



HM SENDS MESSAGE

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a written message to Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jabir Al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait, dealing with bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

The message was delivered to Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Nassir Al Mohammed Al Sabah, Kuwait's Foreign Minister by Dr. Saleh Amor Al Kharousi, the Sultanate's Ambassador to Kuwait. **-ONA**



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32,267
jobs for Omani nationals

65,438
is the number of jobseekers

24,866
male job aspirants

40,572
female jobseekers

20,000
citizens to receive training

70,000
jobs of nationals saved

7,602
expats in public sector
to be replaced

8%
of private sector managers,
specialists to be Omanised



Dr. Mahad bin Said Ba'owain, Minister of Labour addressing the press conference.

JOBS GALORE AS NATIONAL ECONOMY GROWS

Economic growth, diversification and Omanisation to help create more than 32,000 job opportunities for nationals

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman plans to hire more than 32,000 nationals this year, and provide training to nearly 20,000 job seekers, as part of the Ministry of Labour's efforts to employ more citizens.

The government also managed to save the jobs of 70,000 Omanis employed in key sectors during the pandemic, said Dr. Mahad bin Said Ba'owain, the Minister of Labour, while announcing the ministry's plans for this year. These jobs will be achieved through both the replacement of expatriates with Omanis, and the creation of new employment opportunities brought about through economic growth and diversification.

"For the sake of overall sustainability, we also need economic plans that bear fruit three to four years after their implementation," he said.



"As a ministry, we can achieve this in cooperation with the private sector, after which we will achieve a measure of saturation in our replacement efforts. I hope everyone is able to understand the importance of this great challenge. It is not just the Ministry of Labour that is responsible to achieve this," added the minister. "All companies and institutions are partners with the ministry in making these plans successful, and in overcoming the current challenges, such as employment, qualifications and training. Everyone must work together to help us succeed and achieve our goals."

As part of the ministry's job creation drive, 7,602 jobs currently staffed by expatriates will be given to Omanis. Of these, 2,469 are in education, 830 in health, 115 in higher education, 151 in agriculture, fisheries and water resources, 65 in municipal organisations,

292 at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, and 1,280 in other public bodies. A further 1,500 jobs at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, and 900 at the Authority for Public Services Regulation will also be allocated to Omanis.

Of the 32,267 jobs that are to be created this year, 12,000 will be made available in the private sector. Eight

Expats' recruitment to cost more

Times News Service

MUSCAT: To promote its nationalisation drives across Oman's various economic sectors, the Ministry of Labour has unveiled a new fee structure employers need to follow while hiring expatriate workers.

Hiring an expatriate in a top position under the new structure will cost companies OMR2,001, while the cost of the licence fee for a non-Omani hired in a mid-level position is OMR1,001.

Taking on board any expatriate working in a technical, skilled or specialised position will cost companies OMR601 per expatriate employee.

ate employee.

Revised expat hiring fees have also been rolled out for sectors such as animal husbandry, fisheries and agriculture.

It will now cost companies OMR361 every time they wish to hire a foreign fisherman, while the fee for the first three non-Omani farm workers and/or animal breeders has been set at OMR201 per employee.

Companies will need to pay a hiring fee of OMR301 from the fourth employee onwards. Households and companies employing domestic workers from overseas will also need to observe a two-tiered fee system. **>A3**

create another 2,800 jobs by the end of January 2021.

Performance indicators

"These plans are also characterised by performance indicators, and a number of initiatives measured through accountability," said Sayyid Salim Musallam Al Busaidi, the Undersecretary for Human Resources Development at the Ministry of Labour. "As we have 12 economic sectors and 14 priorities under Vision 2040, it is the responsibility of everyone to work towards its success. Traditional recruitment processes such as large-scale employment initiatives, cannot continue. The government's needs for workers will be based on the actual requirements of these sectors. Each sector will need to make their requirements known to the Ministry of Labour, so that we can coordinate with them to serve the growth of these sectors."

According to ministry data, there are about 65,438 jobseekers in the country. Of them, 24,866 are male, and the remaining 40,572 are female. 12.9 per cent (8,477 jobseekers) have qualifications below that of a General Education Diploma (GED), while 33.9 per cent (22,163) hold that as their highest qualification.

16 per cent (10,497) have university diplomas, and 37.2 per cent (24,301) have university degrees. The Ministry of Labour will provide training and employment to job seekers in collaboration with a number of other government bodies. **>A5**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Indian school registrations from February 1

1 The online registration for admission in Indian Schools in the capital area for the next academic year (2021-2022) will start from February 1, 2021 for Classes KG I to IX. The online registration for admissions is applicable to seven Indian Schools in the capital area. **>A2**

WORLD

UK coronavirus-related deaths top 100,000

2 The number of people who died within 28 days of a positive coronavirus test in UK has surpassed 100,000 after another 1,631 have been confirmed dead. **>A6**

MARKET

Bank Muscat board for 35% dividend

3 Continuing its dividend payment record and considering the current economic situation, the Bank Muscat Board of Directors has proposed a 35% dividend. **>B1**

SUPREME COMMITTEE

Ban on international and local events

MUSCAT: The Supreme Committee tasked with tackling developments resulting from COVID-19 pandemic yesterday held a meeting under the chairmanship of Sayyid Hamoud Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, to study updates on the pandemic and measures to curb the spread of the virus and address its impacts.

The meeting deliberated on the serious developments of the pandemic that emerged in many countries around the world due to risks posed by the new variants of COVID-19 causing a sharp rise in infection and death cases and putting huge pressure on health systems.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the committee took note of the precautionary measures undertaken globally to deal with the virus's developments, prompting countries to take decisions to impose lockdowns, suspend economic activities, prohibit travel among countries and ban movement within their own boundaries.

On the local front, the committee also noted the marked increase in the number of infections and the growing number of patients admitted to intensive care units and hospital wards due to non-abidance to precautionary measures endorsed by the authorities concerned. **>A5**





Dhuhr.....	12.25pm
Asr.....	3.33pm
Maghrib.....	5.56pm
Isha.....	7.09pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5.31am

Awareness campaign on new power tariff

The company has been targeting customers in all areas under Mazoon Electricity service coverage

Times News Service

MUSCAT: To spread awareness about the newly announced electricity tariff, Mazoon Electricity Company, the leading electricity provider in Oman, organised a special workshop which was attended by Sheikh Hilal bin Said bin Hamdan Al Hajri, the Governor of Al Dakhiliya governorate along with several other officials.

The workshop covered the new electricity subsidy policy and time frame; types of target tariff; tariffs for residential groups; available channels for customers to update data; national support system and examples of changes in electricity bills for customers according to the new tariff.

The workshop was part of a wide awareness campaign Mazoon Electricity has planned to educate different stakeholders about the new tariffs using different channels.

The company has been targeting



FUNCTION: The special workshop was attended by Sheikh Hilal bin Said bin Hamdan Al Hajri, the Governor of Al Dakhiliya governorate along with several other officials.



customers in all areas under Mazoon Electricity service in the governorates of Al Dakhiliya, South Al Sharqiyah, North Al Sharqiyah, and South Al Batinah, in addition to the wilayat of Al Suwaiq of

North Al Batinah governorate.

The objective of the workshops is to disseminate information, educate customers and provide important and accurate facts about the changes in electricity

tariff. A new tariff for electricity consumption will be gradually applied to all consumer groups from January 1, 2021.

Since the application of the new tariff depends on the accuracy of the customer data available to the company, Mazoon Electricity has urged customers to update their data as soon as possible, through the company's website (mzec.nama.om) or by going to the nearest Sanad Services Centre, with the required documents.

Mazoon Electricity continues to encourage customers to update their data on Mazoon Electricity website and seek information from its website and contact centre 800777771.

Registration for admission to Indian schools begins on February 1

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The online registration for admission in Indian Schools in the capital area for the next academic year (2021-2022) will start from February 1, 2021 for Classes KG I to IX.

"The centralised admission system with online registration introduced by the Board of Directors, Indian Schools in Oman has facilitated the entire admission process, making it convenient for parents and schools to take care of rush for admissions," a statement said.

The online registration for admissions is applicable to seven Indian Schools in the capital area

- Indian School Bausher, Indian School Muscat, Indian School Darsait, Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir, Indian School Al Ghubra, Indian School Al Seeb and Indian School Al Maabela.

Considering the COVID pandemic situations, admission procedures have been made completely online; parents, therefore, do not have to visit the Schools for submission of documents or the remittance of admission processing fee.

The closing date of online registration is 28th February 2021. For more details about the admission process, parents are advised to visit www.indianschoolsoman.com



ENTRY: The online registration for admissions is applicable to seven Indian Schools in the capital area - Indian School Bausher, Indian School Muscat, Indian School Darsait, Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir, Indian School Al Ghubra, Indian School Al Seeb and Indian School Al Maabela.

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Q M M F

Three Omani drivers to take part in Qatar rally



START OF RACE : The event will start on Friday, January 29, with a super special stage of three kilometres in Qattara area.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Three Omani drivers will take part in the first round of Middle East Rally Championship (MERC) of Qatar . The Qatar Motor and Motorcycle Federation (QMMF) is ready to host the event in Al Khor area of the country.

The event will start on Friday, January 29, with a super special stage of three kilometres in Qattara area, where spectators will get a chance to view the rally champions.

The race will be hosted in Al Khor area where 10 stages will test the experience and skills of rally drivers over two days. Tough contest is expected among the champions like Nasser Al Attya, Abdul Aziz Al Kuwari and Kris Meeke.

Abdullah Al Rawahi along with navigator Atta Al Hamood from Jordan is aiming to retain his last year title when came second in



the championship.

He said: "It is not easy for him to bag podium this year in Qatar because there are a lot of good drivers and competition is tough. Stages are very tricky and we should be very careful for that, but we hope for positive result."

Another Omani driver Zakria Al Oufi on Evo 9 with co-driver Ammar Al Balushi is looking to stamp his authority as he will be competing again with some experienced names for the podium this year. He added that it's always difficult in Qatar to win as the terrain and stages are tough and

there are chances of few punctures during the Al Khor stages.

Meanwhile, Zakaria Al Amri with his navigator Mohamed Al Mazroui on Subaru Impreza N 14, who came third in Qatar international rally last year (local rally group) is positively working to maintain his position like the last year on his new car which he will be driving for the first time. Al Amri said: "The car we bought has been tested and we need to do some checks before taking part in the rally, but let's hope for better results and prepare for our country's rally next month".

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Shabiba FM to broadcast programme on economy

Called ‘Al Majlis Al Iqtisadi’, the programme will be broadcast on Shabiba FM in partnership with the Omani Economic Association

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A new programme aiming to spread economic awareness will be broadcast on Shabiba FM from February onwards.

The programme, called ‘Al Majlis Al Iqtisadi’, will be run in partnership with the Omani Economic Association following the signing of an agreement on 26 January.

The agreement will set up a constructive partnership and initiative to generate interest in economic affairs from the public, through dissemination of related material among them. The agreement comes within the strategy of the Omani Economic Association, which aims to enhance its presence in the media.

The partnership involves the production of a weekly one-hour audio-visual radio programme on local economic issues. As part of this association, Al Shabiba Radio will also conduct media coverage of some activities of the Omani Economic Association, and the broadcast of the same via social media.

The agreement was signed at Al Shabiba Radio headquarters in Al Khuwair by Dr. Khalid bin Said



NEW INITIATIVE: The agreement was signed at Al Shabiba Radio headquarters in Al Khuwair by Dr. Khalid bin Said Al Ameri, Chairman of the Omani Economic Association (OEA) on behalf of OEA, and on behalf of Muscat Media Galaxy by its Vice Chairman, Ahmed bin Essa Al Zedjali.

Al Ameri, Chairman of the Omani Economic Association (OEA) on behalf of OEA, and on behalf of Muscat Media Galaxy (MMG) by its Vice Chairman, Ahmed bin Essa Al Zedjali.

The programme will broadcast one episode a week to disseminate awareness of the economic culture of the community members from the strategy and core business departments of the Omani Economic Association, which is an active partner in the comprehensive development of the Sultanate.

Expert view

The programme aims to provide the public with economic facts and figures by hosting economic experts from various promising sectors associated with development and diversification of income sources during the blessed era and renewed renaissance of His Majesty

Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik.

Dr. Khalid bin Said Al Ameri, Chairman of the Board of the Omani Economic Association said the enrichment of economic knowledge through shedding light on the key economic issues and attraction of prominent speakers and economic analysts to tackle such economic matters is part of the core business of the Omani Economic Association.

“This will be made available through employment of the mass media and social platforms to reach citizens and residents in all parts of the Sultanate,” he added.

“The Omani Economic Association will spare no efforts in providing advice to the wise government of the Sultanate, and discuss in the media the economic developments of the country, mainly in relation to the implementation of the tenth Five-Year Plan and Oman

Vision 2040.

Dr Al Ameri added: “The Omani Economic Association will broadcast its first radio programme with effect from next month at an episode a week, which will encourage economic experts and members of the Omani Economic Association to share their views and knowledge through the programme.

“This step is part of the strategy of the Omani Economic Association as an active partner in comprehensive development in the Sultanate, during the reign of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik”

He said, “We pray to the Almighty Allah to grant our beloved country further progress and development and to achieve whatever the Sultanate aspires to secure within the tenth Five Year Plan and Oman Vision 2040, thanks to the Royal Directives of His Majesty the Sultan.”

ANNUAL EXECUTIVE PLAN

Ministry identifies 10 challenges of the labour market

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ten key challenges faced by Oman’s labour market that need to be addressed to help the country see optimal economic development have been released by the Ministry of Labour.

The findings were announced during the ministry’s Executive Plan for the year 2021, after a study of existing work conditions in the country had been conducted by the authorities.

Non-Omani workforce

“The market is free, and remains dependent on its non-Omani workforce,” said the ministry in its findings, adding that there needed to be a “focus on qualitative and not quantitative recruitment, due to the presence of localisation targets.”

A high job turnover among employees in the country, as well as the need to meet maximum sufficiency among workers in the government sector were two other issues raised by the Ministry of Labour, which also called for a reduction on relying on the government alone to achieve economic stimulation.

Private investment

“There is an absence of a real private investment sector in the country, which is dependent on government projects,” the findings read. “Procedures to invest in the country are unclear and hinder investment.”

Investors are required to “rely on human intervention and constant negotiation” before they commit to projects in the country, added the ministry.

Another concern raised was the continual termination of workers in the private sector, owing to the current economic situation, while distorted data and figures make it more difficult for

the country’s decision makers to do what is best for the country.

The Ministry of Labour went on to say that the laws and legislations in the country were not in keeping with, and had been drafted before the second stage of the ministry’s operations, which ran from 1986 to 2000.

In terms of the availability of workers to fill vacancies in the country, the ministry noted there was a “large supply but only modest demand” for employees. These challenges came to light after “the ministry formed a team to diagnose the labour market challenges and their treatment. These are the most prominent challenges.” The Ministry of Labour was formed by the issuance of Royal Decree No. 89/2020, which also detailed its responsibilities.

Team work

“The ministry formed a working team tasked with diagnosing and addressing labour market challenges,” said Nasr Al Hosni, the Undersecretary for Labour. “Some of the challenges include the existence of a ‘restrictive’ labour market that relied on non-Omani labour and focus on ‘quantitative rather than qualitative’ employment due to the implementation of Omanisation percentages, besides a surge in job rotation and full sufficiency in employment in the government sector.”

Adding to this, Salim Musalam Al Busaidi, the Undersecretary for Human Resources, said, “The Ministry’s plan of action in 2021 seeks to develop human capital, implement policies and strategies for the development of human resources, carry out an on-the-job training programme to replace expat workers and organise training programmes for job seekers to maximize their chances of getting jobs.”

EXPAT HIRING FEE

<FROM A1 Exceptions made for small businesses

The fee for the first three domestic workers hired has been pegged to OMR141 per head. Should employers wish to increase the numbers of domestic workers they employ beyond that figure, they will be required to fork out OMR241 per worker.

Fees have also been attached to other ministry procedures concerning expatriate workers. Companies will need to pay OMR5 when their workers switch jobs, while updating a workers employment status and designation will also cost the same amount.

However, some exceptions have been made to owners of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). These are for “employers tasked with managing these companies, which are registered under the Public Authority for SME Development (Riyada) and insured by the Public Authority for Social Insurance (PASI),” said the Ministry of Labour. SMEs can benefit from these regulation for up to two years from the time of their establishment.

Hiring the first five non-Omani workers will cost an SME OMR101 per person, but bringing in up to another five, which could increase the total number of expatriates working there to 10, will cost OMR151 per head.

Should SMEs wish to bring in an expatriate worker to do a job currently reserved for Omanis, it will set them back OMR1,001.



“We have worked previously to understand the reality and challenges that exist presently in our labour market,” said Dr. Mahad bin Said Ba’owain, the Minister of Labour. “This also includes processes related to the training, operation, recruitment, and management operations in the country.

“We have therefore understood that that our current efforts will not end in a shortwhile, but we have now identified and recognised the problems that exist currently,” he added. “Through this, we were able to come up with an action plan that will be implemented during the year 2021.”



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THE RUWI CLOCKTOWER







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VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCING



Oman and the Netherlands review bilateral cooperation

MUSCAT: The Sultanate's Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands held the 27th political consultation session via video-conferencing on Wednesday.

The Omani side was chaired in the session by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Diplomatic Affairs while it was chaired from the Netherlands side by Paul Huijts, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The session reviewed the existing relations between the two countries and discussed means of promoting cooperation in various fields to serve the joint interests of the two countries' friendly people. The session also touched on the regional and international developments of common concern.

The session was attended by Sheikh Dr Abdullah Salim Al Harthy, the Sultanate's Ambassador to the Netherlands, Laetitia van Asch, Ambassador of the Netherlands to the Sultanate and officials from both sides. - ONA

SUPREME COMMITTEE

< FROM A1 Establishments failed to comply with the health safety procedures

The committee deplored the fact that large gatherings were held for social events and that many people failed to wear face masks or observe physical distances. Also, some establishments failed to comply with the health procedures devised by the authorities concerned, said the committee in its statement.

Technical team

According to the recommendation of the specialised technical team, the Supreme Committee decided that, with effect from Thursday, January 28, 2021 till further notice, the following action shall be undertaken:

- A complete ban on holding social events, irrespective of their nature.
- Postponement of direct education in universities and colleges.
- Postponement of expansion in blended learning at government schools.
- Suspension of international events and activities within the Sultanate.
- Postponement of local events and activities involving mass gatherings, including sports activities and exhibitions, among other events.

The Supreme Committee advises all citizens and residents to avoid travelling abroad during the forthcoming period, except in cases of extreme emergency. It reminded all that many countries have imposed restrictions on travel and movement.

The committee also recommended restricting the dispatch of citizens and residents on official missions abroad.

The Supreme Committee reaffirmed that it will be constantly monitor the developments of COVID-19 locally and internationally. It cautioned that the pandemic situation arising from the new mutating strains of the disease is extremely delicate and risky.

The committee hereby exhorts all citizens and residents to stick to the instructions and measures approved by the authorities concerned, to protect themselves, their relatives and their colleagues at the workplace against the perils posed by the pandemic which may at any time entail death, God forbids.

The Supreme Committee also reiterated its pledge that it will take suitable decisions congruent to the pandemic's developments and as deemed necessary to protect society and individuals from the disease and to enhance the ability of the health system and health workers to handle the situation.

The Committee prayed to the Almighty Allah to spare all people all harms.

- ONA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

< FROM A1 Job training programmes

It will train and then find employment for 3,000 Omani job seekers who have the general education diploma as their highest level of qualification, while also issuing on the job training programmes for job seekers with diploma qualifications in above, who have graduated from technical colleges and universities in the country.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, the ministry will also train a further 10,000 job seekers to enhance their job skills under the Khabraat (Arabic for 'experiences') programme. This programme will be run and funded across all governorates of the Sultanate, and will give them the skills required to perform in today's job market. 3,000 jobseekers will receive training from the Public Authority for SME Development (Riyada), while 1,000 have been registered for training under the Etimad (accreditation) scheme. Of these, 250 received training last year, while the remaining 750 are still in the programme.

"According to performance indicators, if we achieve 80 per cent of the plan's targets, we will have achieved success," said Ba'owain. We will work to complete all these initiatives during this year, achieve success, and then build on them for 2022 and the years that follow."

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS – INDIAN SCHOOLS

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR ADMISSIONS IN INDIAN SCHOOLS IN THE CAPITAL AREA (2021-2022)

Online registration for admissions to classes KG I to Class IX in Indian Schools in the capital area for the academic year 2021-2022 will start from 1st February 2021.

SL.N.	SCHOOL	CLASSES
1	Indian School Muscat	KG I – IX
2	Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir	KG I – IX
3	Indian School Darsait	KG I – IX
4	Indian School Al Ghubra	KG I – IX
5	Indian School Bousher	KG I – IX
6	Indian School Al Seeb	KG I – IX
7	Indian School Al Maabela	KG I – IX

Indian nationals currently residing in Oman and seeking admission for the academic year 2021-2022 for their children are eligible to register online.

A non-refundable processing fee of OMR 15/- will be payable on each application.

The scanned copy of the application form, duly signed by the parent, along with the copy of the fee receipt/deposit slip shall be emailed to indianschooladmissions2021@gmail.com with the application registration number as the subject on or before the closing date (2:00 p.m., 28th February 2021).

For the online application form and for more details about the admission process, please visit www.indianschoolsoman.com

Admissions are purely subject to availability of seats in the respective schools.



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UK's COVID-related deaths top 100,000

Britain is the first European nation and the fifth country in the world to pass the grim landmark of 100,000 deaths

LONDON: The number of people who died within 28 days of a positive coronavirus test in Britain has surpassed 100,000 after another 1,631 have been confirmed, according to official figures released on Tuesday.

The total number of coronavirus-related deaths in Britain now stands at 100,162, the data showed.

Britain is the first European nation and the fifth country in the world to pass the grim landmark of 100,000 deaths, following the United States, Brazil, India and Mexico.

Another 20,089 people in Britain have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 3,689,746, according to official figures.

Yvonne Doyle, medical director at Public Health England, described it as a "sobering moment in the pandemic".

"These are not just numbers. Each death is a person who was someone's family member and friend," she said.

"This virus has sadly taken millions of lives across the world, but we have learnt a lot about this coronavirus over the past year," she said. "The best way to slow the spread is to follow the rules and right now that means staying at home."

In response, British Prime Min-



GRIM FIGURES: Another 20,089 people in Britain have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 3,689,746.

ister Boris Johnson said Tuesday at a virtual press conference that "I'm sorry to have to tell you that today the number of deaths recorded from COVID in the UK has surpassed 100,000."

"It's hard to compute the sorrow contained in that grim statistic: The years of life lost, the family gatherings not attended and for so many relatives the missed chance to even say goodbye," he said.

The prime minister said that he offered "the deepest condolence" to those who have lost their loved ones.

For his part, British Health Secretary Matt Hancock said the government's measure for the coronavirus death toll having passed the grim landmark is "heart-breaking" and warned there is still "a tough period ahead".

"My thoughts are with each and every person who has lost a loved

one -- behind these heart-breaking figures are friends, families and neighbours," he said in a statement.

"I know how hard the last year has been, but I also know how strong the British public's determination is and how much we have all pulled together to get through this," the statement said.

Meanwhile, opposition Labour leader Keir Starmer said that the British government's measure of the coronavirus-related death toll passing 100,000 is a "national tragedy".

In a statement, Starmer said, "This is a national tragedy and a terrible reminder of all that we have lost as a country."

"We must never become numb to these numbers or treat them as just statistics. Every death is a loved one, a friend, a neighbour, a partner or a colleague," he said. "It is an empty chair at the dinner table."

Britons may have to forgo for-

eign holidays until 2022 as ministers prepare to impose tough new travel restrictions, a minister said on Tuesday.

Professor David Spiegelhalter, a statistician at University of Cambridge, said the British government's dashboard only counted people who died within 28 days of a positive test.

"The more accurate ONS (the British Office for National Statistics) data show that over 100,000 people in the UK had already died with COVID on their death certificate by Jan. 7, nearly three weeks ago," he said. "This rose to 108,000 by Jan. 15, and the total now will be nearly 120,000." England is currently under the third national lockdown since the outbreak of the pandemic in the country. Similar restriction measures are also in place in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. **Xinhua**

Times OF OMAN

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Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zedjali
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali
Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

CASES SKYROCKET



Global coronavirus cases cross 100mn

NEW YORK: Global coronavirus cases surpassed 100 million on Tuesday, according to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

The global case count reached 100,032,461, with a total of 2,149,818 deaths worldwide, as of 2:22 p.m. local time (1922 GMT), the CSSE data showed.

The United States reported the most cases and deaths around the world, which stood at 25,362,794 and 423,010, respectively.

India recorded 10,676,838 cases, ranking second in the world. Brazil followed with 8,871,393 cases and the world's second larg-

est death toll of 217,664.

Countries with more than 2 million cases also include Russia, Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Germany and Colombia. While other countries with over 50,000 deaths include India, Mexico, Britain, Italy, France, Russia, Iran, Spain, Germany and Colombia, according to the CSSE tally. The global caseload hit 50 million on Nov. 8, 2020, and the number of cases doubled in just about two and a half months.

The United States remains the worst-hit nation, making up more than a quarter of the global cases and nearly 20 percent of the global deaths. **Xinhua**

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Manchester City beat West Bromwich, top Premier League table

Manchester City secured a sumptuous 5-0 victory over West Bromwich on Wednesday

WEST BROMWICH: Manchester City continued their remarkable winning run as they defeated West Bromwich to go top of the Premier League table. Manchester City secured a sumptuous 5-0 victory over West Bromwich here on Wednesday, taking their winning streak in the Premier League to seven. Ilkay Gundogan scored the opening goal of the match, putting Manchester City ahead in the sixth minute. Joao Cancelo doubled the lead with a curling strike before Gundogan scored his second of the match. Riyad Mahrez made it four on the stroke of half-time with a fierce shot from the right-hand side of the penalty area. Raheem Sterling then found the back of the net, sealing the final scoreline. With this victory, Manchester City have taken their points tally



PREMIER LEAGUE: With this victory, Manchester City have taken their points tally to 41.

to 41, one ahead of Manchester United. Whereas, West Brom stay 19th with 11 points, six adrift of 17th-placed Brighton. Also, during the match, Phil

Foden made his 100th appearance for Manchester City. He played the first 52 minutes before being replaced by Ferran Torres. Having started 51 of his 100

games, Foden has so far scored 24 goals and is currently enjoying his best run of form, hitting the back of the net nine times already in the 2020/21 season. **ANI**

BCCI chief Sourav Ganguly to undergo stenting today



KOLKATA: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Sourav Ganguly will undergo stenting on Thursday in presence of Dr Devi Shetty, the Woodlands Hospital has informed through a release. “He had chest discomfort today and he is taken to Apollo today. Dr Saptarshi Basu and Dr Saroj Mondal are attending. Dr Aftab Khan will do the stenting tomorrow in presence of Dr Devi Shetty,” Woodlands Hospital said. An earlier medical bulletin issued by the Apollo Gleneagles Hospital said: “Ganguly went for a checkup of his cardiac situation on Wednesday and his vital parameters are stable.” Ganguly headed to the Apollo Hospital here on Wednesday weeks after undergoing a successful angioplasty. Sources close to the former India skipper had said that there was nothing to worry about and it was a routine visit. On January 2, the BCCI presi-

dent was admitted to Woodlands Hospital after he complained of chest pain. He spent about five days in the hospital before being finally discharged on January 7. After getting discharged, the former Indian skipper had thanked the medical team of Woodlands Hospital for looking after him and doing the needful procedures. “I thank the doctors at the hospital for the treatment. I am absolutely fine. Hopefully, I will be ready to fly soon,” Ganguly had told reporters. On January 6, Dr. Rupali Basu, MD, and CEO of Woodlands Hospital had said that the former captain would be monitored at home on a daily basis after being discharged. The 48-year-old would be ready for the next course of procedures or medical intervention after about 2-3 weeks, Dr Basu had explained while informing the reporters about the health of the former India captain. **ANI**

SOUTH AFRICA TOUR

Matthew Wade dropped from Test team for SA series

MELBOURNE: Matthew Wade was on Wednesday left out of Australia’s Test squad for the South Africa tour while Tim Paine received strong support to continue as captain. Wade will instead tour New Zealand for the T20I series as Australia and will lock horns both with the Kiwis and South Africa in February and March. The Australian T20I squad will be captained by Aaron Finch and coached by Andrew McDonald. Tanveer Sangha, the 19-year-old legspinner, who has been in fine form in the ongoing Big Bash League (BBL) for Sydney Thunder, was also picked in the T20Is squad. Cricket Australia (CA) has confirmed that the Australian men’s T20I squad to tour New Zealand will not change irrespective of the outcome of discussions between Cricket South Africa and CA regarding the Australian men’s Test tour of South Africa. “In a World Cup year, it is exciting to select a squad that combines some of the biggest names in international T20 cricket with the best emerging players in the coun-



LOCK HORNS: Wade will instead tour New Zealand for the T20I series as Australia and will lock horns both with the Kiwis.

try,” said National Selector Trevor Hohns. “Adam Zampa has developed into one of the best spinners in international white-ball cricket

and we have been most impressed by Tanveer Sangha, who has been brilliant throughout the pathways and with the Sydney Thunder this season,” he added.

Meanwhile, the Australian Test squad would be captained by Paine and coached by Justin Langer. CA has previously stated its intention to complete the three-Test tour of

South Africa, which forms part of the Future Tours Program and the World Test Championship. The tour is subject to final sign-off between the CSA and CA boards. “The squad is quite similar to that selected for the final two Tests of the recently-completed Border-Gavaskar series, with the exception of Matt Wade, who will join the Australian men’s T20I squad in New Zealand, and the addition of Alex Carey, who has been in strong form with both bat and gloves,” said Hohns. “Tim Paine was excellent at No.7 against India and as a batsman, wicketkeeper and captain still has much to offer in the Test arena,” he added. Ben Oliver, Cricket Australia’s Executive General Manager, National Teams said he looked forward to Paine once again leading Australia in the Test arena. “Tim Paine has been an outstanding captain since taking over the Australian men’s Test team in incredibly difficult circumstances,” Oliver said. “Tim is in career-best form with the bat and, while the series

against India was not his best with the gloves by his own admission, he remains in the top echelon of wicketkeepers globally,” he further said. “And as a leader, he has been brilliant. To captain a squad through the many challenges presented by the pandemic - not least the unique pressures of hub life - is no easy task and Tim did that with strength, humility and good humour,” Oliver added. T20I squad Aaron Finch (capt), Matthew Wade (vc), Ashton Agar, Jason Behrendorff, Mitchell Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Ben McDermott, Riley Meredith, Josh Philippe, Jhye Richardson, Kane Richardson, Daniel Sams, Tanveer Sangha, D’Arcy Short, Marcus Stoinis, Ashton Turner, Andrew Tye, Adam Zampa. Test squad Tim Paine (capt), Pat Cummins (vc), Sean Abbott, Alex Carey, Cameron Green, Marcus Harris, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Moises Henriques, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Michael Neser, James Pattinson, Will Pucovski, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Mark Steketee, Mitchell Swepson, David Warner. **ANI**

SA VS PAK

Fawad Alam hits ton as hosts gain upper hand

KARACHI: Fawad Alam and Faheem Ashraf played knocks of 109 and 64 respectively on the second day of the opening Test against South Africa as Pakistan gained firm control on proceedings at the National Stadium here on Wednesday. At stumps on day two, Pakistan’s score read 308/8 with Hasan Ali (11*) and Nauman Ali (6*) still at the crease. The hosts have extended their lead to 88 over the Proteas with two wickets in the bag. Resuming day two on 33/4, Azhar Ali and Alam negated the first session with precision. Both batters kept the Proteas bowlers at bay, and they did not play any rash shot on a pitch that started misbehaving from the second day. The duo scored 71 runs in the first session, taking the score to 104/4 with Ali and Alam unbeaten on 38 and 39 respectively. In the second session, both Ali and Alam started from where they left and the course of play also saw Ali registering his half-century. But soon after reach-



ing the milestone, Ali (51) was dismissed by Keshav Maharaj and this ended the 94-run stand between both batters, reducing Pakistan to 121/5. Mohammad Rizwan then joined Alam in the middle and the duo ensured that Pakistan did not lose wickets in a cluster. However, right on the cusp of the tea break, South Africa got the wicket of Rizwan (33) after Lungi Ngidi rose to the occasion. This wicket ended Rizwan and Alam’s, 55-run stand. At the tea interval, Pakistan’s score read 178/6, still trailing Proteas by 42 runs.

In the final session, Alam continued from where he left off and he went on to register a century and with this effort, Pakistan went on to take the lead in the first innings. Alam found support in Ashraf and both batters took full control of the proceedings. Both batters extended their partnership to 102 runs, but with half-an-hour’s play left in the day, Lungi Ngidi dismissed Alam (109). Before stumps, Anrich Nortje cleaned up Ashraf (64), but in the end, Hasan Ali and Nauman Ali held ground to frustrate the Proteas bowlers. **ANI**

INDIA VS ENGLAND

Joe Root-led squad arrives in Chennai for Test series

CHENNAI: The England cricket team and staff arrived in Chennai on Wednesday for the Test series against India. The first and second Test will be played in Chennai, beginning February 5. The squad led by Joe Root will be going under a mandatory six-day quarantine period as per COVID-19 protocol. Ben Stokes, Rory Burns, and Jofra Archer arrived in Chennai on Monday and they have already begun their quarantine period. On Monday, England had defeated Sri Lanka by six wickets in the second Test to win the series 2-0. Root was awarded both Man of the Match and Series for his impeccable form with the bat. Stokes arrived in India with the other members of the squad who were not a part of the Sri Lanka series. The practice for the full squad will commence for the first time on Tuesday -- February 2. Meanwhile, Jonny Bairstow was left out of the 16-man squad for the first two Tests in India while openers Zack Crawley and Dom Sibley are part of that squad. The national selectors have rested Bairstow, Sam Curran, and Mark Wood for



the first and second Tests in India. Under the leadership of Joe Root, England will be looking to show a spirited performance to bolster their chances of making it to the finals of the World Test Championship in June. England squad for first two Tests against India: Joe Root (Yorkshire) (captain), Jofra Archer (Sussex), Moeen Ali (Worcestershire), James Anderson (Lancashire), Dom Bess (Yorkshire), Stuart Broad (Nottinghamshire),

Rory Burns (Surrey), Jos Buttler (Lancashire), Zak Crawley (Kent), Ben Foakes (Surrey), Dan Lawrence (Essex), Jack Leach (Somerset), Dom Sibley (Warwickshire), Ben Stokes (Durham), Olly Stone (Warwickshire), Chris Woakes (Warwickshire). India and England are set to lock horns in four Tests, three ODIs, and five T20Is. After the first two Tests, both teams will move to Ahmedabad for the remaining two Tests and the five T20Is. **ANI**

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by March 2020 reaching \$55.77, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by 47 cents from the price of Tuesday, which was \$55.30. - OMA

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSM index closed at 3,660.163 points, down 0.48 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down 0.33 per cent at 527.87 points. Oman Refreshment, up 19.91 per cent, was the top gainer while National Bank of Oman, down 8.90 per cent, was the top loser.

Bank Muscat proposes 35% dividend for 2020

The Bank Muscat's Capital Adequacy Ratio after the cash dividend payout will be 20.77 per cent, which is well above the regulatory minimum

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, has proposed a 35 per cent dividend for the year 2020.

Continuing the bank's dividend payment track record and considering the current economic situation, the Board of Directors has proposed a 25 per cent cash dividend and a 10 per cent dividend in the form of bonus shares for the year 2020.

The Bank Muscat's Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) after the cash dividend payout will be 20.77 per cent, which is well above the regulatory minimum.

The meeting of the Board of Directors chaired by Sheikh Khalid bin Mustahail Al Mashani, Chairman, approved the 2020 financial results and dividend payout, subject to the approval of the Central



BOARD MEETING: The meeting of the Board of Directors chaired by Sheikh Khalid bin Mustahail Al Mashani, Chairman, approved the 2020 financial results and dividend payout, subject to the approval of the Central Bank of Oman and shareholders of the bank.

Bank of Oman (CBO) and shareholders of the bank.

Shareholders would receive a cash dividend of OMR0.025 per ordinary share aggregating to OMR81.238 million on the Bank's existing share capital. In addition, they would receive bonus shares in the proportion of 1 share for every

10 ordinary shares aggregating to 324,952,253 shares amounting to OMR32.495 million. The proposed cash dividend and issuance of bonus shares are subject to the formal approval of the annual general meeting of the shareholders and regulatory authorities.

The bank posted a net profit of

OMR163.36 million for the year 2020 compared to OMR185.55 million reported in 2019, a decrease of 12.0 per cent.

The complete set of financial statements, which are subject to Central Bank of Oman approval, are available at the Muscat Securities Market website.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



CMA continues convening general meetings through electronic means

Times News Service

MUSCAT: In line with the precautionary measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and to cope with the digital transformation, the Capital Market Authority (CMA) is preparing to receive the requests for convening annual general meetings of public joint-stock companies and investment funds.

To this end, the CMA issued a circular to the public joint-stock companies, investment funds, audit firms and law firms emphasising the importance of complying with the provisions of the Commercial Companies Law governing general meetings as well as the rules for convening general meetings of companies and funds via electronic means.

Circular No. 4/2021 included the procedures to be taken into account for convening general meetings such as specifying the venue of the meeting in the notice whereas the shareholder or unitholder can exercise the right attend the general meeting and vote on its resolutions whether attending personally or via electronic means administered by

Muscat Clearing and Depository Company (MCD). The circular urged the directors and those who are legally required to attend the meeting to be present in the venue of the meeting to interact with the shareholders and unitholders attending personally or via the portal.

The circular states the notice and the agenda of the general meeting must be sent to the shareholders and unitholder 15 days before the date appointed for the meeting. The circular points out that the notice to the shareholders and unitholder will be through the general meetings portal administered by MCD without the companies being obliged to send the notice to each shareholder on the address registered in the shareholders' register.

General meetings of companies and fund have broad powers and the shareholder has the right to vote or object the resolutions further to measuring the efficiency of the directors and their ability to direct the executive management of the company in addition to electing the members of the board of directors to achieve the interests of the shareholders.

APPOINTMENT

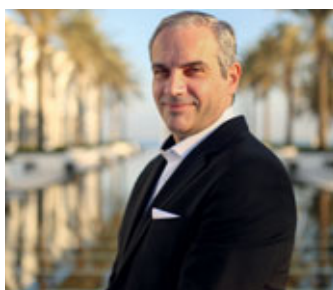
Chedi Muscat appoints new general manager

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Chedi Muscat announced the appointment of its esteemed General Manager, Thomas Guss, from January 2021. With an inspiring vision of quintessential modern hospitality, Thomas comes from a family of hoteliers and brings a wealth of authentic luxury experience from his work in the industry across Europe and the Middle East.

Born in Germany and brought up in Paris, Thomas is an accomplished hospitality professional with over 30 years' experience in the luxury hospitality industry. He completed his Master's in Hospitality Administration and Management from French Military School Baden-Baden in 1988.

When asked what he looks forward to most at The Chedi Muscat, Thomas stated, "The



Chedi Muscat is an iconic hotel in the GCC, winning a range of awards in our industry year after year. I look forward to welcoming guests to this elegant sanctuary that makes them feel at home from the moment they arrive. I am very excited to bring my experience and market knowledge on board. This, combined with the reputation of The Chedi Muscat, will bring new horizons for myself and the team to aspire for."

MADAYN INDUSTRIAL ACADEMY



Training programme on 'Opinion Polls and Survey Analysis' organised

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates - Madayn, represented by Madayn Industrial Academy, organised a training programme on 'Opinion Polls and Survey Analysis'.

Moderated by Yahya bin Khamis Al Hussaini, the pro-

gramme highlighted several topics related to design methodology of surveys and polls, samples of the study, data collection, data processing, data analysis, and writing the final report. The programme aimed at familiarising the participants with the concepts and processes related to conducting effective survey research.



Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Tender Announcement

Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry Musandam Branch announces a tender for furnishing the Chamber's branch office building in Musandam Governorate, Wilayat Dibba

Tender No.	Tender Name	Companies applying	Tender document fee	Last day of tender purchase	Last day to submit the bid
03/2021	Furnishing the Chamber's branch office in Musandam Governorate, Wilayat Dibba.	Companies specialized in supplying furniture	25 Rial Omani	Thursday 04/02/2021 12:00 noon	Thursday 18/02/2021 1:00 pm

Competent companies licensed for practicing the activity mentioned above may obtain the tender brochure from the Chamber's branch in Musandam, in the Wilayat of Khasab or the Department of Administrative Affairs at the Chamber's headquarters in Muscat-Ruwi.

*** Tender Terms:**

- Bids/Offers shall be submitted in envelopes sealed with red wax and addressed in the name of the head of the main procurement committee, Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Musandam Governorate Branch, written on it the tender number and the subject without writing the name of the bidder / offer on the envelope.
- Offers/Bids are placed in the Tender Box at the Chamber's branch building in Musandam or the Administrative Affairs Department at the Chamber's headquarters in Muscat - Ruwi.
- Note that the Chamber is not restricted to accepting the lowest bid / offer or any other bid / offer, and it has the right to accept or reject the bid / offer without giving reasons.
- The deadline for submitting bids is Thursday, 18/02/2021, at 1:00 pm, bids will not be accepted after the mentioned date.

For inquiries please call the following number: 26730229

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SALES/MARKETING

Urgent requirement 5 gallon drinking water's salesman. Email kamrulhassanbd4@gmail.com
 Contact 98512984

Urgently required a Tally Sales Executive with a minimum of 3 to 5yrs experience. Contact +968-92770324. Email: tallysales456@gmail.com
 Whatsapp +91-9743546518

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Property Leasing Manager, send CV-vepsupervisor@gmail.com

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



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BUSINESS

A reputed Omani business group wants to purchase GP clinics/poly-clinics in Muscat and interior towns of Oman including Salalah. Send WhatsApp message to 95092995 or mentioning name of clinic, location, contact number.

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

MBA, 29 Indian, 7 yrs experience in Accounts & procurement with tally, peachtree, SAP FICO & MM software certificates with DL. Contact 968-71220318, 71331413. rizwanthayyalashraf@gmail.com

Sudanese Accountant 3 years experience MBA holder 94706138

Indian male, MPA with +15 years of experience in accounts and finance (Oman, UAE & India) as Accounts Manager / chief & senior accountant on visit with NOC. Contact 79007124 / 78039524 Email: kadercok@outlook.com

Looking for Senior Accountant Position. Having 10 Years Experience and driving license . # 79202007

Indian Male Bcom MBA. 20 years experience in Finance, Tax, Budget, MIS, ERP. Contact 91190552/92243552

Well experienced Accounts Manager looking for suitable placement. Contact 99044724

Indian male with 12 yrs experience in construction companiesaccounts upto finalization.looking for suitable position.NOC & D/L available. Contact 96454187. email srinath.kollam@gmail.com

CATERING

Cook seeks job. Contact 79508817

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Autocad Draftsman, 14 Yrs Exp. In Joinery, Gypsum works and all other Interior works. Looking Job. Available in Muscat. Contact 94396829

Autocad draftsman with an experience of 8+ yrs(GCC) in drafting.Looking for an opportunity part/full time immediate joining. # 79828683

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Accountant having 3 yrs experience trained under CA,knowledge on tally ,peachtree,QB,tax,payroll,arabic typing on visit. Contact 78210435

Indian female, M.com (Finance) & MBA (HR), 6 years experience seeking an opening in Muscat. Contact : 95340104; sunilasunil30@gmail.com

Accountant M.Com with 13 years experience in Oman seeks suitable placement contact 79506513

Accountant, 5 yrs experience in Oman & India seeks suitable job. NOC available. Contact 98304173.Email alexkkadoor@gmail.com

Senior accountant, 18 yrs experience in accounts & finance along with 14 yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable replacement.Oman DL. Independently can handle accounts upto finalization, tax returns etc. Contact 93653482

DRIVER

Looking for Driver job. Contact 98934398

Looking for Driving job. Contact 93985092

Driver with 6 yrs experience in Oman Muscat looking job. Contact 91728931

Looking for Driver job. Contact 94531676

15 yrs experience in driving, looking job. Contact 97984912, 94242480

Driver job wanted. Contact 99797810, 97612115

Looking for Driver job. # 95137694

ADMIN/HR

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Hr & admin seek placement for Hr/admin executive/assistant - Contact 95425764

Indian male 23 yrs old, Bachelor of Business Administration(BBA) seeking a suitable placement. Contact 79752885

Indian Male 40 yrs old 16 yrs Exp in Business Dev. & Customer Service looking for a job Mob: 96072016

Indian Male, MBA (HR) & B.E graduate,12 yrs experience in HR Admin & Logistics (incl. 3 yrs of Oman exp.) can join immediately - 79857135 / kvaradhan@hotmail.com

Smart Indian, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman experience including Airport Projects, Hospital/Healthcare, Media. Immediate, NOC. 99283938

Indian Male with 3+ years of experience with valid Oman D/L looking for Administrative, Business Development or Sales/Marketing opportunities. Contact: 91400234. shaheemraf@gmail.com

Indian Female 7 years experience Exe. Secretary, Admin Asst, Project Asst, Collection Followup. # 92243552

LOGISTIC

Seeking opportunity in managerial position in logistics, having 4 yrs exp in administering logistics through air, sea, land & documentation within Oman & 6 yrs in India. Contact 98347003 Email jibyjohnd28@gmail.com

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Senior MEP Manager

Indian Male: Btech, having 23 years GCC experience with valid Oman driving licence seeks suitable placement.

Contact GSM: 79880377
Email: jaksona8081@gmail.com

FINANCE / ADMIN

Experienced Female with 8 years experience in accounts & Admin who is also a qualified paralegal in company law looking for a suitable post.

Contact: 96303874

FINANCE

Experienced European National Male with 7 years experience looking for a suitable post in the Accounts/ Finance. NOC available.

Contact: 97711584

Indian female (M.Sc. chemistry), 2 years experience as a quality control officer seeking a suitable opportunity in any chemical industry/food industry /lab assistant.

Contact +968 71548622
cleetadsu7259@gmail.com

Indian male chief accountant 21yrs experience in financial accounting, budgeting and finalisation. Oman D/L familiar with Sap, customised ERP and Tally. On visit

Contact 7807374
Email sajeevsmi2005@gmail.com

Sales Manager

With BA Degree and above 5 years of experience in Oman Market looking for suitable opportunity.

GSM: 71744819
Email: mehdikassen@yahoo.com

Architect/ Interior Designer

36 yrs old, 12 yrs working in Design, Consultancy & project execution. Experience working in commercial, Institutional/Educational, residential construction, Hospitality, Interior design/ fit-out work. Knowledge on CAD/ MS office/ Planning/ Tendering/ Estimation & execution. Ready to join immediately with D/L and NOC available

Contact: 78371040

Facility Manager / Operation (Project-Civil) Manager

B.E. (Civil) with 24 years expertise in Facilities Management, Civil Construction Management, Project Management, Maintenance Management, Construction Site Inspection & Audit, Process & Documentation, Security & Surveillance, Contracts & vendor management, Budgeting & cash flow. Available to join immediately. Omani DL & NOC is available.

Contact: +968-96180303 shiv60769@gmail.com

SR. Manager/GM/VP (Plant)

Indian Male,with more than 23 years exp. in repair/ maint/deployment/logistic/procurement of Vehicles/Heavy construction equipment in a large reputed construction industry seeks suitable placement in senior management level. NOC available.

Contact: 79198709

ELECTRICAL MANAGER

Graduate Electrical Engineer & MBA (Project Management) with 28 years' experience in Industrial Projects & Maintenance looking for senior role. NOC Available and can join immediately.

Contact: 968-94029112
Email: sakthiveljothi@gmail.com

Senior Civil Engineer

Indian Post graduate civil engineer with 37 years of professional experience in Oman in property development and construction management seeks senior management opportunities in similar field.

Contact 96504377
jobsearchzac@gmail.com

MBA, seeking job, 27 yrs experience in capable managerial candidature with rich experience in Business operations, Vendor generalist, Procurement and HR generalist. Can join immediately.

Whatsapp: 7730012111
Mobile: 94268870
Email: mvssmgnbr@gmail.com

Omani Mechanical Engineer

Omani, looking for a job, Bachelor in Mechanical Engg from the United States of America, +2 yrs of experience in Oil & Gas. + NEBOSH certification Holder.

Contact: 95070748
Email: siyabi430@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer

Indian Male 29yrs with 7 Plus years of Experience in handling High End Building Construction Projects, Infrastructure, MEP, Interior finish and Landscaping works looking for any suitable job in immediate. Having Knowledge of MS Project & Primavera P6. NOC & Oman D/L Available.

Please contact me on 95051103,
Email: loyannavildsouza@gmail.com

Structural/Civil Engineer

with 14 years of experience (8 years in USA and 4 years in Oman) in PEB, RCC, Pipeline, Offshore, and Marine structures and have Master degree from USA. Seeking for placement as Project Engineer or Manager.

Please contact me on +968-93368626
irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com

SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

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GSM: 94125368 ;
premjitpremanathan@gmail.com

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9539 1786

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Having DL & Current Visa expires in Feb/2021.
Contact # boopathiraja88@gmail.com / 97412105

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CA, CPA, BSc. (Accountancy & Business Finance) Special with 12 years of experience (6th year in Oman) is looking for an opening. DL, NOC are available.

GSM: 78259755

Indian female B Com graduate having 7 years' experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP 9). Seeking suitable placement in Accounts/ Admin.

Contact: 92999419
d.kaiyarla1986@gmail.com

Experience more than 20 years of experience working in: Public Administration, Human Resource, Public Relations, Preparation and Writing of Reports, Coordination and Preparation of Meetings, Business Development, Marketing, Management and Retail Real Estate.

Contact whatsapp: 99477009
Email: abualmutsam@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Male, 41 Years, B.Com + CA Intermediate, having more than 15 Years of experience (13 years in Oman) in the different positions as Accounts Manager, Internal Auditor and statutory auditor. currently working as Accounts Manager, seeking similar Managerial position in finance.

Contact: 99169501

HR Manager

17 years' experience in Finance & HR (10 Yrs), Indian Male, MBA & M.Com. NOC Available.

Contact: 96332608

OMANI HR/PRO

Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.

Contact 97264447

INDIAN, female, MBA, 4 years experience in Office administration and customer service (Banking & Construction field), knowledge of MS packages, currently on family visa, residing in Ruwi.

Mob: 95073054
Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

Finance Manager / CFO

Indian Chartered Accountant and Cost Accountant with 25 years experience in Finance, MIS, Budget, Strategy, Projects, VAT seeks suitable placement.

Contact: 99884291 / 99741875
VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM

Junior Architect with 3-years Oman experience in designing, proficiency in AutoCAD, Sketchup, Lumion Vray & Photoshop. Has worked in quantity estimations. Looking for suitable placement in Muscat.

Contact 95972625

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

Srilankan Senior Accountant looking for a suitable opportunity. 7 years experience in Oman & capable of handling accounts up to finalization. On hand experience in Tally, Spur, QB etc. Having D/L.

CONTACT: 92821932

PLANNING ENGINEER/MANAGER

Planning Engineer/manager 20 yrs experience in Mechanical, civil, pipeline 7 MEP projects using Primavera with NOC & D/L seeks suitable position.

Contact 92651105
Email rejil_mathai@hotmail.com

General Manager/ Sr. Manager Role, Indian Professional (BE, MBA, PMP, FIDIC) with 25 years experience into Civil and Infrastructure Constructions and Project Management. NOC available.

Contact 94634053

Finance/Accounts Manager

Indian male (MBA Fin) with 20 yrs working exp as Accounts & Finance Manager (Strategic planning, Procurement, Finance, Accounting, HR Admin, Audit, Tax, VAT) seeking suitable post. Valid Oman DL. NOC available.

Contact No.99705790
email: thoms_mat@yahoo.com

Graduate Civil Engineer

From India with over 11 years Project Management Experience with Consultant and Client in Oman with local release & driving license seeks suitable opportunities.

Email: contactsyedshams@gmail.com; GSM: +968 98500235

Senior Software Test Engineer

Indian Female 25yrs, BCA, M.tech, 5+- years experience in Wipro technologies. Key Skills – Web Application testing, Anti money laundering, Agile methodology, Manual Testing, Automation testing, selenium, Java, SQL, Appium and API testing.

Contact: 71792368 / 99295161 / nibesh.cmn@gmail.com

Indian male, bachelor's degree, Graduate (B.Com, B. Ed) looking for secretary, exec assistant, office administration jobs, 18 years experience, 7 years in Oman.

Call 97015841
Email khalid.bin.umar@gmail.com

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)

MBA, B.Sc and CA (Intermediate) with 18 years of experience (12th year in Oman) in Retail, FMCG, Leasing and Property management sectors. Immediate joining. DL. NOC is available.
M: 9641 6394 / Mail: scms.acc133@gmail.com

Bsc In Civil Engineering, MBA in Project Management, PMP Certified, having 14 yrs experience (12yrs in Oman) with experience of construction of 4 star hotel, Airports, commercial & residential buildings, factories, Oil stations, is looking for a suitable placement. Having Oman Driving licence with NOC.

Contract: 99721926, tanvircivil@gmail.com

GM / NSM / Head Of Sales

Male 49 – Proven Business Manager with exceptional sales management skills. Charted Institute of Marketing - UK, MBA in Marketing. 15+ years of FMCG sales & business management experience in GCC & OMAN. NOC/DL available.

Email: sljobseeker72@gmail.com
Contact: 96223114

Indian male, bachelor's degree, Graduate (B.Com, B. Ed) looking for secretary, exec assistant, office administration jobs, 18 years experience, 7 years in Oman.

Call 97015841
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Indian 28/Male Diploma Electrical Engineer, 4.5 yrs. Exp. (2 yrs. (Exp.) in Dubai) as an Electrician. Seek job Contact no 79572738.

BE Civil Engineer 8 to 9yrs experience. Contact 93850875. Email abdulcivilco2015@gmail.com

8 Years experienced Electrical Sales and Estimation Engineer with valid driving license available to join immediately. Contact: 79696089. Email xjnirmal@gmail.com.

BE Civil engineer having 13 years oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact no: 72132426

Landscaping and Irrigation Engineer with 9+ yrs total exp, 6 yrs in oman, looking for suitable job. Contact no. 72100025

Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDO, Diwan, Abu Dhabi, group of companies as GM. Contact/ Whatsapp 94174443

A Civil engineer with a valid D/L, 9 years experience in Oman seeks job. Contact 97646908

30 Yrs Male, Steel Fabrication Engineer, 6Yrs in Oman, Mechanical CAD, Shop Drawing, Ph: 97097688.

Project / Site Engineer, B.tech Civil, 8+ yrs Gulf Experienced in Major Projects, Oman D/L Ph-99857800.

IT

CRM, ERP & MIS analyst, experience 5 yrs. Contact 71561266

Indian male, B.Sc (Computer science) 6 yrs of Project management (IT) with FMCG domain across global markets, experience in managing end to end project activities. Contact 98781017

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HSE Professional, Indian national, Graduate with 23+ years of experience having GradIOSH and IDipNEBOSH certifications seeking suitable placements. Working in Oman since 2012. Ready to join at short notice. Contact: 92604510, hseoman101@gmail.com

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Indian with 16years experience in sales and marketing with valid Oman DL, looking for opportunities Contact 79685337

BM, with 26 yrs FMCG exp, handling large distribution looking for better prospects. Contact 90925520

Indian male with Oman D/L, looking for job in Sales. Having experience in sales in a very well reputed FMCG company in Oman. Contact 90625165, Email id: farookshamas@gmail.com

Sales Executive, 14 yrs experience in FMCG/TT/Oilfield supplies with DL, looking for suitable placement. Contact 90174597

6 years experienced Sales officer looking for the suitable job. Valid, Omani driving license available. Contact 98424254

Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) & Digital Marketing. Valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable placement. 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com.

23 Years Graduate in Marketing looking for job in Sales or Marketing having 03 years sales experience. Contact: 9427 1666.

MBA Marketing/HR, 5 years working experience in India. Experience in Sales, Marketing and operations. Contact +96896652549

Sales/office driver, 15 yrs experience with DL & NOC. Muscat Area. Contact 79758863

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ROUND-UP

INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT

ISD organises virtual treat to mark 72nd Republic Day of India

MUSCAT: Indian School Darsait (ISD) organised 72nd Republic Day of India and Academic Excellence Award Ceremony 2020 virtually on Google Meet with patriotic fervour and pride.

The function began solemnly with the National Anthem of India. Amar Srivastava, Principal extended a warm welcome to the chief guest, dignitaries and the ISD family. He assured that the event would be interspersed with patriotic fervour and academic success as it was a celebration to mark the spirit of freedom along with academic brilliance.

Jaikish Pavithran, President, SMC and the chief guest on the occasion, greeted all. Expressing his joy on the occasion, he hoped that these kinds of celebrations would pave the way to strengthen the social life of everyone in the midst of the global pandemic COVID 19. He proudly read out 'the excerpts of the President of India's message to the nation on the Eve of 72nd Republic Day of India'.

The key attractions of the day's celebrations were sweet rendition of patriotic and melodious songs by the students of primary section as well as senior section and charismatic dance performance, *Mera Bharat Mahan*, by the students of both primary and senior sections. On the whole, the programme instilled the noble ideals of patriotism and dedicated sacrifices of our soldiers filling every heart with pride for our glorious country.

Felicitation

The day also marked the felicitation of the Toppers of Classes X & XII in the CBSE Board Exam 2020: the GCC topper, the school toppers, national toppers, subject toppers and A1 scorers in all subjects.

Delivering the presidential address, Jaikish Pavithran appreciated and acknowledged the students who exceeded the expectation of the school by bringing laurels in the Board Exam. Further, he congratulated all excellence award winners with a special mention of Sneha Ann Reji of Class XII A, who was the GCC Topper in Science Stream in AISSCE, March 2020.

Unstinted support

In his felicitation address, Ajit Vasudevan, Convener & Head-Academic Subcommittee SMC urged the award winners to face the vast and competitive world confidently and impact the community and the nation at large with their thoughts, words and actions. Moreover, he congratulated their parents for giving them unstinted support, the teachers and administrators for their efficient guidance and instructions, and the SMC for their invaluable service and leadership in making the school scale greater heights.

Geeta N. Chauhan Vice Principal, Primary Section proposed the vote of thanks expressing her gratitude to all dignitaries and the Team ISD for the brilliant execution of the event.

Move in style with new 2021 Cadillac Escalade

This luxury SUV is for those who want to move and be moved in style giving drivers a sense of power and enhanced driving experience you can only get from driving the Escalade



in the house. Building on decades of Cadillac craftsmanship, its new design, architecture and new chassis technologies have significantly expanded its interior space. The fifth edition is the biggest Escalade ever and offers significantly more room for passengers and their cargo offering 40 per cent more third-row legroom (34.9 inches / 886 mm), 68 per cent increase in maximum cargo space behind the third row (25.5 cubic feet / 722 litres) in the standard-length model. The Escalade ESV is now the best in class for cargo space behind the first, second and third rows.

The power to move you

When it comes to performance, the 2021 Escalade does not compromise. The model is powered with a new 6.2L V-8 engine, with variable valve timing, stop/start and Dynamic Fuel Management technologies for a smoother ride than ever before. The engine is matched with a 10-speed auto-

matic transmission with electronic shift control and a trailering package is standard on all models. Additionally, the SUV balances performance — 420 hp (313 kW) — with comparative efficiency, giving drivers the confidence they need when on the road whether they are driving on a highway, off-road or trailering.

Precise driving experience

The 2021 Escalade driver's confidence is further boosted by advanced chassis technologies intended to deliver a responsive, precise driving experience that offers exceptional isolation from the road and makes the journey all the more pleasurable.

For example, the all-new Independent Rear Suspension in the 2021 Escalade allows each rear wheel to handle road conditions separately, steering responsiveness and overall driver control and significantly enhancing the ride quality and reducing noise and vi-

bration. On that front, the available electronic limited-slip differential (eLSD) offers more precise traction and power engagement for the rear wheels, maximising traction and giving the driver a firm grip on the road for even more control.

When it comes to setting benchmarks in its segment, the 2021 Cadillac Escalade is the only luxury SUV that offers Magnetic Ride Control. Cadillac's signature Magnetic Ride Control is the world's fastest reacting suspension technology — reading the road 1,000 times per second and alter the damping rate of the shocks almost instantly to reduce vertical body motion, body roll and vibrations that can often resonate in a large SUV, thus making your drive responsive and smooth.

Combined with the Magnetic Ride Control, the new Air Ride Adaptive Suspension on the Escalade is composed of electronically controlled air springs delivering automatic load-levelling and ride-height adjustments helping elevate the isolation and smoothness of the ride.

All Cadillac models in Oman come with Cadillac Premium Care Program. The ownership benefits covered by the Cadillac Premium Care Programme include Complimentary service and maintenance for 5 years / 100,000km, regional roadside assistance for 4 years, warranty for 4 years / 100,000km.

OTE Group is the exclusive dealer for Cadillac in Oman offering excellent sales & after-sales service support on par with global standards with a nationwide service network.

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Kia unveils new logo and global brand slogan

The introduction of the new logo represents Kia's ambitions to establish a leadership position in the future mobility industry by revamping nearly all facets of its business



Movement that inspires

MUSCAT: Kia Motors Corporation revealed its new corporate logo and global brand slogan that signify the automaker's bold transformation and all-new brand purpose.

The introduction of the new logo represents Kia's ambitions to establish a leadership position in the future mobility industry by revamping nearly all facets of its business.

The logo is a symbol of Kia's new brand purpose and the values it promises to offer customers through future products and services, and the experiences these enable. Kia seals its brand promise by developing the new logo to resemble a handwritten signature. The rhythmic, unbroken line

of the logo conveys Kia's commitment to bringing moments of inspiration, while its symmetry demonstrates confidence. The rising gestures of the logo embody Kia's rising ambitions for the brand and more importantly, what it offers customers.

"Kia's new logo represents the company's commitment to becoming an icon for change and innovation", said Ho Sung Song, Kia's President and CEO. "The automotive industry is experiencing a period of rapid transformation, and Kia is proactively shaping and adapting to these changes. Our new logo represents our desire to inspire customers as their mobility needs evolve, and for our employees to rise to the challenges we face in a fast-changing industry."

The new logo was unveiled during a record-breaking pyrotechnic display in the skies above Incheon, Korea. The event saw 303 pyrotechnics launching hundreds of fireworks in a synchronised artistic display, igniting and celebrating

Kia's new beginning.

This set a new Guinness World Record for 'Most unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) launching fireworks simultaneously'.

In addition to an all-new logo, Kia revealed its new global brand slogan, 'Movement that inspires'. Details on Kia's new brand strategy, including brand purpose and philosophy as well as application to Kia's future product line-up, is shared through the digital 'New Kia Brand Showcase' event held on January 15, 2021.

The event can be viewed on the Kia Global YouTube channel.

The launch of the new logo follows the announcement of Kia's 'Plan S' long-term business strategy in 2020. Under Plan S, Kia, among other objectives, has the ambition to take a leading position in the global car market. This is focused on popularizing electric vehicles and introducing a broad range of mobility services, tailored to meet the needs and tastes of individuals and local markets.

IMPLEMENT ERP SOLUTIONS



Oman Educational Services signs pact with Prime Business Solutions

MUSCAT: Leveraging local capabilities in addressing high-end requirements, Oman Educational Services (OES) and Prime Business Solutions (PBS) have signed a collaborative agreement to co-operate for the development of an advanced Student Information System (SIS) and the implementation of GEARS ERP, a cutting-edge comprehensive enterprise resource planning solution.

GEARS ERP, fully developed by PBS, is designed to help increase productivity, lower costs and improve operations' monitoring and collaborations. By rolling out GEARS ERP to one of OES entities, the German University of Technology in Oman (GUtech), OES will not only be able to embrace current best practices, but it will also enable the University to integrate emerging technology to support changing

organisational demands.

OES and PBS collaboration goes beyond implementing GEARS ERP but to work together on developing a new advanced higher education grade student information system (SIS). The SIS will extend the ERP features to respond to the needs of the higher education sector and align the organisation and business insights of private universities and colleges. The ERP and SIS solutions will provide GUtech's students as well as administrative and faculty members with the latest technology tools enabling real-time access to information and processes.

Commenting on the occasion, Dr Hussain Al Salmi, CEO of OES and GUtech Acting Rector said, "The collaboration with PBS, a strong and forward-looking Omani company, allows us to

consolidate different solutions for a streamlined management of academic and administrative operations." Besides, Al Salmi concluded, "OES has made a strategic decision to collaborate with PBS. Sharing our operational and academic knowledge with the PBS team will result in an exceptional SIS to make the University's functions simple and intuitive."

From PBS's end, Engineer Hilar Al-Busaidi, Chairman of PBS, stated, "this agreement aims to localise technology and cement the collaborative effort towards a digital Oman as set out in the national strategy of Oman Vision 2040. Additionally, we are actively involved in the development of Omani technology solutions that we look forward to exporting internationally to contribute to the growth of the local technology sector."

MARKETING TOOL

Zubair SEC uses social media to develop culture of entrepreneurship in Oman

MUSCAT: With an objective to popularise local businesses in the community, Zubair Small Enterprises Centre (Zubair SEC) introduced leading business projects run by entrepreneurs and members of the centre to the community on the social media.

Adel Al-Hubaishi, senior adviser at Zubair SEC visited three pilot projects run by the centre in the local market, namely the Integrated Smile Dental Clinic, Grandma's Mixes and Al Shafi Pharmacy and interviewed the founders of this business venture's on Zubair SEC's YouTube account. Through the videos, he introduced the community to the vital services rendered by these businesses and captured their stories on how they were able to transform their ideas into successful business projects.

This initiative comes within the support strategy provided by the Zubair SEC to its members since the centre is constantly striving to diversify the methods of support provided to members entrepreneurs. The aim of the centre primarily has been to develop the culture of entrepreneurship in Oman. Zubair SEC is today a standalone economic development institution that has created income as well as assets for people and communities. Over the years the centre has helped several young Omanis launch their businesses and establishment.

On the initiative of giving exposure to young entrepreneurs on social media, Adel Al-Hubaishi, said, "We conceptualised this idea to support and encourage the growth of entrepreneurship in the Sultanate in general. Zubair SEC always seeks to use new methods to help



entrepreneurs achieve their ambitions and introduce their products to society. Social media marketing makes it easy to spread the word about products and mission. We used the Zubair SEC YouTube account to air the interviews we conducted to give the members publicity they deserve. The idea has been lauded by the members because of the positive response they received after audiences viewed the videos. We endeavour to conduct and publish more such interviews by visiting other business owners who are members of the centre and introduce their commercial projects to the community."

Khalid Shafi Khalid Al Habsi, founder of Al Shafi Pharmacy who was part of the video said, "I am grateful to Zubair SEC for their continuous support and for helping me accomplish my objectives in a professional manner. I thank them for helping me with the marketing process, providing business development advisory and consultancy over the years. I express gratitude to the dedicated professionals at Zubair SEC who strive to make aspiring entrepreneur's vision a reality. Zubair SEC has been providing a variety of much-needed services for all entrepreneurs, small businesses owners

and members of the centre."

Al Shafi Pharmacy is a 'full service' pharmacy which provides blood pressure monitoring and blood sugar checkup, prescription drugs and a complete range of over the counter products (OTC).

Al Habsi said, "Social media is an important element of business marketing strategy. Social platforms help us connect with customers, increase awareness about brands, and boost sales. We thank Zubair SEC for introducing us on their popular YouTube account. Al Shafi Pharmacy displays a number of products of businesses run by Zubair SEC members such as Al Broumi Honey, Al-Zahra Towers Foundation products among others."

Mazen Al-Shukaily, partner founder of Integrated Smile Dental, and a member of Zubair SEC said, "We thank the centre for its continuous support to entrepreneurs in Oman. They provide many services that have greatly contributed to our entrepreneurial journey. Giving local companies a good exposure on an Internet platform such as YouTube will not only gain them a local audience but will also make businesses procure a larger audience even across the region."

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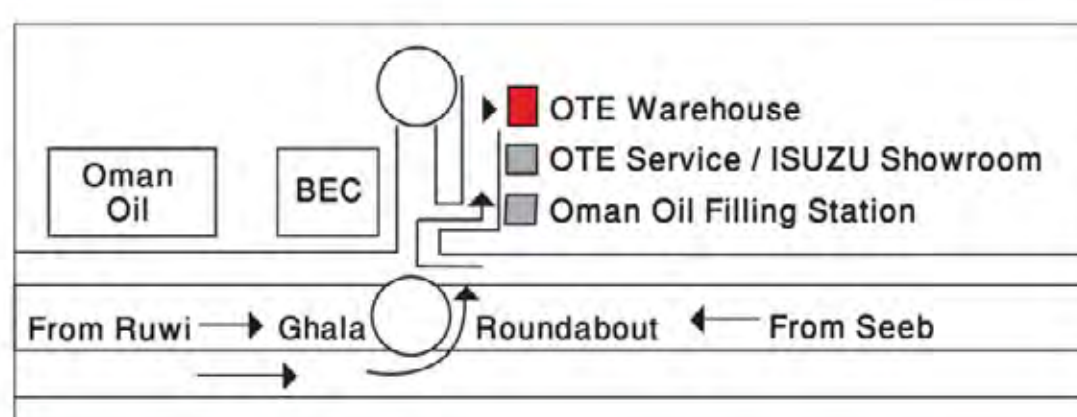
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