: bajifazil@gmail.com

MANAGER

Finance and Accounts Manager well experienced, MBA finance with 16years experience in Oman. Looking for senior position in Accounts and finance.

Contact No. 95920740

Email ID: alhameed1527@gmail.com

MEDICAL

Pharmacist with 16 yrs exp. in retail & hospital pharmacy in Muscat & India. Previously registered with MOH, Oman with work License, NOC with D/L, currently in Muscat

Contact: 77336141
Email: confession.mercy@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY

URGENTLY REQUIRED

- Urgently Required Omani with minimum 2 years experience in Media house.
- Knowledge of English both writing & speaking preferred.



Interested candidate please forward
Cv-ASamarani.OPS@ChoueiriGroup.com

JOB WANTED

GENERAL MANAGER

Dynamic professional with 16+ yrs of progressive experience in financial strategy, business consulting/management, operational excellence, and growth leadership across Trading, Construction, RMC production, and MNCs company. Open to strategic senior management opportunities.

Contact: 92022786 or 97403883

Email: gm.seekers.2025@gmail.com

MANAGER

Finance and accounts Manager well experienced, MBA finance with 16years experience in Oman. Looking for senior position in Accounts and finance.

Contact No. 95920740

Email ID: hameed1527@hotmail.com

FINANCE

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

Contact: 94792025 / vjinuraj@gmail.com

FINANCE

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

Contact: 92106856,
Email: lizmarytherese@gmail.com

FINANCE

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

Contact : 99279626

ENGINEER

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

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

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JOB VACANCY

SALES/MARKETING

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

Urgently required for a logistics company Business development executive (expatriate). The candidates with minimum 5 years of marketing experience in logistics familiar in imports/ exports. The candidates will be preferred having valid degree certificate in logistics field. Interested local candidates with NOC may send cv to jobsnow2015@yahoo.com

Required Two Filipino Sales Girls for marine/fishing equipment shops. Pls send CV Email: easternmarinesalalah@gmail.com. Contact 92471989

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Cost Accountant, B.Com with 15 yrs exp in Oman. Can join urgently, Contact: 7733 6141"

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

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

Indian Male, Sr. Accountant (M.com & MBA finance), having 10 years of Oman experience up to finalization. valid D/L Mob: 97524285, Bobybkj@gmail.com

Indian Male B.Com graduate with 2+ yrs experience as an accountant, Contact-9071 2090-Email-mohdnaif14@gmail.com

Indian male with 9 yrs (3yrs in Oman & 6yrs in India) experience in accounts, account receivables, payables, GL, tally prime, bank reconciliation seeks placement. Contact 94120095, Email shaikmunawar.ac@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

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

Accountant looking for job. Contact: 75024166

Highly skilled chief accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: 79888153

Indian Male, MBA, 17 years experienced in key accounts, project sales, business development looking for suitable opportunities. Contact: 92790532

MBA Finance Senior accountant, 13-yrs GCC experience looking for a job upto finalization. Contact: 98869499

Accounts cum supervisor with 8yrs experience & D/L looking job. Contact: 95273377

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

Accountant available immediate joiner, Indian male, B.Com, 10+ yrs exp (4 yrs Oman) Expert in Tally & Accounts Contact: 91417133

Indian Male MBA, Senior accountant, admin having 10 yrs experience. Contact: 95416322, Email: aabynarayan@gmail.com

MBA Finance & B com Computer with experience of 2yrs as an accountant in Muscat Oman, having Oman D/L. Presently in Oman. Contact: 93965857

ADMINISTRATION

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

ADMINISTRATION

Sri Lankan Management Executive, 13 yrs operations and business development experience in distribution, manufacturing, service industries. Contact: 9329 7579

Indian Male, Arabic Diploma with 8 yrs of experience in UAE as a Typist, Data Entry, PRO and Admin looking for job in above position. Contact : +96890411524. Email Jabirvadinoor@gmail.com

Indian Male, 29 yrs, MBA with NEBOSH certified with 2+ yrs experience in administration looking for safety or administration jobs. Contact: +968 74105832, Email : ashikthahir@gmail.com

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

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

ARCHITECT

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

DRIVER

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

EDUCATION/TRAINING

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

JOB WANTED

IT

Female Software Engineer full stack developer also expert in digital marketing with 7 yrs experience. Contact 74102443

Oman-based 2025 Computer Science Engineering graduate seeking job opportunities in IT support, administration, or document control roles. Fresher, currently in Muscat, and available to join immediately. Contact: +968 94988567

MCA graduate seeking a suitable job opportunity in Oman. Available in Muscat. Contact: 91488059

ENGINEER

Indian Male, 15+ yrs Sales exp. (IT/ Software). Open to Sales/BD roles in any industry. Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 94110178

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

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

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

Project Manager Civil seasoned professional with strong consultancy and construction expertise. Open for suitable opportunities. Contact 93455363 | WA +966 56 373 2589 (WhatsApp)

Civil Site Engineer with 24 yrs of experience in building construction, 15 yrs in Oman, valid D/L looking for job. Contact 79128770

Indian Male (22yrs), Diploma in HSE. 1 yrs experience. Contact: 75086973

ENGINEER

Quantity surveyor (B.Tech Civil, AIQS), 4+ yrs Oman experience. Skilled in primavera, BIM, Revit, ongoing RICS accreditation, valid Oman D/L. Seeking infrastructure, oil & gas roles. Contact: 97649953

MEP Engineer having 3+ yrs experience looking for a suitable placement. Ready to join immediately. Contact +968 7509 9651

Electrical Engineer, experience 18 yrs in Oman. Contact 98148034

Sales Engineer Indian Male, 7 yrs experience in sales. Seeking suitable job opportunities NOC & Oman D/L available. Contact 94150903 Email: vaseem9633@gmail.com

BE Civil Engr. Indian Male, 11yrs experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L seeks placement. Contact: 93867573, Email: pineasdas@gamil.com

LOGISTICS

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

Indian Male, 23 yrs of experience in store, logistics & commercial operations, looking for a suitable job. Contact : 91425510

MANAGER

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

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

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian Male Procurement Executive with 11 yrs of experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L available in Muscat for immediate joining. Contact 92345876

Indian male 41 yrs MBA, B.com having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L, seeking suitable opportunities in Oman. Contact: +971529546753

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading. whatsapp: +96895839964

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

SALES/MARKETING

Indian Male, 15+ yrs Sales exp. (IT/ Software). Open to Sales/BD roles in any industry. Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 94110178

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

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

Indian Male (35) MBA in Oman 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma Contact - 79757595

Indian Male (MBA) with 5 yrs experience looking for a business development, marketing manager role. Contact: 99470508

FAMED MUSEUM

Louvre workers’ strike turns away thousands of visitors

PARIS: Thousands of disappointed visitors were turned away from Paris’ famed Louvre museum on Monday.

“Due to a strike, the museum won’t be able to open today,” read a notice placed outside the entrance.

This prompted dozens of celebrating union members to shout: “We won! We won!”

Why are Louvre workers striking?

The workers’ union says that a recent high-profile heist at France’s most visited museum has highlighted long-simmering reasons for employee discontent.

Namely, mismanagement and a refusal to hire enough staff that a museum of the Louvre’s size requires.

The strike reportedly has broad support among the 2,200-strong staff of security guards, cashiers, and researchers.

Apollo Gallery

Alongside the robbery of \$102 million (€88 million) in jewels from the Apollo Gallery, two other recent incidents made it clear how much the building has fallen into disrepair.

In October, a gallery of ancient Greek ceramics had to be closed because its ceiling beams were threatening to collapse. A month later, hundreds of books and manuscripts in the Egyptian department were badly damaged due to a water leak.

The museum’s lead architect Francois Chatillon admitted in a parliamentary inquiry last month that the building “is not in good shape.”

What were people saying outside the Louvre?

“We’re angry,” Elise Muller, a security guard, told reporters. “We disagree with the way the Louvre has been managed.”

Some of the disappointed tourists expressed dismay to French news agency AFP that a museum that welcomes tens of millions of visitors every year could be struggling so badly for funds to pay more employees.

“I’m very disappointed, because the Louvre was the main reason for our visit, because we wanted to see the Mona Lisa,” one South Korean tourist told AFP. — **DW**

‘India has witnessed remarkable growth under Prime Minister Modi’

King Abdullah II made the remarks during the India-Jordan Business Forum held in Amman on Tuesday

AMMAN: At the India-Jordan Business Forum, King Abdullah II praised the economic growth of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and highlighted Jordan’s strategic potential as a hub for expanding trade and economic cooperation, which would have far-reaching impacts that link South Asia to the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

King Abdullah II made the remarks during the India-Jordan Business Forum held in Amman on Tuesday.

“Under the great leadership of Prime Minister Modi, India has witnessed great growth and we look forward to working with you all to take our economic partnership to further heights,” he said.

The King expressed confidence that the forum would further strengthen bilateral ties between New Delhi and Amman, adding that the interactions were expected to enhance economic and investment cooperation between the two nations. Welcoming the Indian delegation, he highlighted several areas for potential collaboration, including the IMEEC corridor and agriculture, which he said could yield mutual benefits.

King Abdullah II noted that Jordan offers a competitive advantage across key sectors, including food, fertiliser, pharmaceuticals, textiles, ICT, energy, mining, tourism, advanced manufacturing, and logistics.

Jordan’s strategic location

“With Jordan’s strategic location and FTAs and India’s economic power, advanced industries, we have the potential to build an economic corridor that links South Asia to the Middle East, Africa and Europe. We invite you to leverage Jordan’s location to build integrated logistical and processing hubs through IMEC routes in order to enable Indian and Jordanian agricultural and industrial exports...”

He expressed confidence in the forum and said that it would serve as a “catalyst” for new



joint investments, ventures, and knowledge transfer.

In his concluding remarks, he invited the two nations to bring themselves closer through the opening of new avenues, long-term partnerships, and investments.

Earlier, Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II personally drove Prime Minister Narendra

Modi to the Jordan Museum during his official visit to the country on Tuesday.

The Crown Prince accompanied PM Modi for the museum visit.

The visit to the Jordan Museum was part of Prime Minister Modi’s packed schedule in Amman.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is in Jordan as part of his three-day visit.

On Tuesday, in a post on X, he hailed the outcomes of his visit to Jordan, noting they mark an important and meaningful step in the expansion of ties between New Delhi and Amman. The Prime Minister said that the wide-ranging outcomes of the visit, spanning sectors from renewable energy to digital innovation, reflect the growing depth of the India-Jordan partnership.

Earlier on Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson, Randhir Jaiswal, shared the List of Outcomes from Prime Minister Modi’s visit to Jordan.

These include a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Technical Cooperation in the field of New and Renewable Energy, an MoU on Cooperation in the field of Water Resources Management and Development, a Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora, renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme for 2025-29, and a Letter of Intent on cooperation in sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation.

From Jordan, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Ethiopia at the invitation of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, marking his first official visit to the African nation. — **ANI**

CROWN PRINCE AL HUSSEIN BIDS FAREWELL

Indian PM Modi departs Jordan for Ethiopia

AMMAN: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday departed Jordan for Ethiopia, marking the second leg of his three-nation tour, after concluding his official engagements in the country. Jordan’s Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II personally bid farewell to the Prime Minister at the airport, reflecting the strong bilateral ties between the two nations.

In a post on X, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, “A successful visit to Jordan concludes. In a gesture reflecting the warm bilateral ties, HRH Crown Prince Al-Hussein bin Abdullah II drove PM @narendramodi to the airport and saw him off.”

The Crown Prince’s personal



gesture of driving PM Modi to the airport was described as rare and significant.

Before his departure, PM Modi visited the Jordan Museum along with the Crown Prince.

In a post on X, the MEA spokes-

person Randhir Jaiswal wrote, “Exploring ancient links between India and Jordan! Vikas bhi Virasat bhi!” It added that PM Modi and the Crown Prince reflected on shared civilisational links and centuries-old connections

between the two countries. The leaders were given a special tour of the museum by HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, Vice-Chair of the Jordan Museum. In a special gesture, the Crown Prince personally drove PM Modi to the museum.

During the Jordan visit, PM Modi also addressed the India-Jordan Business Forum in Amman. The presence of King Abdullah II and the Crown Prince marked the event. PM Modi highlighted areas where India and Jordan can deepen trade, business and investment ties, stressing the potential for collaboration across digital public infrastructure, fintech, health-tech, pharmaceuticals, agricul-

ture, fertilisers, green energy and sustainable infrastructure.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the Prime Minister underlined the scope for India-Jordan cooperation to emerge as trusted global supply-chain partners and invited businesses and startups from both countries to partner for shared growth.

As PM Modi moved on to Ethiopia, members of the Indian diaspora there described his visit as “iconic”. Ethiopia is the Prime Minister’s first official visit to the Land of Origins.

During the two-day state visit, he will hold talks with Abiy Ahmed Ali, a Nobel laureate, and address a Joint Session of the Ethiopian Parliament. — **ANI**

GOVERNMENT ADVISORY PANEL

Medical experts are pushing back on new US vaccine policy

WASHINGTON DC: Family doctors are probably the best place to obtain trusted, first-point information about vaccines and other medicines, say experts, amid a growing and public conflict between the Trump Administration’s health agencies and professional, independent medical groups.

Forty-four such groups, including the American Medical Association (AMA) and American Academy of Pediatrics, co-signed a statement protesting a new recommendation by the US Advisory Committee on Immunisation Practices (ACIP), a high-level government advisory panel on vaccine safety and effectiveness.

The ACIP voted that the hepatitis B vaccine, typically administered to all newborns in the US within the first hours of birth, be optional for all but those at highest risk of the infection. Hepatitis B is a vaccine-preventable viral infection that causes liver disorders, including often fatal cirrhosis and cancer.

In September, the ACIP also recommended the MMRV vaccine that combines doses for measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox-causing varicella, be split.

The changes come despite a lack of evidence that vaccines cause harm and years of data optimizing vaccine dosage schedules.

“The overwhelming concern that those of us watching these recommendations have, is how it is sowing distrust about our vaccines and our vaccine schedule and about the data that we have,” Jodie Guest, a specialist in infectious disease based at Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health, told DW.

Controversy stems from Kennedy’s remarking of health structures

Usually, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),



America’s federal public health agency, enact recommendations from its ACIP as guidance for US states, which have ultimate responsibility for health policy within their borders.

CDC guidance is usually supported by peak medical groups and followed by health insurers to decide policy coverage.

But the ACIP and CDC have been overhauled this year by Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. — a noted anti-vaccine campaigner — with new appointees.

This “new group of people [is] quite skeptical, if not outright hostile to vaccines,” said Josh Sharfstein, a public health expert based at Johns Hopkins University.

A former Maryland state health secretary, appointed under a Democrat governor, Sharfstein told DW the ACIP’s core decision-making processes have been abandoned under Kennedy’s new panel.

“The decision making on vaccines has lost integrity,” Sharfstein said. “The scientists aren’t making presentations to the advisors, there are advocates who, have had all kinds of challenges with the accuracies of [their own] statements in the past, who are the ones briefing the advisors.”

“It’s more than just a different conclusion, it’s an entirely differ-

ent process,” Sharfstein said. “It’s a process that’s gone off the rails.”

In the background is Kennedy’s long-stated view that some vaccines cause autism. He recently directed an update to the CDC’s “Autism and Vaccines” safety information page, which now says key research into a purported autism-vaccine link has been “ignored by health authorities” and that “the statement ‘Vaccines do not cause autism’ is not an evidence-based claim.”

However there have been multiple studies reviewing millions of births that find no connection between vaccines — usually the MMR vaccine — and autism. An expert committee from the World Health Organization reaffirmed this in December 2025.

Medical professionals have said claims of increased rates of autism in the US are due to expanded definitions of the condition and improved diagnostic methods, not vaccination.

Many pages on the CDC website still say vaccines, including the MMR vaccine, are safe.

“That doesn’t mean that there are not important things to study in vaccine safety,” said Sharfstein. “The goal should always be for vaccines to be safer and for risk to be better understood. You can believe

that the benefits far outweigh the risks of vaccines and still want to make vaccines as safe as possible.

“What’s going on now is, I don’t think, driven by a specific kind of study. I think it relates to a very general hostility towards vaccines.”

Family doctors now the safe voice

As Kennedy has remade key federal health structures, resignations of long-serving science staff within his health agencies have followed.

Independent medical groups, academics and experts are concerned that information from federal health agencies is no longer reliable and have begun publishing their own advice to the public.

James Campbell, the vice chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ infectious diseases committee, called the ACIP meetings a “brazen attempt to sow fear and distrust in vaccinations that have saved countless lives.”

In the aftermath of the recommendations, around a dozen states — all led by Democrats — said they would reject any changes to the vaccine schedule. Health insurers have said they would continue to offer coverage for at-birth hepatitis B vaccination, despite the



change from ACIP.

A new survey commissioned by the Annenberg Public Policy Center also found that American adults, by a 2-1 margin, would now be more likely to take advice from the AMA than the CDC.

Jason Schwartz, a vaccines and vaccination policy researcher at Yale University, US, told DW the pushback by America’s medical community now taking place was “an attempt to try and mitigate what the overwhelming majority of the mainstream public health and medical community sees as inappropriate shifts in our recommendations regarding vaccines from the federal level.”

But he and the other experts DW spoke to say the conflict in messaging between the federal government, states and peak medical groups could be confusing.

“I do think that the standing of the professional associations, the doctors, the nurses, have a lot more credibility right now with the American people,” said Sharfstein.

Schwartz pointed to relationships with family health care providers as being the “back stop” amid the conflict between high level doctors groups and Kennedy’s health department.

“That relationship with a health care provider who a family knows, can talk with, can listen to their questions and concerns, can help clarify the confusion or uncertain-

ty that they are no doubt feeling to some degree in this moment,” Schwartz said.

Wider impacts for the US and the world?

The traditional role of the US as a global health leader is also on the decline.

Many countries have based their own long-standing public health agencies, vaccine advisory committees and scientific review structures, on the US.

Some also look to agencies like the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is responsible for drug approvals in the US, as a valuable reference for their own medicine approvals.

“I don’t know that other countries should currently be looking to the United States for leadership on these decisions, and that is so unfortunate,” said infectious disease specialist Guest.

The change in procedure across US federal health agencies, and the increase in language that muddies long-established scientific research on vaccine safety, might also impact public perceptions of immunisation and medicine outside of the US.

“I think it’s one that really could shape the future of vaccination efforts globally,” said Schwartz.

Sharfstein pointed to cuts to global aid, which included vaccine supplies and funding for many low and middle income countries, as further actions that were “undermining of a very positive role that the US government had in the past.”

He added that vaccine hesitancy and declining vaccine uptake in childhood would likely see the US lose its ‘measles-free’ status amid a sustained outbreak of the disease. In 2025 there have been 1,935 cases of the disease, compared to 285 for the entirety of 2024, and 59 in 2023. — **DW**



European industrial and agricultural concerns are facing diluted environmental regulations, while the bloc as a whole has reduced its climate targets. What's at stake and how do far-right parties feature in the mix?

Amid tariff disputes, the war in Ukraine and environmental problems, Europe is looking for a new direction for its economic strategy. A key question is what role eco-friendly production and agriculture, and the protection of natural resources should play in the future.

Through its 2019 Green Deal, the EU has been working towards making its industries more efficient and climate-neutral by 2050. But the plan is facing increasing criticism and pressure. Not least from the conservative EPP group in the European Parliament, which is seeking to gain majorities with the help of far-right parties.

Several resolutions are currently being watered down, while the implementation of certain measures is being postponed or even completely rolled back.

Loosening of reporting obligations for companies

Two central instruments of the Green Deal are the EU Supply Chain Act and companies' obligations to report on their own social and environmental impacts. The aim being to ensure comparability and make responsibilities visible.

Until now, some 50,000 EU companies with a workforce of at least 250 were obliged to prepare such reports annually. But company complaints about the regulation burdening them with bureaucracy and tying up too many resources means small and medium-sized companies will no longer be required to report.

The rule is now set to apply exclusively to major corporations with a turnover of hundreds of millions of euros.

Critics say fewer reporting obligations mean less transparency, both for the public and for investors who support sustainable practices and want to avoid environmentally harmful or unethical business models.

The European Central Bank (ECB) had warned in advance that the discontinuation of these reports could lead to a regulatory imbalance. In a letter to the European Commission, it emphasized that climate change has a "profound impact on price stability" and requires a sufficiently robust database to manage financial risks.

In the ECB's view, this database would be jeopardised if the number of companies subject to reporting requirements were to be reduced by up to 80% — as is currently planned in the package.

Less monitoring of supply chains

The adoption of the so-called Simplification Package has also resulted in weakened rules for the Supply Chain Act.

This should include thousands of large companies from high-risk sectors such as the textile industry, fishing or mining industries that produce for the EU market.



Companies along the entire supply chain were to be obliged to recognize, curb and end human rights and environmental violations. This goal has now been significantly watered down.

The rules now only apply to multinational companies with more than 5,000 employees and a turnover of at least €1.5 billion (\$1.7). Also, victims of environmental and human rights violations along the supply chain don't have a right to sue. And companies no longer have to present their own climate strategies, as was originally intended.

Products not linked to deforestation? Not yet

The 27 EU member states had also agreed on rules aimed at protecting forests. Prod-

ucts such as tea, coffee, soy and beef were only to be available for sale in the EU if verifiably not linked to deforestation.

The idea was to ensure companies acted responsibly in protecting forests, particularly in agriculturally-intensive regions such as Brazil and Indonesia.

However, the introduction of the new rules has been postponed until the end of 2026. In addition, significantly fewer companies will have to prove their products are manufactured in deforestation-free ways.

To put this into context, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations estimates that around 420 million hectares of forest — an area larger than the EU — were logged between 1990 and 2020. EU consumption accounts for around 10%

of global deforestation, with palm oil and soy making up more than two-thirds of this. Forests store carbon and are extremely important for biodiversity.

Weakening environmental regulations for agriculture

Around a third of the entire EU budget goes to agriculture, the majority in the form of subsidies. The bloc's rules for more sustainable food production have long been a thorn in the side of large farms.

Here too, politicians are also increasingly giving in. In 2023 and 2024, farmers protesting stricter rules around the use of pesticides led to them not being adopted. The Nature Conservation Act, which provided for greater protection of ecologically important peat lands, was massively

watered down. Farms were originally supposed to contribute to this goal.

In a series of proposals aimed at simplifying bureaucracy for farmers and deregulating the agricultural sector, the main focus is on weakening environmental rules. For example, inspections of environmental standards are to be limited to a maximum of once per year.

Overall, significantly more natural landscapes across Europe are to be permitted to be converted to arable land than previously planned. At the same time, small farms with up to 10 hectares of land are to be given access to subsidies without having to meet certain environmental standards. Sustainability strategies in agriculture were also supposed to be continuously adapted to new environmental regulations. But that is no longer mandatory, meaning EU farms will have to do less for the environment in future despite the major role of agriculture on the climate.

Cut-off date for new combustion engine cars postponed

The EU decision to stop the production of combustion engine cars within the bloc from 2035 could be history before it has even come into force.

The German government has voiced loud opposition to the deadline and the country's car industry has always been against the decision. Now the EU has officially decided to "review" the end of the combustion engine, leaving a question mark over when a ban will come into force.

In the short term, this could benefit the European car industry, which continues to rely heavily on combustion engines. But with the trend towards electric vehicles predicted to continue, experts see better long-term opportunities for car manufacturers that offer EVs.

Less climate commitments at home

The European climate targets are also being cut further. In order to avoid even more extreme climate catastrophes, the EU's Scientific Advisory Board recommended a reduction in emissions of 90% to 95% by 2040 compared to 1990 levels.

Just last month, the EU agreed on its climate targets, including a 90% cut in carbon emissions. But there is a catch. Parts of these emissions reductions can be offset through measures taken in other countries that are financed by the EU.

In other words, the EU actually only has to reduce its own emissions by 85%, as it can buy up to 5% through things such as reforestation projects abroad.

The target can also be amended further if there are difficulties with implementation. At the same time, member states decided to postpone the start of carbon pricing in the buildings and transport sector (ETS 2) from 2027 to 2028. -nw

SPORTS

Man United blow lead three times in thriller against Bournemouth

A 4-4 draw at Old Trafford on Monday meant that Red Devils missed a chance to climb to fifth spot in the Premier League

MANCHESTER: Manchester United blew the lead three times to miss out on moving up to fifth in the Premier League as Bournemouth would not be beaten in a thrilling 4-4 draw at Old Trafford on Monday.

United have lost just once in their last 10 games but Ruben Amorim will be frustrated as more points at home were frittered away despite arguably the best attacking display of his reign in charge.

Amad Diallo and Casemiro gave the hosts a half-time lead either side of Antoine Semenyo's equaliser.

Two Bournemouth goals from Evanilson and Marcus Tavernier in seven minutes at the start of the second period turned the game around.

The Red Devils roared back through a brilliant Bruno Fernandes free-kick and Matheus Cunha's second goal for the club.

However, after failing to beat 10-man Everton and struggling West Ham at home in recent weeks, United let another two points slip away. Eli Junior Kroupi's fine finish secured a point for Bournemouth, who should have even snatched victory in stoppage time as David Brooks was twice denied by Senne Lammens.



"It was a fun game for everyone at home," said Amorim. "When you win away you should win at home. The performance today was different from the last two at home.

"The result is the same, it is frustrating but the performance is different."

Bournemouth's winless run stretches to seven games but a point edges them up to 13th. Man United moved ahead of Liverpool on goal difference into sixth.

'Difficult to explain'

Despite the disappointment, Amorim will be heartened by the sight of his expensively assembled forward line beginning to come good.

The home side's bright start was rewarded on 13 minutes when Diallo nodded into an empty net after Petrovic could only get a hand to Cunha's header.

Going forward United looked as good as they have all season.



But at the back they badly missed the presence and experience of the injured Harry Maguire and Matthijs de Ligt.

Bournemouth levelled against

the run of play on 40 minutes.

Luke Shaw was easily barged off the ball, allowing Semenyo to gallop into the box and fire low and hard across Lammens for his first



goal since October 3.

United restored their lead in five minutes of added time at the end of the first half, thanks in large part to Petrovic.

Casemiro headed Fernandes' corner goalwards, but the former Chelsea goalkeeper should have easily collected the Brazilian's cross.

Amorim looked exasperated on the touchline even as his side led 4-3.

The Portuguese's mood was soured even more six minutes from time when Eli Junior Kroupi swept in.

And only two great saves from Lammens deep into stoppage time prevented David Brooks from snatching Bournemouth victory on a madcap Monday in Manchester.

"It's very difficult to explain because so much happened," said Bournemouth boss Andoni Iraola.

"I suppose it was entertaining for everyone. Two teams that attacked much better than we defended."

- Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE

Chelsea manager Maresca pledges commitment

LONDON: Manager Enzo Maresca insisted Monday that he "absolutely" remains committed to his job as Chelsea manager after saying at the weekend he had suffered his "worst 48 hours" since joining the club.

The Italian made the surprising comments after his side's 2-0 win at home to Everton on Saturday, hitting out at unnamed parties for failing to support him and his players, though he stressed that he was not referring to fans.

He refused to clarify his comments at a press conference on Monday, on the eve of Chelsea's League Cup quarter-final at third-tier Cardiff. Maresca became visibly impatient with requests for him to make sense of remarks that have fuelled intense speculation he was taking aim at the club's owners and sporting directors.

"I respect your (the media's) opinion and I respect people's opinion," he said. "But again, I don't have anything to add and my focus is just on tomorrow's game



where we can achieve a third semi-final in 18 months since I joined the club."

He also reiterated he was not talking about the club's fans when he referred to a lack of support, saying: "I said after the game that I love Chelsea supporters. They deserve the best." Asked whether he remained committed to the job, he said: "Absolutely, yes."

Maresca, who arrived at Chelsea in July 2024, won the UEFA Conference League and Club World Cup in his first season at Stamford Bridge.

His team are currently fourth in the Premier League table and still have a chance to qualify automatically for the last 16 of the Champions League. The former Leicester boss said he was enjoying the season despite the intense pressure.

"When you are Chelsea manager, you understand that the expectations are higher, especially this season they are higher, raised a little bit compared to last season, probably because of the Club World Cup, Conference League, we finished fourth in the Premier League," he added.

- Agencies

INJURY

Burn setback for Newcastle as defender ruled out for 'weeks'

LONDON: Newcastle boss Eddie Howe on Tuesday revealed Dan Burn is set to be sidelined for the next "four to six weeks".

Sunday's Wear-Tyne derby defeat was soured further for Howe when Burn was taken to hospital following a heavy collision with Sunderland defender Nordi Mukiele. Burn received medical treatment on the pitch before trying to play on, but was eventually taken off in the 42nd minute to be replaced by Fabian Schar.

Newcastle's attention now turns to a Carabao Cup quarter-final clash against Fulham on Wednesday and, speaking ahead of that game, Howe admitted Burn's injury is "a big blow".

"It was sort of under the radar in terms of reviewing the game, the importance of Dan and losing him, just for everything he brings to the team," Howe said. "That was a big blow for us. I think he's been excellent in recent weeks. It's a rib problem with some issue with his lungs. We wish him well, it will probably be around four to six weeks."



Burn's injury adds further to Howe's defensive concerns, with Kieran Trippier and Emil Krafth still absent, and the Newcastle boss admits their backline is looking "vulnerable".

He said: "The backline is an issue for us. We don't have many injuries but we have a concentrated group of players that are out and all play the same position. Whenever you get that you're stretched.

"So our backline is looking vulnerable. With Sven (Botman) we're not entirely sure when he'll return. He's made good progress but I don't think he's ready to play yet. "Then we've got Emil Krafth and Kieran Trippier still out, their target date will be around the new year, we think. "Jamaal (Lascelles) is just returning from a muscle problem, he's fit and training with the group."

- Agencies

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Sabalenka wins back-to-back WTA awards

WASHINGTON: World No.1 Aryna Sabalenka was on Monday named WTA Player of the Year for a second straight season.

The Player Award winners are voted on by international media, with the Belarusian becoming only the third player in the past 15 years to win the honour more than once.

The 27-year-old won four titles - the most on tour - including retaining the US Open against Amanda Anisimova in September to claim her fourth Grand Slam singles triumph. Across the season Sabalenka played in a tour-best nine finals, with losses to Madison Keys in the Australian Open final in January and Coco Gauff in June's French Open final.

The Belarusian also won the Brisbane International in January, the Miami Open in March and the Madrid Open in May, and spent the entire year as world number



one, finishing 2025 top of the rankings for a second successive year.

In July, she became the first player to top 12,000 WTA ranking points since Serena Williams in 2015. Sabalenka finished the season with a 63-12 win-loss record, and picked up a record £11m in prize money.

She received almost 80% of the votes cast by international tennis media.

On 28 December, she will face 2022 Wimbledon runner-up Nick Kyrgios in a Battle of the Sexes-style exhibition match in a bid to "help bring women's tennis to a higher level".

Switzerland's Belinda Bencic, 28, has been voted comeback player of the year after taking a 13-month break following the birth of her first child and returning to the sport at the start of this year. Canadian 19-year-old Victoria Mboko picked up newcomer of the year after starting the season ranked outside the world's top 300 and climbing to world No.18.

Katerina Siniakova and Taylor Townsend were voted doubles team of the year after winning their second Grand Slam title together, while Anisimova was named most improved player of the year after reaching five finals.

Last week, Carlos Alcaraz took home three honours in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Awards, including the year-end number one award, while Jan-nik Sinner was voted fans' favourite for a third time.

- Agencies

FORMER TOTTENHAM PLAYER

Inter Miami sign left-back Reguilon on free transfer

MIAMI: Inter Miami have signed former Tottenham and Real Madrid left-back Sergio Reguilon on a free transfer.

The 28-year-old Spaniard had been without a club since he was released by Spurs at the end of last season and has signed a contract until December 2027 with the Major League Soccer side.

Reguilon joined Tottenham from Real in September 2020, but spent a significant portion of the past three seasons out on loan with spells at Manchester United, Atletico Madrid and Brentford.

He made a total of 86 appearances in the Premier League, scoring two goals.

"It's a very ambitious project, a winning club that is doing things the right way, and that's what attracted me: com-



ing here to keep winning and competing," Reguilon told Inter Miami's website.

"My objective is to keep winning, go after the trophies we're missing, and win everything here."

- Agencies

Oman set to host GCC Youth and Women’s Golf Championships

Ghala Golf Club will welcome U13 and U16 boys and girls from the GCC, along with the Women’s Championship, from 21-24 December

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman, through the Oman Golf Association (OGA), is set to host the prestigious GCC Youth (age-group) and Women’s Golf Championships at Ghala Golf Club from 21–24 December.

The event will feature Under-13 Boys, Under-16 Boys, Under-16 Girls, and Women’s categories, bringing together top young and emerging golfers from across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Faiz Mohammed Riaz, OGA Vice-Chairman, described the championships as a key milestone in Oman’s golf journey.

“These age categories and the ladies’ division form the foundation for building future achievements and shaping champions who can compete at regional and international levels,” he said.

He added that hosting the championships strengthens Oman’s presence on the Gulf golf map.

“Strong competition with GCC national teams is the fastest path for developing our players, enhancing their technical and mental abilities, and preparing them for greater challenges ahead,” said Faiz.

Oman U13 boys’ team will be spearheaded by defending individual champion Yusuf Al Rumhi and Taimur Al Busaidi along with Ibrahim Mohammed Riaz. Yusuf and Taimur had last year also won the team title for Oman and strengthening the squad is promising Ibrahim.

The U16 boys’ squad will comprise Mohammed Al Junaidy and Mohib Al Kathiri while the U16 girls’ team will comprise Miraeri Sampat, Yasmin Al Kathiri, Heba Said Al Nabhani.

The women’s squad will include Wafa Al Hadhrami and Umaima Ali Al Hajri.

Faiz praised the backing of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, along with government entities and private partners.

“Collaboration with our institutional partners is fundamental to



the success of major championships and the overall growth of the sport,” he said.

All the six GCC countries will



ideal platform to identify emerging talents and integrate them into long-term development pathways,” added Faiz.

The OGA has implemented long-term plans to expand the junior player base, increase international exposure, and strengthen national teams

Both boys’ and girls’ squads have undergone intensive training at Ghala Golf Club under qualified coaches to ensure readiness.

Faiz emphasised the association’s focus on promoting golf among girls and supporting women’s participation.

“Through schools, community initiatives, dedicated tournaments, and training programmes, we aim to give equal opportunities for young women and girls to represent Oman,” he said.

Golf is also seen as a key driver for sports tourism and economic growth. “The development of golf aligns with Oman Vision 2040, enhancing quality of life, professionalising sports, and showcasing Oman as a global destination,” added the senior OGA official.

Ghala Golf Club, Oman’s oldest golf course established in 1971, has evolved from a sand course into a modern 18-hole grass course with state-of-the-art training facilities.

“We have worked to provide an ideal organisational environment that reflects the scale and importance of the event, showcasing Omani sport at its best,” Faiz said.

Looking ahead, the OGA top functionality confirmed Oman’s ambitions extend beyond the Gulf. “Talent is available, infrastructure is in place, and support continues to grow.

The next phase will focus on hosting major Asian and international championships and strengthening our national teams. Investing in young talent is the key to a bright future for Omani golf.”

AMERICAN GOLFER

Scheffler joins Woods with fourth PGA Tour award



LONDON: Scottie Scheffler has become just the second man after Tiger Woods to win the PGA Tour’s player of the year award for four seasons in a row.

The 29-year-old American won six times in 2025, including two majors - The Open and the PGA Championship - and recorded a PGA Tour-best 17 top-10 finishes as well as not missing a single cut.

He is just the second player to claim the Jack Nicklaus Award in at least four straight seasons after

Woods (five in succession between 1999 and 2003 - and 11 overall).

World No.1 Scheffler won the vote of PGA Tour members on Monday ahead of his fellow American Ben Griffin, England’s Tommy Fleetwood and Northern Ireland’s Rory McIlroy.

PGA Tour chief executive Brian Rolapp said: “Scottie’s consistent level of success has been nothing short of spectacular as he continues to chase history on the PGA Tour, and we’re excited to see what he will deliver in 2026.”

South Africa’s Aldrich Potgieter received the Arnold Palmer Award as the PGA Tour rookie of the year after a season in which he was the only newcomer to qualify for the FedEx Cup Play-offs.

Potgieter, one of five rookies to win on the tour this season, is the third South African winner of the prize, joining Ernie Els (1994) and Trevor Immelman (2006).

Scottie Scheffler won six times in 2025 and just needs the US Open to complete a career Grand Slam. - Agencies

TWO-YEAR DEAL

Portuguese GP to return to F1 calendar in 2027

LONDON: Portugal will return to the Formula 1 calendar in 2027 and 2028, Formula One announced on Tuesday.

The race will be held at the Algarve International Circuit near Portimao, which held two grands prix during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

Portugal will effectively be a replacement for the Dutch GP, which will be held at Zandvoort for the last time next year. Portimao is a 2.89-mile track that swoops over hilly terrain and is highly regarded for its driving challenge.

It has a rural location north of the coast and also has a reputation for problematic access. F1 chairman and chief executive officer Stefano Domenicali said: “I’m delighted to see Portimao return to the Formula 1 calendar and for the sport to continue to ignite the passion of our incredible Portuguese fanbase.

“The circuit delivers on-track excitement from the first corner to the chequered flag, and its energy lifts fans out of their seats. The interest and demand to host a Formula 1 grand prix is the highest that it has ever been.”

Portugal has a prestigious history in Formula 1, hosting its first Grand Prix in Porto in 1958, as well as holding race weekends in Monsanto and Estoril across the sport’s 75 years. Some of the



greatest drivers in Formula 1 have reached the top step on the podium in Portugal including Stirling Moss, Alain Prost, Ayrton Senna and Nigel Mansell. Senna famously won his first Formula 1 Grand Prix at Estoril in 1985.

More recently, Portimão was the circuit where Lewis Hamilton surpassed Michael Schumacher’s record of all-time wins after he secured his 92nd victory in 2021. Hamilton remains the only driver on the current grid to win at the circuit, having also taken the chequered flag in 2020. - Agencies

ROUND-UP

Premium seven-seater SUV BYD ATTO 8 officially launched in Oman

As BYD’s first premium seven-seat luxury SUV, the ATTO 8 stands out for its remarkable versatility, generous spaciousness and premium sensibility shaped around family life, making it an ideal choice for customers who value advanced technology without compromising comfort or convenience

MUSCAT: A new chapter in performance-inspired electrified mobility unfolded in Oman, as World Auto Business, the official distributor for BYD in Oman unveiled the all-new BYD ATTO 8 at a high energy launch event hosted at the BYD showroom in Wattayah.

The gathering drew automotive enthusiasts, technology followers and distinguished guests who witnessed the arrival of a premium SUV designed to redefine what modern, intelligent and sustainable performance can be. As BYD’s first premium seven-seat luxury SUV, the ATTO 8 stands out for its remarkable versatility, generous spaciousness and premium sensibility shaped around family life, making it an ideal choice for customers who value advanced technology without compromising comfort or convenience.

Marking a significant step forward for BYD in Oman, the debut of the ATTO 8 introduces a large, seven-seater plug-in hybrid SUV that blends dynamic capability with sophisticated luxury – aimed



at drivers who seek space, power and progressive technology in equal measure. Created for those who demand a space that reflects their needs and a journey shaped by their own voice, the ATTO8 arrives as a bold expression of modern mobility in Oman.

The grand event opened with a welcome address by Dr. Harish Babu, General Manager - BYD Oman, who spoke about the strong and growing partnership between BYD and World Auto Business. He spoke about their shared commitment to innovation, customer

trust and delivering world-leading new energy solutions to the Sultanate. He highlighted how the ATTO 8 stands as BYD’s latest milestone in premium hybrid engineering, bringing global excellence to Oman.

Celebrating BYD’s first anniversary in Oman, he extended heartfelt gratitude to customers for their confidence and support during this remarkable year of growth. He reaffirmed BYD Oman’s promise to continue offering exceptional experiences, advanced technology and unwavering service – ensuring

that every customer remains at the heart of their journey into the future of electric mobility.

The BYD ATTO 8 commands attention with its bold stance, powerful performance and advanced plug-in hybrid engineering. Equipped with BYD’s cutting-edge DM 5.0 system, it delivers a remarkable 668 km WLTP combined range and 98 km pure electric range, supported by a highly efficient 1.5T engine and BYD’s signature Blade Battery Technology. With a combined 480 hp, intelligent AWD, and 0-100 km/h

acceleration in just 4.9 seconds, the BYD ATTO 8 offers smooth, exhilarating power with total confidence. Its intelligent damping suspension, frequency adaptive dampers and versatile drive modes – including ECO, Normal, Sport, Snowy, Muddy and Sandy – ensure a dynamic yet controlled drive across every terrain.

Inside, the BYD ATTO 8 elevates modern luxury with its spacious seven-seat layout, premium materials and advanced comfort features for every row. The cabin is crafted around intuitive technology, including a 15.6-inch rotating entertainment system, 10.25-inch full LCD dashboard and 26-inch W-HUD for enhanced visibility. Seats for both driver and passengers offers heating, ventilation, massaging and memory functions, while the second-row also receives ventilation and massaging capabilities – setting a new benchmark in segment comfort. The interior is further enriched with a 21-speaker audio system, multi-zone ambient lighting, dual-zone footwell lighting, PM 2.5 Insta Air purification, rear independent HVAC, wireless fast charging and intelligent voice control – creating a serene yet highly connected cabin experience. The expansive 2.39 sq.m panoramic roof opens the cabin to natural light, adding to the sense of

space and premium refinement.

On the outside, the BYD ATTO 8 blends futuristic design with purposeful engineering – featuring LED headlights, distinctive DRLs, flush door handles, aerodynamic sculpting and auto-folding mirrors with memory. The model integrates comprehensive safety technologies including far-side airbags, side-curtain airbags, driver distraction monitoring, Adaptive Cruise Control, Vehicle Dynamic Control, Electronic Brakeforce Distribution, Hill Descent Control, regenerative braking collaboration and a fully integrated braking system. With 360 degree camera, front and rear sensors, smart key with remote operations, electric trunk with soft-closing suction and BYD’s innovative VTOL mobile power station, the ATTO 8 brings versatility that suits everyday journeys, weekend escapes and outdoor adventures alike.

Guests at the event explored the BYD ATTO 8 up close, experiencing its advanced features, innovative hybrid capability and refined interior comfort firsthand.

The all-new BYD ATTO 8 is now available for viewing and bookings at BYD Showroom.

In Oman, BYD vehicles are brought to you by World Auto Business.

REMARKABLE OCCASION

Bank Muscat honours 116 long-serving employees



MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate of Oman, celebrated the recognition of 116 employees who have completed between 20 and 40 years of service with the Bank. The ceremony, held recently at the Hormuz Grand Muscat Hotel, was attended by members of the executive management along with the honoured employees, marking a remarkable occasion dedicated to acknowledging their long-standing dedication.

This initiative reflects Bank Muscat’s deep appreciation for the tremendous efforts and commitment demonstrated by its employees throughout their years of service. It also underscores their pivotal role of supporting the growth and progress throughout the Bank’s journey. The ceremony serves as a testament to Bank Muscat’s steadfast commitment to nurturing and developing its human capital and strengthening investment in its people, considered the key contributor for institutional excellence. Through this approach, the Bank continues to reinforce its position as a supportive and moti-

vating workplace that empowers individuals as key drivers of success and sustainable development. The Bank firmly believes that its employees are true partners in its journey of leadership, and that their dedication over the years has been integral to enhancing the Bank’s presence, fostering innovation, and delivering best-in-class banking services and facilities to both individual and institutional customers.

On this occasion, Sheikha bint Yousuf Al Farsi, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Operations, Bank Muscat, congratulated all the honoured employees for their valued contributions and distinguished performance over the years, which have played a vital role in the Bank’s progress, growth, and achievements across various fields. She stated: “Awarding our distinguished employees is a clear reflection of our appreciation for the contribution they have made over the years. Through their commitment and exceptional performance, the Bank has been able to achieve major accomplishments across multiple areas. I encourage all employees to continue their dedication and hard

work to achieve further success and maintain our leadership in the financial sector by providing the best services and facilities to all our customers. We reaffirm Bank Muscat’s continued commitment to developing human resources and providing all capabilities needed to enhance their performance in the future.”

For his part, Said bin Salim Al Aufi, General Manager, Human Resources & Administration, Bank Muscat, emphasized the Bank’s ongoing dedication to empowering employees and supporting the human resources sector through a wide range of specialized programmes and initiatives aimed at developing their skills and professional experience. He added: “The success stories we celebrate today are not merely years of service; they represent true examples of dedication, professionalism, and commitment. The efforts and strategic steps taken by the Bank in recent years in the field of human resources have positively contributed to the Bank’s performance and operations at all levels, thanks to a clear strategy centered on investing in human capital as

an essential driver of progress and success. We are proud of the role played by our Omani talents, who have consistently demonstrated their competence across all fields. We are also proud of the significant progress made in Omanisation and human capital development, as reflected by the many awards the Bank received in recognition of its leadership in this field. We will continue implementing our plans to reach greater milestones in human resources development.”

A number of honourees expressed their gratitude for this thoughtful gesture, noting that such recognition serves as a motivation to continue giving. Hind bint Rashid Al Hinai, who has completed 20 years working at Bank Muscat, said: “We are proud to belong to an institution that values our effort and celebrates the achievements of its employees. The Bank has supported us throughout every stage of our professional journey and provided us with valuable opportunities for growth and development. I extend my sincere appreciation to the Bank’s executive management for their continuous support

throughout my career.”

Khalid bin Ibrahim Al Awadhy, who has completed 30 years of service, said: “Being part of a leading institution like Bank Muscat and contributing to its successful journey is a great source of pride. Over the years, we have gained tremendous hands-on experience and learned a lot through the bank’s training programs and workshops. The Bank has always been a school for growth and learning, and this recognition reflects the strong bond between the bank and its employees, inspiring us to continue striving for excellence.”

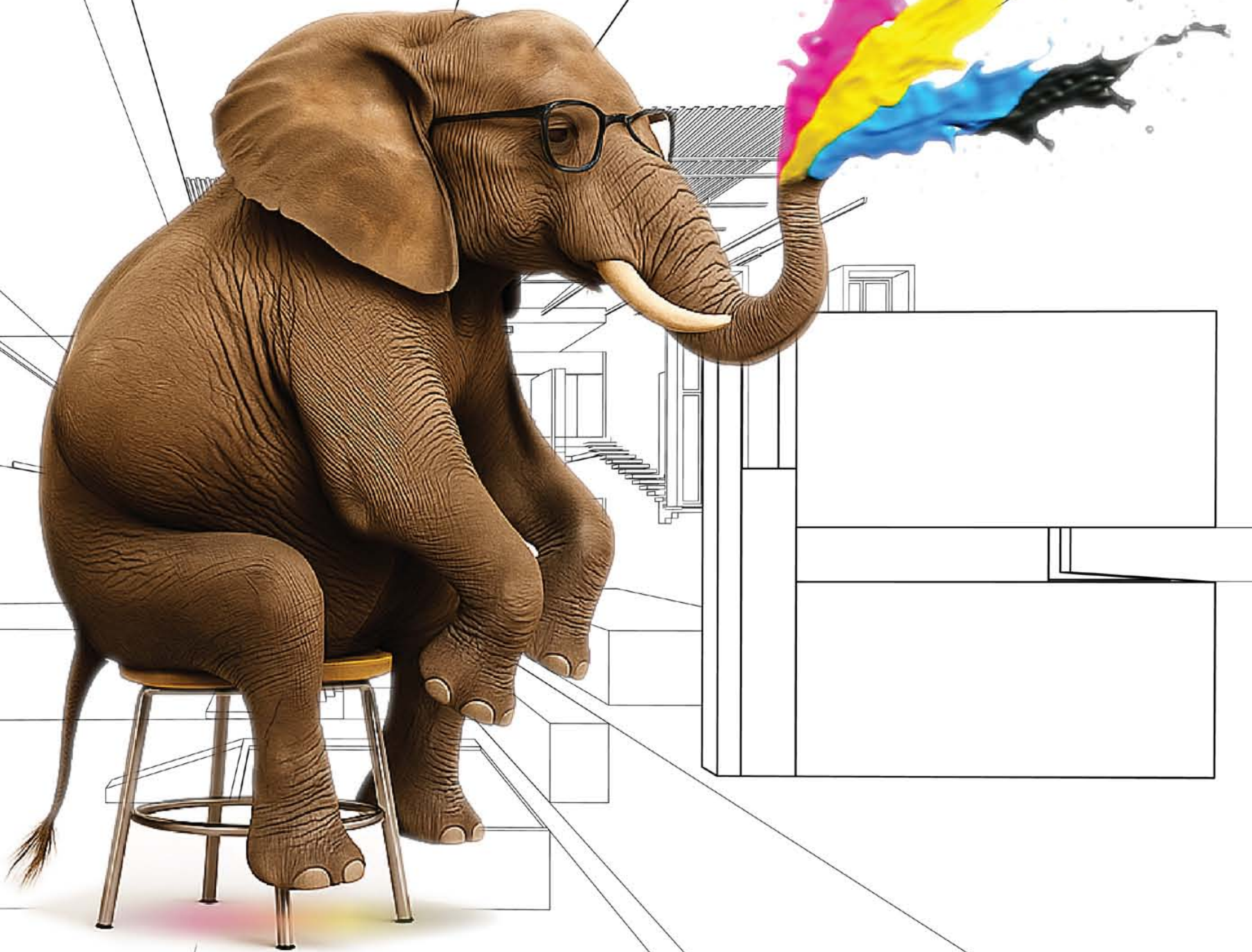
Bank Muscat places strong emphasis on developing the capabilities, expertise, and competencies of its staff while equipping them with essential skills to expand their career opportunities. This commitment directly translates to providing customers with high-quality banking services. The Bank’s growth strategy is built on well-structured plans that focus on human resources development and on empowering young Omani talent by cultivating a culture of continuous learning that enhance

their skills and capabilities.

Today, the Bank employs around 4410 staff members who together represent a solid blend of talent and experience. Their contributions have reinforced the bank’s position as a leading financial institution in the Sultanate and the region. The Bank is dedicated to offering an inspiring and balanced work environment that provides equal opportunities for growth and excellence, rooted in principles of fairness, professionalism, and innovation, all aligned with Oman Vision 2040, which places human empowerment at its core.

These efforts have contributed to achieving an Omanisation rate of over 92% across the bank’s workforce; one of the highest in the banking sector nationwide, with 100% Omanisation in all branches, reflecting the strong confidence placed in national talents across the Sultanate. In recognition of these achievements, the Bank has received numerous local and international awards for its leadership in human resources development and its commitment to fostering an exemplary work environment.

We make your Business bigger than your problems.



We get you ahead on

- Booth production
- Event conceptualisation
- Event management

Wait, there's more

- Large format digital printing
- Flex banners
- Vinyl stickers
- Back drops with metal frames
- Wooden standalones
- Backlit flex banners