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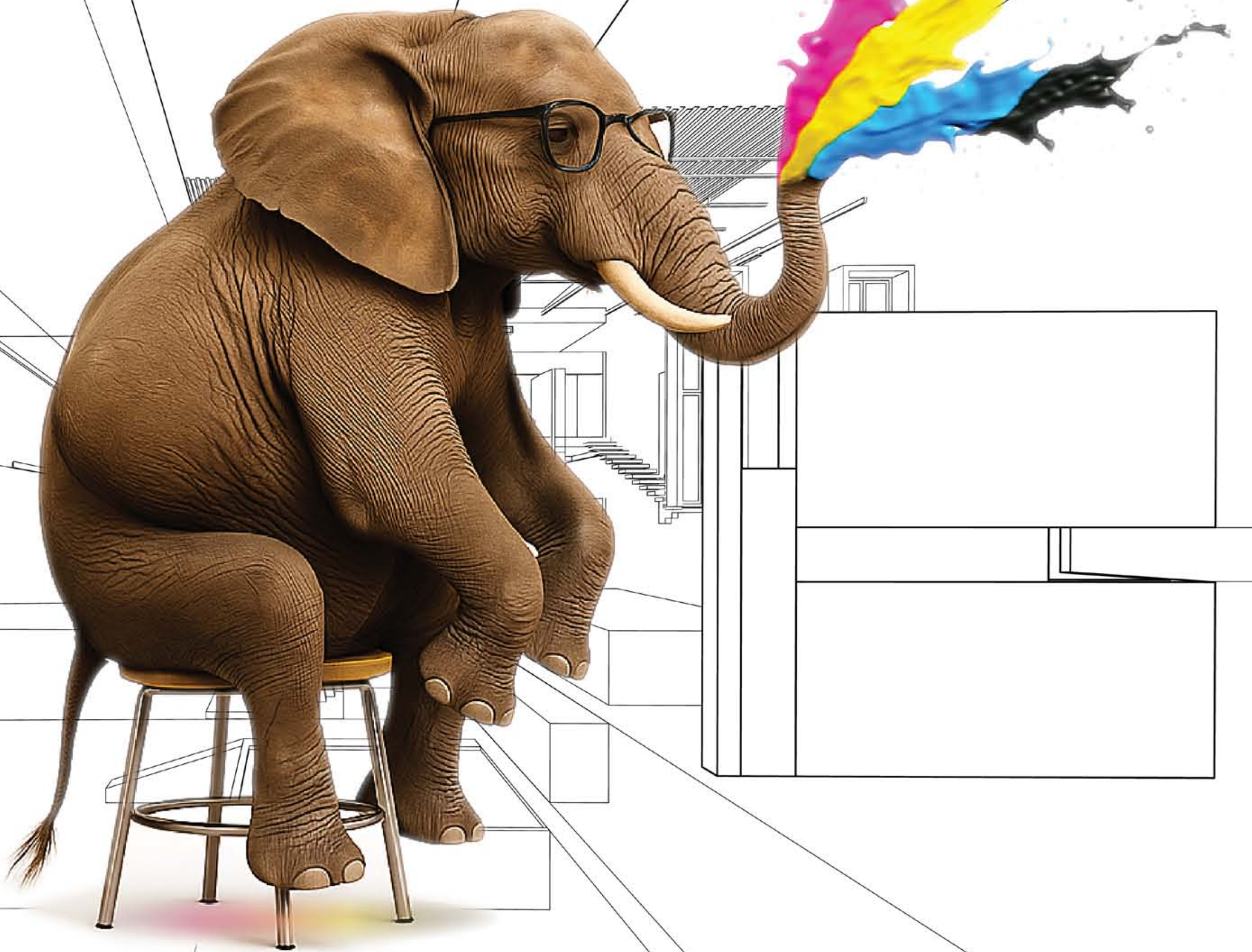
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INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2025



Said Mohamed Al-Aufi
Chairman

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The first half of 2025 reflected Sohar International's ongoing capabilities to advance strategic priorities of sustainable growth, digital innovation, and national development.

Our designation as a Domestic Systemically Important Bank (D-SIB) reaffirms the bank's systemic role in Oman's financial sector and commitment to maintaining economic stability.

In the context of Oman's evolving economic landscape under Vision 2040, we have strategically positioned ourselves to capitalize on emerging opportunities. Our focus remains on creating comprehensive value that extends beyond financial metrics to include meaningful socioeconomic contributions through targeted initiatives and partnerships.

FINANCIAL STRENGTH

Compared to the same period last year total assets increased by 10% to RO 7,877 million mainly driven by a 21% increase in loans, advances and Islamic financings (net) to RO 4,862 million. Customer deposits increased by 13% to RO 6,313 million. The Bank's leading net loan-to-customer deposit ratio of 77% further demonstrates our funding and liquidity strength.

The 24% increase in shareholder's equity, from RO 719 million as of 30 June 2024 to RO 892 million, includes a RO 130 million rights issue completed in December 2024 positioning the Bank with a market leading Common Equity Tier 1 capital ratio of 14.74%.

Compared to the same period last year, total operating income decreased by 2% to RO 115.6 million, mainly due to a decrease in net interest income.

Total operating expenses increased by 9% to RO 52.1 million, reflecting the Bank's continued investment in our Branch operation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as well as continued strategic investments in Omani talent and technology.

Loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions (net) increased to RO 12.2 million compared to RO 10.2 million for the same period last year, further strengthening the Bank's coverage ratio to 158%.

The resulting profit for the period of RO 46.2 million was 8% below the same period last year.

STRATEGIC GROWTH INITIATIVES

Our growth strategy has achieved significant milestones with the official inauguration of our Riyadh branch representing a pivotal step in our regional expansion. This strategic move enhances our GCC footprint while facilitating cross-border investment flows and trade opportunities between Oman and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Complementing this expansion, our Memorandum of Understanding with the East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACCIA) establishes a framework for strengthening economic cooperation between Oman and East African markets, creating new avenues for trade and investment.

The Pearl Real Estate Investment Fund's acquisition of the new Omran Building in Madinat Al Irfan for OMR 25 million exemplifies our leadership in Sharia-compliant investments while supporting Oman's urban development objectives.

These strategic initiatives collectively contribute to the economic diversification goals outlined in Oman Vision 2040, while generating sustainable long-term value for our stakeholders.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Our partnership strategy continues to generate substantial value for Oman's economic and social development.

The OMR 63 million credit facility agreement with Al Mouj Muscat supports strategic urban development projects that contribute to Oman's modern infrastructure landscape.

In collaboration with Dhofar Municipality, we are developing innovative digital banking solutions designed to improve the efficiency and accessibility of public services for citizens.

As Golden Sponsor of Gulf Traffic Week 2025, we actively promoted road safety awareness through educational programs and community engagement initiatives.

Our participation in financial literacy workshops during Global Money Week equipped young Omanis with essential money management skills, supporting the development of financially responsible future generations.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Our "Digital-First" approach continues to deliver transformative outcomes across all aspects of our operations.

As the pioneer in Oman's banking sector to implement a fully integrated Open Banking Platform, we are establishing new benchmarks for financial innovation and interoperability.

Our expanding API ecosystem now facilitates seamless connectivity with multiple third-party providers, enabling the creation of innovative financial solutions that address evolving customer needs.

The successful deployment of Google Pay integration has been enthusiastically received by customers, with adoption rates exceeding projections.

The proportion of digital transactions continues its upward trajectory, reflecting the effectiveness of our digital adoption strategies.

Our cybersecurity framework has been further strengthened through the timely completion of ISO 27001 certification, ensuring we maintain the highest standards of data protection and system integrity.

SERVING OUR INVESTORS

As the third largest listed company on the MSX, we continue to prioritize transparent and constructive engagement with our investor community.

Our recent investor session in collaboration with MSX provided a comprehensive overview of our 2024 performance and detailed our strategic roadmap for 2025, facilitating productive dialogue with shareholders and analysts.

We have further enhanced our engagement program through increased communication frequency and specialized sessions for institutional investors, reinforcing our dedication to maintaining investor confidence and ensuring our strategic direction remains fully aligned with shareholder expectations.

SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS

Enhancing customer experience remains central to our operational philosophy, driving our continuous investment in digital innovation and strategic partnerships.

In line with this philosophy, our recent initiative to offer zero transaction charges on digital banking services

for corporate clients has proven to be a significant step forward in driving adoption and enhancing the value we deliver. This campaign was designed to empower our corporate customers with seamless, cost-effective access to our comprehensive digital transaction capabilities.

From a retail banking perspective, our exclusive collaboration with SalamAir offers customers attractive discounts on domestic flights when utilizing our credit cards, delivering concrete value to frequent travelers whilst promoting in-country tourism.

The introduction of our Digital Prepaid Card with instant issuance capabilities provides customers with enhanced payment flexibility and convenience.

We have expanded functionality for minor accounts to promote financial literacy from an early age, while our Credit Card Acquisition and Spends Campaign has successfully deepened customer relationships across all segments.

Operational enhancements have yielded measurable improvements, including reduced call center response times, while consistently maintaining high customer satisfaction ratings.

As part of our broader strategy to elevate service excellence, the first half of 2025 saw Sohar International significantly strengthen its position as a customer-centric institution by enhancing its complaint management and service recovery protocols. This resulted in the resolution and closure of over 90% of customer complaints within the stipulated service level agreements—demonstrating our unwavering commitment to responsiveness, transparency, and operational integrity.

Our Customer Experience function also played a vital role in building emotional engagement with clients, particularly through direct interactions at branches during national and cultural occasions. These personal engagements reinforced the bank's commitment to listening, understanding, and addressing the diverse needs of our customer base—while simultaneously fostering a sense of community and belonging.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Our comprehensive approach to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors continue to generate meaningful impact throughout the country.

The "Threads of Hope" program, implemented in partnership with Dar Al Aseel, has provided vocational training and entrepreneurship development for Omani women, contributing to economic empowerment and professional growth.

In partnership with Sharakah, we concluded the Women SMEs Development Program with a graduation ceremony, reaffirming our commitment to sustainable empowerment. Over six months, ten Omani women entrepreneurs were equipped with key skills in finance, digital tools, and marketing—resulting in an 83% increase in their total revenues compared to the same period in the previous year.

Through our sponsorship of cultural initiatives such as the Afaq Arab University Theater Festival, we actively support the preservation of Oman's rich heritage while fostering creative expression among the nation's youth.

Environmental sustainability remains a key focus, with our digital transformation initiatives achieving substantial reductions in paper consumption.

The innovative "Every Like Adds Light" Ramadan campaign successfully transformed digital engagement into tangible charitable contributions, demonstrating the potential of technology for social good.

Our ongoing sponsorship of national freediving champion Omar Al Ghailani reflects our commitment to sporting excellence and national pride.

SERVING OUR PEOPLE

Our employees constitute our greatest asset and the foundation of our continued success. The introduction of new leadership development programs this quarter has achieved strong participation rates among our management team, reinforcing our leadership pipeline.

Employee engagement metrics reflect our sustained commitment to cultivating a positive and inclusive organizational culture. We have successfully implemented flexible work arrangements across suitable roles, maintaining operational efficiency while supporting work-life balance.

Our Organization strategy continues to yield impressive results and thereby contributes to the development of local talent and the national economy.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Sohar International's commitment to excellence and innovation has been recognized through several prestigious industry accolades. The inclusion in Forbes Middle East's Top 100 Listed Companies acknowledges our strong market position and consistent financial performance. The "Bank of the Year in Digital Innovation" award validates our leadership in banking technology and digital transformation.

At the Oman Banking Awards, we were honored with multiple distinctions including Best Digital Transformation Initiative and Best Bank - Growth, recognizing our balanced approach to progress across various dimensions of our operations. These recognitions serve both as validation of our achievements to date and as motivation to continue elevating our standards of excellence.

In recognition of our capital markets expertise, Sohar International and Sohar Islamic, received the Islamic Finance News (IFN) 'IPO Deal of the Year' award for managing the region's largest IPO in 2024, raising OMR 1.7 billion.

Further reinforcing our customer-centric approach, Sohar International was also named the "Best Customer Experience Team in Oman" at the inaugural Oman CX Forum, a testament to the bank's continued leadership in delivering meaningful, differentiated experiences across the banking landscape.

RECOGNITION

I extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our stakeholders for their ongoing trust and confidence, an enduring source of strength in our journey of transformation and long-term growth. The dedication and shared purpose demonstrated by our people remain central to delivering on our strategic goals and upholding the values that define Sohar International.

We also acknowledge with gratitude the vital role of our regulators, particularly the Central Bank of Oman and the Financial Services Authority, whose strong governance, transparent frameworks, and steadfast guidance have enabled sustained progress within the sector.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire team, I express our sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq. His visionary leadership continues to guide the nation towards lasting prosperity and socio-economic advancement.

Said Mohamed Al-Aufi
Chairman

INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2025 (RO'000)

	30 June 2025 (Unaudited)	31 December 2024 (Audited)	30 June 2024 (Unaudited)
ASSETS			
Cash and balances with Central Bank	268,492	202,953	171,210
Due from banks	657,843	561,730	735,031
Investment securities	1,883,292	2,119,029	2,052,539
Loans, advances and Islamic financings (net)	4,861,563	4,269,808	4,025,154
Other assets	57,822	58,038	42,923
Investment properties	2,900	2,900	2,900
Property and equipment	75,309	74,364	73,498
Intangible assets	69,349	71,929	64,379
TOTAL ASSETS	7,876,570	7,360,751	7,167,634
LIABILITIES			
Due to banks	565,602	570,313	727,871
Customer deposits	6,312,737	5,777,040	5,610,483
Other liabilities	106,189	115,092	110,779
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,984,528	6,462,445	6,449,133
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Share capital	702,508	702,508	572,508
Share premium	18,038	18,038	18,038
Legal reserve	55,900	55,900	44,910
Other reserves	(5,869)	(6,635)	(5,556)
Retained earnings	121,465	128,495	88,601
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	892,042	898,306	718,501
Perpetual tier 1 capital securities	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	7,876,570	7,360,751	7,167,634
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	603,852	567,438	610,736
COMMITMENTS	1,177,178	877,214	913,225
Baisa	Baisa	Baisa	
Net assets per share	134.8	135.8	128.8

These interim condensed consolidated financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 27 July 2025.

INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE SIX MONTHS PERIOD (Unaudited) (RO'000)

	Six months ended 30 June 2025	30 June 2024	Three months ended 30 June 2025	30 June 2024
Interest income	151,870	152,504	76,760	76,893
Interest expense	(76,262)	(67,977)	(38,264)	(33,909)
Net interest income	75,608	84,527	38,496	42,984
Net income from Islamic financings and investing activities	6,677	5,307	3,670	2,811
Other operating income	33,287	28,027	18,365	12,162
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	115,572	117,861	60,531	57,957
Staff costs	(31,382)	(28,343)	(14,864)	(13,963)
Other operating expenses	(18,092)	(17,001)	(11,253)	(8,478)
Depreciation	(2,651)	(2,417)	(1,399)	(1,225)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	(52,125)	(47,761)	(27,516)	(23,666)
NET OPERATING INCOME BEFORE IMPAIRMENT PROVISIONS	63,447	70,100	33,015	34,291
Loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions (net)	(12,202)	(10,219)	(4,914)	(4,801)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	51,245	59,881	28,101	29,490
Income tax expense	(5,095)	(9,612)	(3,410)	(4,346)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	46,150	50,269	24,691	25,144
Items that will not be reclassified to profit and loss				
Revaluation loss on equity instruments held at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)	524	(29)	829	(11)
Items to be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss				
Net changes in fair value on debt instruments classified FVOCI	-	-	-	-
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS FOR THE PERIOD	524	(29)	829	(11)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	46,674	50,240	25,520	25,133
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF PARENT COMPANY	46,674	50,240	25,520	25,133
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF PARENT COMPANY	46,150	50,269	24,691	25,144
Baisa	Baisa	Baisa	Baisa	Baisa
Basic earnings per share for the period	6.97	8.34	3.73	4.51

(The complete accounts of Sohar International Bank SAOG will be delivered to any shareholder or any interested parties who request them in either Arabic or English, as requested, within 7 days of receipt of a written request. Request should be submitted to Sohar International Bank Finance Department)



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Isha.....8:14pm

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Foundation stone of OMR80mn tourism complex in Salalah laid

The project is considered a landmark tourism venture due to its prime location and comprehensive facilities in tourism and hospitality

SALALAH: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism celebrated on Monday the laying of the foundation stone for an integrated tourism complex in the Junuf area of Salalah, with an estimated investment of OMR80 million, as part of efforts to develop tourism infrastructure in the Dhofar Governorate.

The project is considered a landmark tourism venture due to its prime location and comprehensive facilities in tourism and hospitality. It is being implemented in partnership with Al-Wathba Hospitality Company under a usufruct agreement signed in February 2025.

The first phase of the project, scheduled for completion within 30 months, includes the construction of a five-star hotel with 124 guest units, a fully equipped marina with restaurants and cafés, a beach club, a health club, and a main entrance gate for the complex.

Azzan Qasim Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for Tourism, emphasised the project's importance in supporting small and medium enterprises, generating direct and indirect job opportunities, enhancing local content, and providing training and qualification programs for Omani citizens in tourism and hospitality.

He added that the project represents a qualitative addition to efforts aimed at developing tourist destinations in the Sultanate



of Oman, particularly in Dhofar, which boasts rich natural and environmental diversity. He noted that such projects reflect the government's commitment to economic diversification through investment in the tourism sector.

Khalid Abdullah Al Abri, Director General of Heritage and Tourism in Dhofar Governorate, stated in his speech that the new tourism project is among the most prominent in the governorate in terms of investment volume and diversity of components. He explained that the first phase will include a five-star hotel and a yacht marina,



one of the largest in Oman, along with a fully integrated beachfront, contributing to the enhancement of the governorate's tourism infrastructure.

He highlighted the efforts made by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism in recent years to promote Dhofar as a tourist destination by opening new tourism markets and direct flight routes, which

contributed to a 9% increase in visitor numbers during the 2024 Khareef (monsoon) season and an 18% rise in the winter season compared to the previous year.

The ceremony featured a promotional video showcasing Dhofar Governorate and another presenting the project's components, followed by the laying of the foundation stone by the Undersecretary

of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for Tourism.

It is worth noting that the project represents a significant addition to Oman's tourism sector, offering integrated facilities, promising investment opportunities, and strengthening public-private partnerships, all of which contribute to boosting tourism activity in Dhofar Governorate.



DEVELOPMENT BANK

< FROM A1 Lending activity rises

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Al Harthy highlighted that the most prominent sectors financed included the manufacturing sector with a total value of OMR38 million, the general professional services sector with OMR19 million, the agricultural and livestock sector with OMR9 million, the fisheries sector with OMR14 million, and the mining sector with OMR8 million.

He further noted that among the key projects financed by the Development Bank in the first half of this year were those in



Muscat Governorate (OMR25 million), South Al Sharqiyah Governorate (OMR14 million), South Al Batinah Governorate (OMR11

million), North Al Batinah Governorate (OMR18 million), and Al Wusta Governorate (OMR8 million).

Al Harthy stated that the increased lending activity of the Development Bank empowers Omani youth to implement their entrepreneurial projects across promising economic sectors. He underlined the bank's commitment to redoubling its efforts and expanding its services to strengthen its role in enabling the SME sector, increasing its contributions to GDP, and enhancing local value addition. — ONA

MINISTRY LABOUR

< FROM A1 Labour status correction period

This decision means that individuals and companies now have until the end of the year to complete procedures such as renewing expired labour cards, transferring worker services, or settling other outstanding obligations without

penalty. The Ministry has made it clear that this is a final extension, and non-compliance after December 31, 2025, will lead to legal and administrative consequences.

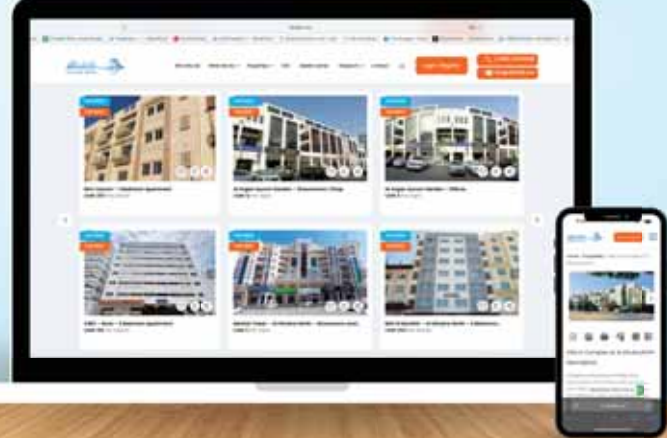


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Oman to attend world conference of parliamentary speakers in Geneva

Oman’s delegation to the conference is led by Chairman of the Shura Council and is organised by the IPU in cooperation with the United Nations

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman will take part in the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 29 to 31 July 2025. Oman’s delegation to the conference is led by Khalid bin

Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Shura Council. The conference is organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in cooperation with the United Nations under the theme “A world in turmoil: Parliamentary cooperation and multilateralism for peace, justice and prosperity for all”.

Parliamentary partnerships The event explores ways to consolidate parliamentary partnerships amid the rapid pace of global challenges. Oman’s participation in the event affirms its commitment to pluralism and highlights its active role in promoting dialogue and understanding among peoples and its support for international initiatives aimed at achieving sustainable peace and comprehensive development. It undertakes this role from the point of view that global

challenges require legislative and diplomatic efforts. It is worth noting that the World Conference of Speakers of Parliament has become the largest global parliamentary gathering of parliament speakers. The event brings together more than 300 parliament speakers from 170 countries, along with high-level participation from international organisations, civil society institutions, academics and media professionals. The conference gains significance from its status as an international parliamentary platform whose first round kicked off in 2000 at the Millennium Summit in New York. The conference aims to integrate the ranks of national parliaments within the context of a joint global governance system and to bridge the international democratic gap by activating legislative institutions’ role in devising global decisions. — **ONA**



OF OIL PRODUCTS

Duqm Refinery celebrates export of 500th shipment

DUQM: Duqm Refinery marked a significant milestone with the export of its 500th shipment of refined petroleum products through its export terminal, reflecting the company’s rapid progress and solidifying its position as a strategic hub in global energy supply chains. The achievement underscores the refinery’s unwavering commitment to operational excellence, safety, and the delivery of high-quality products. Eng. Abdullah Al Ajmi, CEO of Duqm Refinery, stated that since the first shipment in May 2023, the refinery has maintained a flawless safety record while exporting over 19 million tonnes of refined products to multiple global markets. This success highlights the refinery’s operational resilience, efficiency, and accelerated growth driven by strong momentum. In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Al Ajmi emphasized that reaching the 500th shipment milestone demonstrates what can be achieved through vision, collaboration, and operational excellence. He noted that Duqm Refinery has consistently set new benchmarks in operational performance, achieving exceptional loading rates of 130,000 barrels per hour across five simultaneous berths—a testament to the refinery’s advanced operational efficiency and precision. The CEO added that the refinery has demonstrated remarkable logistical capabilities, handling 304,388 metric tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and seamlessly managing vessels of varying sizes, from small tankers



to giant LR2-class ships. Additionally, the refinery completed loading operations for petroleum coke shipments, each exceeding 50,000 tons, in under 120 hours per shipment. Al Ajmi pointed out that after more than two years of full-scale operations, nighttime crude oil offloading at Ras Markaz terminal has become an integral part of daily operations, showcasing the refinery’s readiness to provide round-the-clock integrated logistics services. He explained that Duqm’s export terminal, strategically located outside the Strait of Hormuz, offers a competitive logistical advantage, enabling smooth exports to key destinations spanning East Africa, South Asia, the Gulf of Mexico, and Europe. He affirmed that Duqm Refin-

ery continues to diversify its exports, with plans to expand sulfur shipments as part of its strategy to broaden its product portfolio and flexibly meet global market demands with innovation. Eng. Al Ajmi stressed that this rapid achievement reinforces Duqm Refinery’s position as a strategic developmental hub, advancing Oman’s industrial ambitions and strengthening global confidence in the Sultanate of Oman as a reliable supply chain partner. The refinery stands as one of the world’s most advanced and efficient refineries. It is worth to mention that Duqm Refinery has achieved remarkable growth in a record time, exceeding 110% of its nameplate capacity and increasing production from 230,000 to 255,000 barrels per day. — **ONA**

BY THE END OF JUNE 2025

Oman’s total refinery production rises by 1.6%

MUSCAT: Oman’s total refinery production saw a growth of 1.6 percent by the end of June 2025. However, MOGAS (motor gasoline) production in June 2025 saw a decrease of 17.1 percent compared to the previous month. Preliminary statistics from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) indicate that the production of Regular MOGAS (91) increased by 11.5 percent, reaching 8.6595 million barrels by the end of June 2025, compared to 7.7679 million barrels during the same period in 2024. Sales also rose by 2 percent to 6.9645 million barrels, compared to 6.8287 million barrels by the end of June 2024. Exports of Regular MOGAS increased by 6.1 percent to 1.4946 million barrels, up from 1.4084 million barrels by the end of June 2024. In contrast, production of MOGAS (95) saw a 2.2 percent decrease, reaching 6.4184 million barrels compared to 6.5595 million barrels during the same period in 2024. However, its sales increased slightly by 0.9 percent to 6.4696 million barrels, up from 6.4124 million barrels by the end of June 2024. Exports of MOGAS-95 achieved a 20.6 percent growth, reaching 690,700 barrels compared to 572,800 barrels in the same period last year. The production of Gas Oil (Diesel) recorded a 3.8 percent increase, reaching 16.6214 million barrels, compared to 16.0166 million barrels by the end of June 2024. Sales also rose by 5.8 percent to 7.2137 million barrels, compared to 6.8202 million barrels in the same period last year. However, its exports decreased by 5.5 percent,



registering 8.5506 million barrels compared to 9.0521 million barrels by the end of June 2024. Jet fuel production experienced a 13.1 percent decrease, registering 4.9458 million barrels compared to 5.6923 million barrels for the same period in 2024. Its sales also declined by 6.4 percent to 1.8676 million barrels, compared to 1.9953 million barrels last year. Exports decreased by 16.3 percent, reaching 3.019 million barrels compared to 3.605 million barrels by the end of June 2024. As for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) production, it saw a slight increase of 0.2 percent, reaching 3.7645 million barrels, compared to 3.7556 million barrels during the same period in 2024. Its sales rose by 22.2 percent to 1.9444 million barrels, against 1.5912 million barrels for the same period in 2024, while its exports decreased by 60.3 percent, reaching 111,500 barrels compared to 280,700 barrels by the end of June 2024. Regarding petrochemicals, statistics showed that Benzene production increased by 3.1 percent, registering 86,000 metric tonnes,

compared to 83,500 metric tonnes for the same period in 2024. Paraxylene production achieved a 6.8 percent growth, registering 283,000 metric tonnes by the end of June 2025, against 265,100 metric tonnes by the end of June 2024. Polypropylene recorded the highest production growth rate at 73.4 percent, reaching 176,600 metric tonnes compared to 101,800 metric tonnes during the same period last year. Despite this, its sales decreased by 9.2 percent, registering 15,400 metric tonnes compared to 17,000 metric tonnes in the same period last year. In terms of exports, Benzene exports rose by 0.4 percent by the end of June 2025, registering 81,900 metric tonnes compared to 81,500 metric tonnes by end of June 2024. Paraxylene exports recorded growth of 22.8 percent, reaching 312,700 metric tonnes compared to 254,700 metric tonnes in the same period last year. Polypropylene exports also showed remarkable growth of 61.6 percent, reaching 131,200 metric tonnes compared to 81,200 metric tonnes in the same period of 2024. — **ONA**

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

Learning Centre at Al Mouj Muscat benefits over 3,600 users

MUSCAT: The Learning Centre at Al Mouj Muscat, affiliated with the National Museum, represents a strategic step towards expanding community outreach and enhancing the museum’s cultural presence outside its headquarters. The Learning Centre constitutes an advanced model in the field of ‘museum education’ and the development of vibrant cultural environments capable of responding to the aspirations of individuals and strengthening their connection to the cultural heritage of the Sultanate of Oman. The centre’s programmes are in line with the Sultanate of Oman’s vision to make culture an integral part of comprehensive development. Besides helping citizens become more associated with their cultural roots, the centre also makes users open to the global community, by utilising interactive methods inspired by the museum’s collections. The exhibits are designed to combine education, art and entertainment to meet the needs of diverse segments of the local community and international visitors alike. Amina Abdullah Al Abri, Head



of the Learning Centre Department, said that the centre provides an exceptional educational experience for visitors of different nationalities. To expand the volume of target audience, the Learning Centre hosts a variety of activities and

programmes, including art workshops for adults, training sessions for students from university and college and theatrical performances for children, said Amina, noting that the educational and cultural experience offered by the Learning Centre meets the expectations

of families and other community members. As many as 3,657 users benefited from the activities and programmes of the Learning Centre’s branch at Al Mouj Muscat, since the centre’s establishment in 2023 until the end of July 2025. — **ONA**





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C.R. No. 1059459

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR
THE HALF YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE 2025

Dear Shareholders,

The company has recorded total revenue of RO 3.627 Million (30th June 2024: RO 4.017 Million) and net profit after tax of RO 0.379 Million (30th June 2024: net profit after tax RO 0.543 Million) for the six months period ended 30th June 2025.

During the period under review the total revenue saw a decrease of 9.72% and net profit after tax a decrease of 30.15% as compared to the same period last year. This was mainly due to the full closure of the hotel from 1st June 2025 for hotel renovation project.

The hotel renovation project covering renovation of 200 guest rooms, corridor areas, some areas of Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing (MEP) facilities and Sewage pipeline of Hotel Crowne Plaza – Muscat is progressing as per schedule. The hotel is expected to re-open for business from 1st September 2025. The total project cost is estimated to be approximately RO 4 Million.

To finance this project the company has availed a term loan facility of RO 3 Million from a commercial bank and the balance amount will be funded through company's internal accruals.

In view of full closure of the hotel for renovation project, the total revenue and the profitability of the company would be impacted during the financial year 2025. However, the hotel would benefit from renovation in the long term. We hope after the successful completion of renovation, the hotel will offer superior quality rooms with better guest experience and able to withstand market competition for many more years to come. We believe this will add shareholder value and improve the financial performance of the company in coming years.

We express our deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said for His Majesty's inspiring leadership and wise policies. We pray to the Almighty Allah to bless His Majesty with good health and strength to lead our nation to progress and prosperity. We would also like to thank the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for implementing right policies to encourage growth in tourism sector in the Sultanate of Oman.

Ali Ahmed Al Najjar
Chairman

NOTE:

The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder or other interested party, who requests them either in Arabic or English, within 7 days from the receipt of request at company's address:

Gulf Hotels (Oman) Co. Ltd. SAOG,
P O Box: 1455, P C 112, Ruwi,
Sultanate of Oman.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	30th June 2025 RO	30th June 2024 RO	31st December 2024 RO
Assets:			
Non-current assets:			
Property plant and Equipment	29,355,308	28,370,921	28,349,409
Current assets:			
Inventory	44,283	78,207	77,443
Trade and other receivables	495,925	455,311	559,600
Term deposit	-	-	500,000
Cash and bank balances	1,637,139	1,184,967	1,303,743
Total current assets	2,177,347	1,718,485	2,440,786
Total assets	31,532,655	30,089,406	30,790,195
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	3,428,322	3,428,322	3,428,322
Share premium	58,574	58,574	58,574
Statutory reserve	1,142,774	1,142,774	1,142,774
Other reserve	18,619,520	18,619,520	18,619,520
Retained earnings	1,915,731	1,549,759	1,879,375
	25,164,921	24,798,949	25,128,565
Liabilities			
Non-current provisions and borrowings:			
Borrowings non-current	857,648	-	-
Staff terminal benefits	445,795	462,788	418,075
Deferred tax liabilities	3,690,849	3,649,468	3,691,849
	4,994,292	4,112,256	4,109,924
Current provisions and borrowings:			
Borrowings current	163,488	169,389	46,332
Trade and other payables	1,141,182	1,008,812	1,486,017
Current tax liabilities	68,772	-	19,357
	1,373,442	1,178,201	1,551,706
Total Liabilities	6,367,734	5,290,457	5,661,630
Total Equity and liabilities	31,532,655	30,089,406	30,790,195
Net Assets per share (R. O.)	7.340	7.234	7.330

INCOME STATEMENT AND STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE SIX MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	3 months period from 01.04.2025 to 30.06.2025 RO	3 months period from 01.04.2024 to 30.06.2024 RO	6 months period from 01.01.2025 to 30.06.2025 RO	6 months period from 01.01.2024 to 30.06.2024 RO
Revenue	1,255,962	1,565,616	3,626,669	4,017,239
Cost of materials consumed	(184,530)	(292,983)	(591,355)	(710,983)
Service expenses	(274,089)	(311,819)	(618,833)	(665,147)
Employee benefit expenses	(608,536)	(635,531)	(1,285,002)	(1,304,430)
Depreciation	(108,528)	(106,352)	(217,918)	(212,890)
Other operating expenses	(205,793)	(207,576)	(492,308)	(493,579)
Profit (loss) from operating activities	(125,514)	11,355	421,253	630,210
Other income	6,750	-	6,750	-
Finance income	8,078	7,978	21,770	16,792
Finance cost	(895)	(3,551)	(895)	(8,745)
Provision for ECL / reversal	(1,020)	359	(524)	36
Profit (loss) before income tax	(112,601)	16,141	448,354	638,293
Income tax and deferred tax	15,057	(2,202)	(69,166)	(95,426)
Net Profit (loss) for the period	(97,544)	13,939	379,188	542,867
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the period	(97,544)	13,939	379,188	542,867
Basic earnings per share	(0.028)	0.004	0.111	0.158

MEETING HELD

Public-private cooperation ramped up to meet needs of Dhofar visitors

SALALAH: A meeting was held yesterday at the Directorate General of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion in Dhofar Governorate.

The meeting, which included representatives from various government entities and the private sector, aimed to follow up on work progress during the Khareef Dhofar (monsoon) season and complement ongoing efforts to serve visitors to the governorate.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Saleh Said Masan, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion for Commerce and Industry.

The Undersecretary emphasized the importance of continued provision of essential goods and products, alongside intensified



market and commercial outlet inspections to ensure adherence to pricing and service quality. He also stressed the importance of promoting the use of electronic payment methods across various

commercial outlets to facilitate shoppers.

Furthermore, the Undersecretary discussed with representatives from authorities concerned with providing temporary work li-

censes the importance of continuing to offer facilities to companies and establishments operating during the season.

This aims to ensure the continuity of economic activities and meet visitors' needs.

Regarding fuel stations, he urged petroleum marketing companies to monitor stations' readiness daily and ensure the availability of all services to meet the increasing demand during the Khareef season.

He emphasized that the unique nature of the Khareef season necessitates continued joint action and an accelerated pace of work, even outside official working hours, to ensure the comfort of visitors and residents from both within and outside Oman. -ONA



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CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN

Oman's central bank issues treasury bills worth OMR22mn

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR22 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Monday.

The value of the treasury bills are for a maturity period of 91 days.

The average accepted price reached OMR98.933 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR98.930 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.27900% and 4.32514%, respectively.

Treasury Bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportunity to invest their surplus

funds. The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) acts as the Issue Manager and provides theaddded advantage of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo).

It may be noted that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 5.00% while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 5.50%.

Furthermore, Treasury Bills promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the Government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. - ONA



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND WATER RESOURCES

Development and expansion of fish market in Wilayat of Dhank completed

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources announced the completion of the development and expansion of the fish market in the Wilayat of Dhank.

This project is part of the Ministry's ongoing efforts to strengthen the fisheries sector in the Sultanate of Oman and provide a modern and integrated infrastructure to serve the marketing of fish products.

The development work included the addition of facilities to improve the quality of fish product display and preservation, and facilitate buying and selling.

This expansion included the construction of three new shops adjacent to the market building to host food activities alongside the sale of fish products, providing a



comprehensive shopping experience for market-goers. To enhance product preservation efficiency, the project included the construction of a cold storage facility.

Additionally, an ice production unit was established to provide sufficient, continuous ice supply, essential for preserving fish dur-

ing its display at the market. These projects aim to enhance the efficiency of the state's fisheries supply chain, provide an attractive and clean marketing environment for consumers, and support the livelihoods of those working in the sector by increasing their ability to sell their high-quality products.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources affirms its commitment to continuing to implement development projects that serve the fisheries marketing system, in line with Oman Vision 2040 to achieve sustainable development and diversify sources of income.





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HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Yunus thanks foreign medical teams, India for treating plane crash victims

DHAKA: A delegation of 21 physicians and nurses from Singapore, China, and India met with Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus on Sunday at the State Guest House Jamuna.

The international medical teams are currently in Dhaka to provide specialised healthcare services to victims of the recent plane crash at Milestone School and College.

During the meeting, Professor Muhammad Yunus expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the rapid response and medical support extended by the healthcare professionals.

He commended their dedication and solidarity at a time of national crisis and emphasised the importance of international cooperation in emergency healthcare.

"These teams have come not just with their skills, but with their hearts," said Professor Yunus.

"Their presence reaffirms our shared humanity and the value



of global partnerships in times of tragedy," he added.

The medical teams have been working tirelessly alongside local healthcare professionals to ensure critical treatment and trauma care for the injured, many of whom are young children.

The Chief Adviser also acknowledged the swift diplomatic coordi-

nation that enabled the teams to arrive and begin their work without delay.

He assured the visiting professionals of the government's full support in facilitating their mission.

The Chief Adviser also urged the physicians to maintain long-term connections with Bangladesh, even virtually, for insti-

tutional collaboration, medical education exchange, and sustained engagement in capacity building and innovation in the healthcare sector.

He emphasised that such partnerships could lay the foundation for lasting cooperation in public health and emergency preparedness.

Health Adviser Nurjahan Begum thanked the physicians and nurses for extending their hand during this difficult time.

Professor Sayedur Rahman, special assistant to the Chief Adviser for the Ministry of Health, said that many lives were saved as the foreign physicians rushed immediately.

At the meeting, Prof Dr Md. Nasir Uddin, Director, National Institute of Burn & Plastic Surgery, said that it was proven again that doctors are without borders.

Ten members from Singapore, eight from China, and four from India attended the meeting. -ANI

Thailand, Cambodia agree to ceasefire



BANGKOK: Thailand and Cambodia have agreed to an unconditional ceasefire, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim announced on Monday.

"Both Cambodia and Thailand reached a common understanding as follows: One, an immediate and unconditional ceasefire with effect from 24 hours local time, midnight on 28th July 2025, tonight," Anwar said following mediation talks in Malaysia.

At least 35 people have been killed and around 200,000 displaced in the deadliest fighting

between the two countries in more than a decade.

The dispute between the two Southeast Asian neighbors over their shared border dates back decades, but tensions have escalated since a Cambodian soldier was killed in a skirmish in late May.

Last week's fighting was triggered by a landmine explosion along the border on Thursday, with both sides blaming each other. In response, there has been heavy fighting, including airstrikes and missile attacks. -ow

SOUTHWESTERN GERMANY

3 killed in German train crash

BERLIN: Local police say that all of the injured have been transported from the scene of the train crash to surrounding hospitals.

DW's Michael Watzke, who reported from the scene early on Monday morning, said that the remaining passengers had been brought to a community centre in a nearby village.

He said that the crash site was still a hive of activity.

At least three people died when a regional train carrying some 100 passengers derailed in southwestern Germany.

Around 50 people are injured, a number of them severely, according to Charlotte Ziller, the fire chief of Biberach district, who spoke to reporters at the scene late on Sunday evening.



The regional express train departed Sigmaringen and was travelling to Ulm when at least two carriages of a regional train partially derailed in a forested area at around 6:10 p.m. (1610 GMT).

The accident site is about 45 kilometres (28 miles) southeast

of Ulm, which is located on the border with the German state of Bavaria. Videos show hundreds of people, including firefighters, police, train workers and even the army helping at the scene of the accident as generators hum in the background. -ow

ALLIED DEMOCRATIC FORCES REBELS

Over 40 killed in militant attack on Congo church

CONGO: At least 43 people were killed in the Democratic Republic of Congo after a Catholic church was attacked by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels on Sunday.

The ADF — an insurgent group with ties to the so-called "Islamic State" group — raided the church located in the northeastern town of Komanda as worshippers gathered for prayer.

Nine children were among those killed, according to MONUSCO, the UN peacekeeping mission in the country.

According to reports, houses and shops surrounding the church were also set ablaze by the rebels.



"These targeted attacks on defenseless civilians, especially in places of worship, are not only revolting but also contrary to all norms of human rights and international humanitarian law," the

mission's deputy chief, Vivian van de Perre, said in a statement.

Sunday's attack marked the end of a months-long period of calm in the region of Ituri, bordering Uganda. -ow

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- Public Service Leader of the Year
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SPORTS

Was never going to risk any of my frontline bowlers: Stokes

Stokes, along with other fielders Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett, requested Jadeja to shake hands and finish off the game

MANCHESTER : After the completion of the Manchester Test against India, England Test skipper Ben Stokes opened up and revealed the conversation between him and star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja during the last few minutes of the Test match of the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy 2025, which was played at Old Trafford.

As just 15 overs were left on Day 5, Stokes, along with other fielders Zak



Crawley and Ben Duckett, requested Jadeja to shake hands and finish off the game, but Jadeja denied as he, along with his batting partner, Washington Sundar, were cruising towards their respective centuries.

Speaking on the incident at the post-match press conference, Stokes told the media, "I think we

took the game as far as we could with our frontline bowlers to take it as far as we could to think like we've got a real chance of still winning this game. But as soon as it got to that point where it was inevitable here, I was never going to risk any of my frontline bowlers with the short turnaround that we have

and the workload that we've got through this week and throughout the series as well. So yeah, as soon as, you know, the 15 overs or last hour was there, it was always going to be a shake hands."

"As I said, the only other person who's actually got any bowling workload is Harry Brook. But I did

have to tell him, 'Please don't do anything stupid.' We spent a lot of time out in the field, can't have you pulling aside or doing anything different. Naturally, you'll be fatigued, even if you don't bowl. So I was just like, just get through this period. But yeah, I wasn't going to risk any of my, you know, proper bowling options in that situation when we knew what was going on," he added.

Manjrekar slams Ben Stokes for "spoiled kid" behaviour against Sundar-Jadeja

Sanjay Manjrekar hailed the Team India for producing "warriors" every match and slammed the English skipper Ben Stokes for behaving like a "spoiled kid" as the visitors refused to draw the match without their all-rounders Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar getting to their centuries.

Following the match on the 'Match Centre Live', JioStar expert Manjrekar was full of praise for Team India's batting unit for producing "warriors" every match and frustrating England, who have

abandoned the very idea of playing for draws under Stokes and coach Brendon McCullum as a part of their 'Bazball' school of cricket, focusing on results, attacking and positive cricket no matter what.

"I think that was the perfect summation of what happened -- a draw that feels like a win. And yet again, this young Indian batting line-up continues to surprise. You expected KL Rahul and Shubman Gill to be the partnership to watch out for, but that stand was broken early in the day.

"However, India keeps producing warriors every Test match -- this time, it was Washington Sundar who stood tall. Fantastic batting once again. In the end, what we saw was frustration from a team that is used to dominating at home. It's rare to see England settle for a draw twice in the Bazball era. Remember, this is the first time Ben Stokes abandoned his principle of batting first after winning the toss -- and it happened against India. This draw, without any weather intervention, came against India. That says a lot," said Manjrekar. -ANI

CHESS

Divya Deshmukh beats Humpy to clinch Women's World Cup 2025

BATUMI: India's young sensation Divya Deshmukh conquers the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025.

Divya created history as she became the first Indian to win the Women's World Cup 2025, beating Koneru Humpy with a score of 2.5-1.5 in the tie-breaks on Monday in Batumi.

With this win, Divya not only claimed the World Cup crown but also fulfilled her final GM norm, officially becoming India's 88th Grandmaster.

Humpy made a mistake by capturing the f pawn, which changed the tide in Divya's favour towards the final moments of the contest.



her Grandmaster title to fate.

"I definitely need to learn end-games. I am pretty sure at some point I messed it up. I need time to process it. I think it was fate that I get the GM title this way. Before this tournament, I didn't even have one norm. It definitely means a lot. There's a lot more to achieve. I'm hoping this is just the start," Divya said as quoted by ESPN.

Divya Deshmukh secures gold, Humpy Koneru pockets silver, while China's sensation Tan Zhongy finished the tournament with a bronze medal.

India's finest talents

Earlier, the opening game of the FIDE Women's World Cup final saw two of India's finest talents, Koneru Humpy and Divya Deshmukh, settle for a hard-fought draw. The scoreboard read 1/2 - 1/2.

The second round of the FIDE Women's World Cup also ended in a draw. Two of India's finest talents, Koneru Humpy and Divya Deshmukh, settled for a hard-fought draw. The scoreboard read 1/2 - 1/2. -ANI

WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS



China's Chen Yuxi bags 4th straight world 10m synchro platform title

SINGAPORE: China's Chen Yuxi captured her fourth straight world title in the women's 10-meter synchronized platform at the World Aquatics Championships on Monday.

Chen, partnering with 20-year-old Chen Minjie, earned a total score of 349.26 points to take the gold. Mexico's pair of Alejandra Estudillo Torres and Gabriela Agundez Garcia claimed silver with 304.80 points, while Kim Mi Hwa and Jo Jin Mi of the DPR Korea secured bronze with 293.34.

Chen, 19, has been a dominant force in platform diving since 2020, particularly in tandem with teammate Quan Hongchan.

The duo won gold in this event at both the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

China's Wang Zongyuan secured his fourth straight world title in the men's 3-meter synchronized springboard event at the World Aquatics Championships on Monday.

Wang, partnering with newcomer Zheng Jiuyuan for the first time in a major international competition, led from start to finish, taking the gold with a total of 467.31 points after six dives.

Mexico's Juan Manuel Celaya Hernandez and Osmar Olvera Ibarra claimed the silver with 449.28 points, while the British pair of Jack Laugher and Anthony Harding earned the bronze with 405.33.

Wang, 23, remains unbeaten in the 3m synchro in major international competitions since 2021, winning two Olympic gold medals and four world titles with different partners.

The latest triumph marks his ninth career world championships gold, with others coming from the 1m springboard and individual 3m springboard events.

Zheng, who began training with Wang after the 2024 Paris Olympics, added the synchro title to the 1m springboard gold he captured on Sunday.

Wang continues his campaign in Singapore on Thursday as he seeks a fourth straight world title in the individual 3m springboard event. -Xinhua

FOOTBALL

Pep Guardiola plans sabbatical

LONDON: Manchester City coach Pep Guardiola says he will take a break from football when he eventually leaves the Premier League side.

Speaking to GQ Hype Magazine, Guardiola looked back on his side's struggles last season, as City finished a distant third in the Premier League and failed to reach the last 16 of the Champions League, and also discussed the strain his job takes both physically and mentally.

"I know that after this spell with City I'm going to stop, that's for

sure, it's decided, more than decided," said the 54-year-old, whose current contract expires in 2027.

"I don't know how long I'll stop for, one year, two years, three years, five, ten, fifteen, I don't know. But I'm going to stop after this spell with City, because I need to stop and focus on myself, on my body," insisted Guardiola, who took a similar decision to have a year out of football after leaving FC Barcelona in 2012.

Guardiola said that he had "learned to slow down a bit" with



the passing of time, but pointed out that in his job he felt responsibility to "many people who trust you, who love you: the players, the president, the sporting director."

He also pointed out that the job of football coach meant that conflict was bound to arise on a regular basis.

"I have 23 players and I choose 11 every three days. The others feel like I don't love them, and it's the opposite. How can there not be conflicts? Impossible," he explained. -Xinhua

ANDERSON-TENDULKAR TROPHY

Broad, Hussain believe it is time for England to rest Jofra Archer



MANCHESTER: Former England pace bowling mainstay Stuart Broad believes it is time for England to rest their tearaway Jofra Archer ahead of the fifth Test of the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy against India at The Oval, scheduled to begin on Thursday.

Archer returned to the Test fold after four years of absence, a period which was plagued by injuries during the Third Test at Lord's. Due to an eight-day break, Archer had plenty of rest, and England decided to stick with him in the fourth Test in Manchester. Since being reinforced into the team, Archer has bowled 88.3 overs, testing the speed gun with his scorching pace and returned with nine wickets at 28.66.

The scoreline remained intact at

2-1 after the fourth contest ended in a draw, courtesy of centuries from Shubman Gill (103), Washington Sundar (101*) and Ravindra Jadeja (107*). With India still alive in the gruelling contest, England are stuck in a dilemma, whether to continue with Archer or manage his workload.

With three days of rest between the two Tests, Broad believes it's time to reintroduce Gus Atkinson and allow Archer to rest. Apart from the 30-year-old, Broad feels Josh Tongue should come in for Brydon Carse, who looked "knackered" at Old Trafford.

"I think Gus Atkinson has to play. I know he has not had any workload, but we need to see him. He hasn't been really challenged against top-level opposition in

Test cricket yet. [Brydon] Carse looked knackered in the fourth Test. He has been a trier and given absolutely everything, but looks like his legs have left him for this series, so Atkinson gets the nod," Broad said as quoted from Sky Sports.

[Josh] Tongue started the series, and I know he mainly got lower-order players out, but you probably have a natural replacement for Archer. We can't not have Archer for four years, bring him back and then bowl him into the ground and not see him for another four years," he added.

The concerns around Archer stem from the litany of injuries he suffered, which kept him away from Test cricket for four years. While the fifth Test holds im-

mense importance, England will be wary of the Ashes, which is four months away from commencing in Australia.

"I don't think you can have Archer playing three on the bounce coming back after four years. Gus Atkinson coming back after a long time, and then Stokes with a niggle as three of your four seamers - but I would definitely play Atkinson on his home ground if fit," former England captain Nasser Hussain said.

England's squad for the fifth Test: Ben Stokes (Captain), Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Liam Dawson, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Josh Tongue, Chris Woakes. -ANI

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by September 2025 reaching \$71.28, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 63 cents from the price of Friday, which was \$71.91. - **OMA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,743.06 points, up by 0.06% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.33% at 460.80 points. Bank Nizwa, up 5.00%, was the top gainer while Construction Materials, down 9.46%, was the top loser.

CHAIRPERSON'S
REPORT H1 2025

On behalf of the Board of Directors of National Bank of Oman SAOG (NBO), I am pleased to present the first half 2025 report for the period ended 30 June 2025.

Oman's Economy

The Sultanate's economy continues to demonstrate resilience and steady growth in 2025. Real GDP is projected to expand by 2.3 per cent for the year, supported by stronger non-oil activity and stabilisation in the hydrocarbons sector. The economy's size at constant prices is expected to reach approximately OMR 39.4 billion.

Inflation remains low, with 2025 estimates averaging around 1.5 per cent. This reflects a stable price environment, aided by prudent monetary policy and price control measures. Global oil prices are forecast to average 66 US dollars per barrel for the year, which is above the conservative 2025 budget assumption of 60 US dollars per barrel.

The 2025 State Budget projects revenues of OMR 11.18 billion, with oil and gas contributing about 68 per cent. Non-oil revenues are expected to reach OMR 3.57 billion, reflecting continued improvements in tax and fee collection. Total expenditure is set at OMR 11.8 billion, leaving a modest fiscal deficit of OMR 620 million or around 1.5 per cent of GDP.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) reaffirmed Oman's investment-grade sovereign rating at BBB with a stable outlook in April 2025, citing progress in fiscal consolidation and economic diversification. Public debt levels are projected to decline further to around 30 to 32 per cent of GDP in the medium term. In July 2025, Moody's also upgraded both Oman's sovereign rating and NBO's rating to investment grade.

NBO's Financial Performance

Given this backdrop, Net Interest Income for H1 2025 was OMR 53.34 million, showing an increase of 1.7 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Fee Income for the same period was OMR 26.10 million compared to OMR 21.87 million, an increase of 19.4 per cent.

Operating Expenses for the six months ended 30 June 2025 was OMR 32.38 million, compared to OMR 30.32 million for the corresponding period in 2024, an increase of 6.8 per cent.

Operating Profit, as a result, grew by 6.9 per cent year-on-year.

Net impairment for the first half of 2025 was OMR 7.10 million, compared to OMR 7.61 million for the corresponding period last year, a decrease of 6.8 per cent, mainly due to higher recoveries in H1 2025.

As a result, the Net Profit for H1 2025 was OMR 34.03 million, a growth of 10.3 per cent over the corresponding period last year.

Gross loans and advances as of 30 June 2025 are at OMR 4.24 billion, reporting a growth of 9.1 per cent over last year. Customer deposits correspondingly are at OMR 4.21 billion, with the Bank continuing to maintain a healthy CASA mix.

The Bank's Core Equity and Total Capital Adequacy Ratio stood at 11.1 per cent and 16.6 per cent, respectively.

Key Updates and Agreements

We successfully concluded the Demo Day of our inaugural Fintech Accelerator Programme, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to driving innovation within the financial services industry. Held at our Head Office, the event brought together regulators, investors, industry leaders, and strategic partners to witness the final showcase of solutions developed by five high-potential fintech start-ups. Through the Fintech Accelerator, we are not only backing promising start-ups but also fostering collaboration across the industry to deliver customer-centric solutions and contribute meaningfully to Oman's digital and economic transformation.

In real estate financing, we signed MoUs with Zain Property Development and Adrak Developers to offer tailored financing for the Husn Alzain and Hai Al Naseem projects under the Sorouh initiative, supporting Oman Vision 2040's goal of sustainable housing. We also partnered with Day Global to provide credit facilities for the AIDA Oceana project, part of the Yiti Master Development Plan, reinforcing our support for tourism and real estate investment. Additionally, we are delighted to sign two MoUs with Al Sarooj Development Company to support the Sarooj Oasis project.

We arranged a USD 187 million syndicated loan facility as mandated lead arranger for a major energy group, attracting double the subscription from six regional banks. We also arranged a USD 55 million refinancing deal for a leading industrial entity and provided OMR 12 million in working capital to support a major manufacturer. Our relationship with a key government-related group was strengthened through tailored working capital solutions across six of its subsidiaries.

We strengthened our trade and project financing portfolio with an OMR 16 million facility for a major infrastructure project. In trade services, we processed over 60 export collection transactions worth USD 8 million and saw 42 per cent year-on-year growth in export finance. The number of Export Letters of Credit also grew by 27 per cent, reflecting increased customer activity. Additionally, we activated an Escrow account and onboarded a client for Direct Debit arrangements, reinforcing our role in complex financial operations.

In capital markets, NBO facilitated the successful subscription of the Asyad Shipping IPO through our digital platform, ensuring a smooth experience for both retail and institutional investors and demonstrating our commitment to supporting Oman's capital market development.

In Investment Banking, we launched the NBO Money Market Fund, our third open-ended mutual fund, following a successful public offering that closed in February. Designed to generate returns while preserving capital and maintaining daily liquidity, the fund invests in low-risk instruments across Omani, regional, and international markets. In addition, we continue to offer the NBO GCC Fund and NBO Global Equity Fund, providing both retail and corporate clients with diversified equity investment opportunities.

On the Government Banking front, we successfully managed the opening of new revenue and expense accounts under the Treasury Single Account framework, converted existing accounts into Treasury Single Accounts, and opened two sub-revenue accounts to support financial operations.

Digital Capabilities

In line with our steadfast commitment to innovation and financial inclusion, we continued to roll out innovative digital solutions aimed at enhancing customer convenience and empowering communities.

As part of our ongoing digital transformation, we revamped the NBO app's dashboard to deliver a more seamless and user-friendly experience. Several new features were also introduced to enhance customer convenience and accessibility. A key milestone was the launch of a fully digital account opening service, enabling individuals to open an account seamlessly without visiting a branch or submitting physical documents. We also launched a secure, user-friendly feature allowing customers to request Supplementary Credit Cards for family members directly through the app, reinforcing our commitment to financial empowerment. Additionally, we enhanced the personal loan top-up service, enabling eligible customers with salary-related loans to apply for additional financing quickly and securely, without branch visits.

To add convenience during festive seasons, we rolled out a limited-time Eid notes pre-booking service through the NBO app, allowing customers to reserve their notes in advance and avoid long queues at branches. Additionally, Eid Note Dispensing Machines were deployed across five locations in Oman.

On the corporate banking front, we officially launched our Application Programming Interface (API), marking a significant step towards advancing the Sultanate's digital banking landscape. The secure platform enables seamless integration between the customer's systems and NBO's channels, offering real-time access to a wide range of banking services. The API Gateway serves as a foundational tool for corporate customers, government entities and fintech developers, supporting integration with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, treasury functions and custom financial applications. It aligns with the Central Bank of Oman's vision to enable open banking and foster a digitally connected financial ecosystem.

Additionally, we introduced the Direct Debit E-Mandate, a pioneering digital solution developed in alignment with the Central Bank of Oman's digital payment strategy. Designed for both individuals and businesses, this service simplifies recurring transactions, offering users flexible and effortless control over their payments through an intuitive digital platform.

We recorded strong growth in our digital banking services for corporates. Customer acquisition on the Corporate Internet Banking (CIB) platform increased by 111 per cent year-over-year. Bill Payments usage also saw a notable 24 per cent rise. Additionally, 18 corporates connected with the bank through B2B mandates, with overall utilization increasing by 15 per cent year-over-year.

Stakeholder Engagement

In the first quarter of 2025, we hosted a series of high-profile events to connect more meaningfully with our stakeholders and customers and share valuable financial insights, reinforcing our role as a trusted partner in both personal and professional banking journeys.

Celebrating the power of collaboration and technology, we hosted our inaugural Digital Partnership Awards Ceremony at our Head Office in Muscat. The exclusive event honoured public and private sector partners whose contributions are accelerating Oman's digital transformation and reinforcing NBO's vision of providing seamless, customer-centric banking experiences.

In collaboration with Muscat Stock Exchange, Estidama, the Financial Services Authority, and the Muscat Clearing and Depository Company, we hosted the introductory session for the Incentive Program and the AIM Market. The event spotlighted new incentives in Oman's capital market, with a focus on the Incentives Program and the AIM Market.

We hosted the MEIRA Oman Chapter Meeting and CEO Roundtable at our Azaiba Head Office, in collaboration with the Muscat Stock Exchange and MEIRA. The event gathered industry leaders and experts to discuss the future of Investor Relations and ESG practices, reinforcing our commitment to transparency, responsible finance, and long-term value creation.

We held the third edition of our Market Outlook 2025 event at our Head Office under the theme "Financial Markets in the Trump Era: Disruption or Opportunity." A global expert shared insights on macroeconomic trends and political dynamics, offering valuable perspectives for navigating the evolving financial landscape.

NBO Muzn Islamic Banking

NBO Muzn Islamic Banking continues to perform well with total income for YTD June 2025 growing by 28.8 percent YoY. Gross Financing grew by 29.3 percent YoY to reach OMR 392 million as at 30th June 2025 and customer deposits grew by 6.4 percent YoY to reach OMR 329 million as at 30th June 2025.

Muzn Islamic Banking has announced several strategic initiatives and partnerships during the first half aimed at enhancing customer benefits and expanding access to Shari'a-compliant financial solutions across Oman.

In line with its mission to support national housing development, Muzn Islamic Banking signed multiple Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with leading real estate developers to provide Shari'a-compliant home financing under Oman's national housing scheme. Partnerships include Sohar Real Estate Development for the Hai Majd Project, Zain Property Development for the Husn Al Zain Project, Al Masa Real Estate for Hayy Al Azm, Al Daham Real Estate for Hay Al Sumu, Adrak Developers for Yenaier and Hai Al Naseem, and Al Dahab Real Estate. Through these agreements, Muzn will offer tailored financing solutions to eligible customers purchasing properties under the Sorouh Initiative. Additionally, Muzn partnered with Oman Housing Bank (OHB) to provide home financing support, including a complimentary Muzn Credit Card with a waived first-year fee for customers applying through OHB.

Reflecting its commitment to offering Shari'a-compliant financial solutions while reinforcing its presence across the Sultanate, Muzn Islamic Banking has opened a new branch in Al Mussanah. Moreover, we have relocated our branch in Al Mabila to a more convenient and accessible location, ensuring improved service delivery and customer experience.

Muzn Islamic Banking advanced its digital capabilities to improve customer convenience and access. Key initiatives included the launch of Dhamani Pay for health insurance transactions, E-IPO services through the Muzn app, and Samsung In-App Tokenization for enhanced payment security. The introduction of E-Mandate for Direct Debit via Corporate Internet Banking and the app boosted automation and efficiency. Muzn also conducted over 50 CIB training sessions for 26 corporates and government entities to support digital adoption.

To meet the working capital and liquidity needs of businesses, Muzn introduced the Corporate Running Wakala Finance, a Shari'ah-compliant alternative to conventional overdrafts. Designed to support businesses of all sizes, this flexible product reinforces Muzn's position as a strategic partner to Oman's corporate sector.

People

NBO CEO Abdullah Zahran Al Hinai participated in two high-profile panel discussions, reflecting the Bank's leadership and national commitment. At the Dubai Fintech Summit, he spoke on "Banking Transformed: The Next Wave of Innovation," sharing insights into NBO's role in digital banking, fintech, and financial inclusion, and underscoring our support for Oman's digital economy and Vision 2040. He also joined a panel on "Institutional Readiness and Strategies to Enhance Sustainability During Crises and Emergencies," organized by the Royal Academy of Management and the National Risk Register, reinforcing our focus on sustainability and the long-term resilience of the national economy.

Maha Saud Al Raisi, Assistant General Manager & Head of Products, and Mustahil Ahmed Al Mamari, Assistant General Manager & Head of Strategy and Transformation, successfully graduated from the prestigious National CEO Programme, delivered by the Royal Academy of Management. This achievement reflects their leadership capabilities, commitment to professional development, and alignment with the Bank's vision for excellence. Their continued contributions are expected to play a key role in advancing our strategic objectives and supporting the broader goals of Oman Vision 2040.

Community Values

We hosted a closing event at our Head Office to mark the successful conclusion of the current school semester's cycle of the More Than Money Programme, delivered in collaboration with INJAZ Oman. This milestone marked the end of a semester-long initiative that positively impacted 1,568 students across Muscat and Al Dakhiliyah governorates. The programme reflects our commitment to youth empowerment and financial education, aligning with our broader efforts to support community development and build a financially literate future generation.

We participated in the 2025 Sultan Qaboos University Career Fair, highlighting career opportunities, training programmes, and workshops to prepare students for the job market. As part of this, we launched the NBO Tomorrow's Leaders Programme for high-potential Omani graduates and the 2025 Internship Programme, both aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and national development goals.

As part of our annual Ramadhan Shahr Al Atta campaign, we supported underprivileged communities through various initiatives, including a charity-driven internal food festival, distribution of food hampers, and events with the Cultural Citizenship Salon and National Autism Center. We also marked Islamic Orphans Day and Qarqasho with children from the Child Care Centre and those with autism. In partnership with the Zakat Committee, we contributed to the Kaswat Al Eid initiative, providing Eid clothing for children from low-income families.

Global Recognition

In the first half of 2025, NBO was recognised with six prestigious accolades, reaffirming its leadership in digital transformation and customer-centric banking.

The Bank was named Best Retail Bank in Oman 2025 at MEED's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Banking Excellence Awards. This recognition reflects the Bank's ongoing commitment to investing in innovative financial services and solutions that enhance customer experience.

At the Euromoney Private Banking Awards 2025, the Bank received two distinguished accolades: Oman's Best Private Bank and Best for High-Net-Worth (HNW) Customers. These awards underscore NBO's dedication to delivering tailored financial solutions and comprehensive wealth management strategies, while offering personalised experiences for its clients.

In recognition of its digital leadership, NBO was named Best Bank for Digital Banking Services in Oman 2024 by the Global Banking and Finance Review. This award affirms NBO's commitment to digital innovation and its continued investment in transforming the customer journey through technology.

Additionally, NBO was honoured as the Most Innovative Digital Retail Bank in Oman 2024 by the Global Business Outlook Awards. This accolade highlights the Bank's success in introducing pioneering solutions, including the Sultanate's first digital credit card application process, Eid Note Dispensing Machines across five locations during festive periods, and Self-Service Kiosks that provide a range of banking services without the need for branch visits.

We are proud to be recognized by the Ministry of Labour for achieving one of the highest Omanisation rates standing at 93 per cent. The recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to empower local talent, in alignment with Oman Vision 2040.

Appreciation

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank our customers, shareholders, executive management, and the entire team of NBO for their support and efforts in implementing the Bank's strategy and achieving its goals and objectives.

We would also like to sincerely thank our regulators, the Central Bank of Oman, the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates and the Financial Services Authority, for their constant support and dedicated efforts to develop Oman's financial industry, especially the banking sector.

We pay tribute to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, under whose visionary leadership and wise guidance Oman continues its steadfast march towards sustainable economic growth and social development.


Amal Suhail Bahwan
Chairperson

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			
As at 30 June 2025 (unaudited)			
	30/06/2025 RO'000	30/06/2024 RO'000	Audited 31/12/2024 RO'000
ASSETS			
Cash and balances with Central Banks	284,914	365,574	302,512
Due from Banks and other money market placements	366,777	288,657	372,364
Loans, advances and Islamic financing assets	4,067,604	3,720,784	3,926,147
Investment securities	593,660	447,811	473,393
Other assets	127,213	75,349	108,662
Property and equipment	59,888	59,510	59,467
TOTAL ASSETS	5,500,056	4,957,685	5,242,545
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
Due to Banks and other money market deposits	329,978	161,439	192,938
Customers' deposits	4,204,843	3,990,910	4,128,523
Other liabilities	162,501	102,914	133,800
Taxation	17,298	16,625	19,123
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,714,620	4,271,888	4,474,384
EQUITY			
Share capital	162,595	162,595	162,595
Share premium	34,465	34,465	34,465
Legal reserve	54,198	54,198	54,198
Other reserves	19,441	8,798	11,429
Retained earnings	289,700	258,608	280,437
Total equity attributable to the shareholders of the Bank	560,399	518,664	543,124
Tier 1 perpetual bonds	225,037	167,133	225,037
TOTAL EQUITY	785,436	685,797	768,161
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	5,500,056	4,957,685	5,242,545

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
For the period ended 30 June 2025 (unaudited)				
	Six months ended 30 June 2025 RO'000	2024 RO'000	Three months ended 30 June 2025 RO'000	2024 RO'000
Interest income	120,908	125,930	60,408	62,630
Interest expense	(71,352)	(76,707)	(35,065)	(37,007)
NET INTEREST INCOME	49,556	49,223	25,343	25,623
Income from Islamic financing and Investment	12,376	11,717	6,546	5,963
Interest expenses on Islamic customers' deposits	(8,597)	(8,476)	(4,617)	(4,377)
NET INCOME FROM ISLAMIC FINANCING AND INVESTMENTS	3,779	3,241	1,929	1,586
NET INTEREST INCOME AND NET INCOME FROM ISLAMIC FINANCING AND INVESTMENT ASSETS	53,335	52,464	27,272	27,209
Fee and commission income	21,440	18,214	11,490	9,298
Fee and commission expenses	(7,699)	(6,329)	(4,184)	(3,230)
Net fee and commission income	13,741	11,885	7,306	6,068
Other operating income	12,363	9,980	4,727	3,687
OPERATING INCOME	79,439	74,329	39,305	36,964
Staff costs	(20,373)	(19,635)	(10,078)	(9,691)
Other operating expenses	(8,818)	(7,598)	(4,494)	(3,727)
Depreciation	(3,191)	(3,082)	(1,590)	(1,530)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	(32,382)	(30,315)	(16,162)	(14,948)
PROFIT FROM OPERATIONS BEFORE IMPAIRMENT LOSSES AND TAX	47,057	44,014	23,143	22,016
Total impairment losses on financial instruments (net)	(7,097)	(7,612)	(3,288)	(3,737)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	39,960	36,402	19,855	18,279
Taxation	(5,935)	(5,548)	(2,911)	(2,895)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	34,025	30,854	16,944	15,384
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS				
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss				
Equity investments at FVOCI – net change in fair value	7,885	539	10,879	952
Tax effect of equity investments at FVOCI – net change in fair value	(1,035)	45	(826)	56
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS	6,850	584	10,053	1,008
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	40,875	31,438	26,997	16,392
Earnings per share:				
Basic and diluted (RO)	0.016	0.015	0.005	0.006

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Bank Nizwa, up 5.00%, was the top gainer while, Construction Materials, down 9.46%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,743.06 points, up by 0.06% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.33% at 460.80 points. Bank Nizwa, up 5.00%, was the top gainer while, Construction Materials, down 9.46%, was the top loser. Shares of OQBI were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1652 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 11.42 million, with more than 71.77 million shares changing hands. Out of 67 traded securities, 12 advanced, 29 declined, and 26 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net sellers for RO 167K while foreign investors were net buyers for RO 121K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 46K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 8,087.55 points, up 0.19%. Prices of Bank Nizwa, Al Sharqia Investment, Al Anwar Investment were up by 5.00%, 2.47%, 1.16%

respectively. Prices of Al Omaniya Financial Services, United Finance, Taageer Bank, Oman Arab Bank, Bank Dhofar were down by 3.70%, 2.99%, 1.74%, 1.40%, 0.78% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,844.31 points, down 0.87%. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals were up by 2.78% respectively. Prices of Construction Materials, Voltamp Energy, Al Anwar Ceramics, Raysut Cement, Jazeera Steel Products were down by 9.46%, 1.22%, 1.11%, 1.01%, 0.96% respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.26% before closing at 1,802.99 points. Prices of National Gas, Barka Water & Power Company, OQ Gas Networks, Shell Oman Marketing, Muscat Gases were up by 2.47%, 1.70%, 1.37%, 1.13%, 0.97% respectively. Prices of Phoenix Power, Muscat Desalination, Dhofar Generating, Al Suwadi Power, Oman Oil Marketing were down by 3.00%, 2.78%, 2.44%, 2.08%, 1.59% respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

OMAN STOCKS

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,757.62	4,722.30	4,743.06	4,740.05	3.00	0.06
FINANCIAL INDEX	8,101.61	8,036.91	8,087.55	8,072.25	15.30	0.19
Industry Index	6,914.63	6,834.69	6,844.31	6,904.10	-59.79	-0.87
Services Index	1,810.97	1,796.36	1,802.99	1,807.65	-4.66	-0.26
MSX Shariah Index	461.47	458.12	460.80	459.30	1.49	0.33
MSX TR INDEX	7,037.62	6,985.38	7,016.08	7,011.64	4.44	0.06
FINANCIAL TR IDX	9,625.00	9,548.13	9,608.29	9,590.11	18.18	0.19
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	8,497.05	8,398.81	8,410.63	8,484.10	-73.47	-0.87
SERVICES TR IDX	2,309.42	2,290.79	2,299.25	2,305.19	-5.94	-0.26
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,204.48	1,204.48	1,204.48	1,204.48	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
71,770,930	11,419,306	1,652	28,976,788,236	12	29	26	67

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, JULY 28

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF. RD.	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFR.	PRE VALUE	MARKET CAP
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REGULAR MARKET

OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	3,320,875	338,566	60	0.100	0.105	0.100	0.105	0.100	0.005	5.000	0.105	0.098	0.105	0.100	234,880,068
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	404,500	33,612	19	0.081	0.084	0.081	0.083	0.081	0.002	2.469	0.083	0.083	0.084	0.100	747,000
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	11,948,719	1,748,315	243	0.145	0.149	0.144	0.148	0.146	0.002	1,370	0.148	0.150	0.148	0.100	640,932,340
OM0000008654	ABRA ENERGY SERVICES	789,954	208,146	41	0.265	0.266	0.262	0.266	0.264	0.002	0,756	0.265	0.265	0.262	0.100	204,873,200
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	108,600	25,538	4	0.237	0.237	0.235	0.237	0.237	0.000	0,000	0.237	0.235	0.237	0.100	23,700,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	30,000	9,900	1	0.330	0.330	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.000	0,000	0.310	0.300	0.310	0.100	504,043,370
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	40,125	7,262	16	0.185	0.182	0.180	0.181	0.181	0.000	0,000	0.180	0.180	0.181	0.100	775,481
OM0000008125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	68,732	8,622	3	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.000	0,000	0.140	0.140	0.000	0.100	28,000,000
OM0000003388	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	15,897,815	2,109,899	58	0.139	0.139	0.138	0.139	0.139	0.000	0,000	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.100	919,797,232
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	45,803	3,775	11	0.082	0.083	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.000	0,000	0.082	0.082	0.083	0.100	14,350,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	250,857	225,855	27	0.901	0.906	0.899	0.899	0.900	-0.001	-0.111	0.899	0.899	0.899	0.100	674,250,000
OM0000002804	ASAFITTA FOODS	70,000	37,121	12	0.469	0.470	0.469	0.469	0.470	-0.001	-0.213	0.469	0.469	0.469	0.100	55,280,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	5,775,740	1,697,102	129	0.292	0.296	0.292	0.292	0.292	0.000	0,000	0.292	0.292	0.292	0.100	2,191,867,942
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	33,710	9,721	8	0.288	0.289	0.287	0.287	0.288	-0.001	-0.247	0.287	0.287	0.288	0.100	67,840,670
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	3,000	711	1	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.238	-0.001	-0.420	0.237	0.236	0.261	0.100	154,273,783
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	67,121	15,245	9	0.228	0.228	0.226	0.227	0.228	-0.001	-0.439	0.227	0.227	0.227	0.100	212,406,532
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	81,080	33,648	8	0.415	0.415	0.415	0.415	0.419	-0.004	-0.953	0.415	0.415	0.415	0.100	51,832,653
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	339,206	31,833	30	0.095	0.095	0.092	0.094	0.095	-0.001	-1.053	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.100	63,439,418
OM0000002188	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	351,061	62,032	33	0.179	0.180	0.175	0.178	0.180	-0.002	-1.111	0.178	0.170	0.178	0.100	39,160,000
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	5,051	4,101	9	0.815	0.815	0.810	0.810	0.820	-0.010	-1.220	0.815	0.815	0.810	0.100	73,826,661
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	326,200	30,339	21	0.093	0.095	0.093	0.094	0.096	-0.002	-2.083	0.094	0.094	0.098	0.100	67,154,196
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	1,000	65	1	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.087	-0.002	-2.983	0.085	0.085	0.087	0.100	23,145,274
Total		22	39,967,949	6,732,810	754											

Parallel Market

OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	2,600	185	2	0.071	0.074	0.071	0.074	0.072	0.002	2.778	0.074	0.071	0.074	0.100	1,554,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	10,615	867	4	0.081	0.083	0.081	0.083	0.081	0.002	2.469	0.083	0.082	0.084	0.100	7,053,000
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	81,232	14,531	17	0.178	0.180	0.178	0.180	0.177	0.003	1,695	0.179	0.179	0.180	0.100	28,800,000
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	2,224,678	749,888	154	0.333	0.339	0.333	0.339	0.332	0.004	1,305	0.338	0.336	0.339	0.100	688,000,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	346,374	29,894	14	0.086	0.087	0.085	0.087	0.086	0.001	1,163	0.087	0.085	0.087	0.100	25,974,105
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	500	314	1	0.627	0.627	0.627	0.627	0.630	-0.003	-1,129	0.627	0.630	0.626	0.100	38,565,000
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	15,400	1,602	3	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.103	0.001	0,971	0.104	0.104	0.109	0.100	3,120,000
OM0000001020	OMAN CHROMITE	2,414	10,777	3	4.425	4.500	4.425	4.500	4.500	0.000	0,000	4.500	4.500	4.480	1.000	14,850,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV.	138,021	16,802	16	0.120	0.122	0.120	0.120	0.120	0.000	0,000	0.120	0.119	0.120	0.100	18,000,000
OM0000001509	DHOFAH INTERNATIONAL DEV & INV.	2,346	647	1	0.276	0.276	0.276	0.276	0.276	0.000	0,000	0.276	0.253	0.276	0.100	136,911,495
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	100,600	7,351	6	0.071	0.072	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.000	0,000	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.100	65,125,125
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	500	250	1	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.000	0,000	0.500	0.475	0.500	0.100	165,438,355
OM0000001889	SALALAH MILLS	1,967	848	13	0.431	0.431	0.431	0.431	0.431	0.000	0,000	0.431	0.000	0.460	0.100	36,921,581
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	33,590	4,435	19	0.192	0.196	0.191	0.196	0.196	0.000	0,000	0.194	0.194	0.194	0.100	39,129,578
OM0000004669	SHARQIAH DESALINATION	4,950	683	1	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.000	0,000	0.138	0.134	0.138	0.100	13,496,698
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL SALALAH	718,078	100,114	41	0.138	0.141	0.138	0.140	0.140	0.000	0,000	0.140	0.140	0.141	0.100	133,640,073
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	19,780	2,611	2	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.000	0,000	0.132	0.130	0.133	0.100	9,968,904
OM0000008868	MUSANDAM POWER	2,158	647	1	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.000	0,000	0.300	0.285	0.302	0.100	21,177,000
OM0000008889	OMAN DESALINATION	10,780	1,312	1	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.000	0,000	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.100	13,496,698
OM0000008889	THE PEARL REEF	48,916	6,227	10	0.128	0.128	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.000	0,000	0.127	0.127	0.129	0.100	75,112,484
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	21,567	9,980	9	0.465	0.465	0.460	0.463	0.465	-0.002	-0.430	0.463	0.460	0.463	0.100	75,568,625
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	2,000	616	1	0.308	0.308	0.308	0.310	0.310	-0.002	-0.645	0.308	0.300	0.320	0.100	16,940,000
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAH	27,213	34,538	7	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.128	0.128	0.000	0,000	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.100	41,414,414
OM0000001020	ASVAD SHIPPING	4,264,067	532,231	94	0.126	0.127	0.124	0.125	0.126	-0.001	-0.794	0.125	0.127	0.125	0.000	651,093,035
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	14,055	3,281	7	0.235	0.235	0.233	0.233	0.233	-0.002	-0.851	0.233	0.231	0.233	0.100	10,093,431
OM0000008669	JABAL REIF	5,900	590	2	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.000	0,000	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.100	17,744,000
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	304,032	42,569	9	0.140	0.142	0.140	0.141	0.143	-0.002	-1.399	0.141	0.141	0.142	0.100	235,398,810
OM0000002272	OMAN OIL MARKETING	680	505	2	0.742	0.742	0.742	0.742	0.744	-0.002	-1.592	0.742	0.741	0.750	0.100	45,466,050
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	3,090	349	1	0.113	0.113	0.113	0.113	0.115	-0.002	-1.739	0.113	0.113	0.118	0.100	31,552,233
OM0000009608	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	21,041,018	2,902,709	303	0.139	0.141	0.137	0.137	0.140	-0.003	-2.143	0.137	0.137	0.141	0.000	473,950,246
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	48,840	4,209	12	0.087	0.088	0.085	0.085	0.087	-0.002	-2.299	0.085	0.085	0.087	0.100	55,130,177
OM0000007407	DHOFAH GENERATING	1,237,504	103,206	64	0.085	0.087	0.080	0.080	0.082	-0.002	-2.439	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	17,730,200
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	21,850	1,556	6	0.072	0.072	0.070	0.072	0.072	-0.002	-2.778	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	10,888,522
OM0000007084	PROSPECT POWER	48,837	4,470	10	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.000	0,000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	141,000,000
OM0000001681	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	72,320	9,422	4	0.132	0.132	0.130	0.130	0.135	-0.005	-3.074	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	41,004,214
OM0000003987	CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	1,609,992	206,992	97	0.079	0.079	0.087	0.087	0.074	-0.007	-4.456	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.100	1,157,720
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This feature is ideal for people who prefer voice interactions over text messages or want to use AI hands-free while multitasking

WhatsApp, owned by Meta, is testing a new feature that enables users to hold real-time voice chats with Meta AI assistant in the latest beta update for Android (version 2.25.21.21). According to WABetaInfo, a website specialising in WhatsApp updates, the new feature enables users to have real-time voice chats with Meta AI, in call-like sessions. This feature is ideal for people who prefer voice interactions over text messages or want to use AI hands-free while multitasking. Users can start a voice session

by tapping the waveform icon present in the Meta AI screen at the Chats tab, or directly from the Calls tab. An Important feature in this update is that users can leave WhatsApp and open other apps like Notes or Chrome without interrupting the conversation. Users can mute the microphone, end the session, or switch back to text chat at any time. When the microphone is in use, a green privacy light appears on Android to indicate that the mic is active. Importantly, sessions are never started automatically. The user must activate them manually. - **OWA**

Chloe Kelly shines again as England lift Euro 2025 title after penalty shootout

England showed tremendous grit and belief to come out on top

BASEL: History repeated itself in the most thrilling fashion as Chloe Kelly once again became England's star, guiding the Lionesses to Euro 2025 glory with the decisive spot-kick in a tense 3-1 penalty shootout win over Spain in the final. The match, played in Basel, ended 1-1 after extra time, before England held their nerve in the shootout to successfully defend their title, according to Sky Sports.

It wasn't an easy ride for the Lionesses, who took the long route to the trophy yet again. After battling through extra time in all three knockout games, and going to penalties for the second time in the tournament, England showed tremendous grit and belief to come out on top.

Once more, it was Chloe Kelly who delivered when it mattered most. Just like she did at Wembley in 2022 against Germany, Kelly calmly stepped up and slotted the



winning penalty this time with her now-signature run-up, sealing a memorable night for England.

Kelly had come on in the 40th minute, replacing Lauren James,

who appeared to be struggling after picking up a knock in the semi-final against Italy.

Mariona Caldentey had put Spain ahead in the 25th minute,

heading in Ona Batlle's pinpoint cross.

The Lionesses, just before the hour mark, Kelly made an impact, this time as the provider. Her

perfectly measured cross found Alessia Russo, who made no mistake, heading home the equaliser to bring England back into the contest.

Spain piled on the pressure during extra time, with Salma Paralluelo coming closest to finding a winner.

England, though, had their own hero between the sticks. Hannah Hampton, who has been a pillar of strength throughout the tournament, produced yet another outstanding performance. Her crucial save against Claudia Pina at a tight angle kept England level in the second half, and she carried that momentum into the shootout.

Drama unfolded from the very first penalty of the shootout. England's Beth Mead converted her attempt initially, but had to retake it after a rare double-touch. Her second effort was saved. Patri Guizarro gave Spain an early edge, but it was short-lived.

Hampton came up big once again, saving penalties from Mariona Caldentey and Aitana Bonmati, while Paralluelo fired her effort wide. For England, Niamh Charles and Alex Greenwood converted their penalties confidently. Despite a miss from captain Leah Williamson, it all came down to Chloe Kelly and she didn't disappoint.

With ice in her veins, Kelly stepped up and calmly slotted the winning penalty, sending the England fans into raptures and confirming their second successive Euro title. **Xinhua**

THE OVAL

England add all-rounder Overton to squad for 5th Test

LONDON : England added all-rounder Jamie Overton to the squad for their fifth and final Test against India starting from Thursday at The Oval.

The England and Wales Cricket Board, in an official statement, said, "The England Men's selection panel has added Surrey all-rounder Jamie Overton to the squad for the Rothesay Fifth Test match against India at Kia Oval, starting on Thursday 31 July."

The addition comes after Indian batters grinded it out with three magnificent tons from skipper Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar, turning a 311-run deficit to a 114-run lead and securing a draw to keep the chances of a series draw alive going into The Oval. India's effort of batting 143 overs was tiring and took a mental and physical toll on the English pacers, and their frustration was evident in their remarks aimed at Sundar and Jadeja towards the match, during which they urged them to complete their centuries quickly and shake hands for a draw.

England's squad for the fifth Test: Ben Stokes (Durham) - Cap-



tain, Jofra Archer (Sussex), Gus Atkinson (Surrey), Jacob Bethell (Warwickshire), Harry Brook (Yorkshire), Brydon Carse (Durham), Zak Crawley (Kent), Liam Dawson (Hampshire), Ben Duckett (Nottinghamshire)

Jamie Overton (Surrey), Ollie Pope (Surrey), Joe Root (Yorkshire), Jamie Smith (Surrey)

Josh Tongue (Nottinghamshire), Chris Woakes (Warwickshire).

Coming to the match, England opted to field first. Half-centuries

from Yashasvi Jaiswal (58 in 107 balls, with 10 fours and a six), Sai Sudharsan (61 in 151 balls, with seven fours) and Rishabh Pant (54 in 75 balls, with three fours and two sixes) took India to 358 runs, with Stokes (5/72) troubling the visitors with timely wickets and not letting a massive partnership happen. Jofra Archer also took 3/73.

In the second innings, Zak Crawley 84 and Ben Duckett 94 produced a 166-run stand for the opening wicket. **ANI**

RAIN AFFECTED

Piastri wins F1 Belgian GP to extend title lead

BEIJING: McLaren's Oscar Piastri prevailed in a rain affected Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Francorchamps on Sunday, overtaking teammate Lando Norris on the opening racing lap to score his sixth win of 2025 and extend his championship lead.

McLaren's 1-2 finish solidified the Woking-based squad's dominance all weekend long, and came after a 90-minute start delay caused by heavy rain and poor visibility.

Race control suspended the formation lap behind the safety car after half a lap, sending the field back to the pits before resuming with multiple laps under the safety car. When green flag racing finally began, Piastri launched past pole-sitter Norris through Eau Rouge into Les Combes in a decisive move that set the tone for the rest of the Grand Prix.

Piastri and Norris both adopted a one-stop strategy, switching from intermediates to slick tyres as the track began to dry. Piastri opted for medium tyres on lap 12 and rejoined ahead of Norris, who was obliged to wait an extra



lap to make his stop and opted for hard tyres.

Norris mounted a late charge as Piastri struggled with tyre degradation, and the Briton closed the gap between the two from eight seconds to just three by the start of the penultimate lap, setting the stage for an unlikely last-gasp challenge for the lead.

However, Norris ran wide and lost momentum after the La Source hairpin as he began his 43rd lap of 44, ensuring Piastri was not threatened as he crossed the finish line 3.415 seconds clear

of his teammate.

Charles Leclerc secured third place for Ferrari, surviving intense early pressure from Red Bull's Max Verstappen, who had to be content with fourth after having won Saturday's Sprint race in dry conditions.

George Russell finished a disappointed fifth, bemoaning his performance as Mercedes' "worst of the season," and adding that the team must try to understand why its car struggled in conditions that should have suited its characteristics. **Xinhua**

MONSTER RIDE

Pogacar crowned Tour de France champion for the fourth time

PARIS : Wout van Aert (Visma-Lease a Bike) gatecrashed Tour de France champion Tadej Pogacar's party as the Belgian put in a monster ride through Montmartre to deny the Slovenian a fifth stage win in the new-look Paris finale.

On Sunday, Pogacar (UAE Team Emirates-XRG) was unable to match the Belgian's massive attack on the third and final ascent of the Butte de Montmartre in a sodden Stage 21 of the Tour in the French capital. World champion Pogacar could still raise his arms to the skies on the Champs-Elysees - not to celebrate his fourth place in the stage, but his fourth Tour triumph.

Italy's Davide Ballerini (XDS-Astana) pipped Slovenia's Matej Mohoric (Bahrain Victorious) for second place in an absorbing final stage, which was livened by torrential rain and three laps on a similar lumpy loop that made the Paris 2024 Olympic Road race so memorable last summer, as per a press release.

Van Aert's first stage win on the Tour since 2022 came after his American team-mate Matteo Jorgenson put in a series of accelerations to soften up the six-man leading group ahead of the decisive climb up the 1.1km ascent of the Rue Lepic.

With times for the general classification taken after the ini-



tial four loops of the traditional Champs-Elysees circuit, Pogacar had no need to push for a fifth win. But the 26-year-old did the yellow jersey proud by going all-out for his 22nd career stage win on the Tour.

Pogacar had attacked on the previous two climbs in Montmartre, and the race leader looked to have made the decisive move with another acceleration on the final climb.

But as Ballerini slipped back

the same way as Jorgenson, Mohoric and Matteo Trentin (Tudor Pro Cycling), Van Aert not only drew level with Pogacar but then achieved something no one else has managed in the past three weeks: drop the four-time champion on a climb.

Van Aert held a five-second advantage over the summit - a lead which grew as he threw caution to the wind on the technical descent back into central Paris, while his pursuer Pogacar decided to sit up

and wait for reinforcements.

Victory for Van Aert was the tenth time the Belgian had won a stage on the Tour - but the first since 2022, thanks to a series of injuries that have hampered his performances.

"It was a special day out - and really special to win here on the Champs-Elysees again, and on the first occasion where we climbed to Montmartre," the 30-year-old Wout said.

"The rain made it quite sketchy,

but I managed to stay upright, and I had the full support of my teammates. I really have to thank them for continuing to believe in me."

"They helped me control this race so that I could leave it all out there on the last climb. It was our plan, and it worked. I came close a few times [earlier in the Tour], but I was quite far off on several occasions. Yesterday, I wasn't good enough to even make the breakaway."

"The hardest thing was to keep the belief, but because people around me were able to do it, I could as well," he concluded.

A second stage win for his Visma-Lease a Bike team - following Simon Yates's victory in the Massif Central - was just reward for a team which did itself proud despite being unable to deliver Jonas Vingegaard to a third win, according to Wout.

"We came here with the ambition to win the yellow jersey, but the strongest rider in the race and the biggest rider in the world, Tadej Pogacar, won it," said Wout.

"We tried to give him competition, and I am proud of how we tried to beat him. We had a great group, and we won the team classification, so we should be proud," he added.

Pogacar might have missed out on a final-day bonanza in the City

of Light, but he nevertheless joins British legend Chris Froome on four Tour titles and moves within one of the outright record of five shared by Jacques Anquetil, Eddy Merckx, Bernard Hinault and Miguel Indurain.

With the final times for the general classification taken 50km from the finish because of the severe weather, there were no changes in the final top 10 in Paris. Pogacar won the 112th edition of the Tour by 4'24" over Denmark's Vingegaard (Visma-Lease a Bike), whose two Tour wins in 2022 and 2023 now seem like a distant memory.

Germany's Florian Lipowitz (Red Bull-Bora Hansgrohe) joined Pogacar and Vingegaard on the final podium after an impressive debut Tour saw the 24-year-old take third place at 11'00" and the white jersey. Scotland's Oscar Onley (Team Picnic PostNL) was fourth and Austria's Felix Gall (Decathlon AG2R La Mondiale) fifth.

"It was a great decision by the organisers to neutralise the stage because no one had to risk anything and it was fair play," Pogacar said. "I gave it a go because I was on the front. But Wout was incredibly strong, and he did an amazing attack on the top of the climb, and he deserved this big, big win," he added. **ANI**

CFI achieves record-breaking \$1.51 trillion trading volume in Q2

These results reinforce CFI's position at the forefront of the global trading industry, powered by innovation, client trust, and strategic execution



from the first half of 2024 and a 31% increase from the second half of 2024. These results reinforce CFI's position at the forefront of the global trading industry, powered by innovation, client trust, and strategic execution.

Another quarter of unprecedented growth
CFI's Q2 results marked a new company record with a trading volume of \$1.51 trillion, an 18% increase over Q1 2025, and a 97% increase compared to Q2 2024. Client growth remained a key driver of CFI's momentum:
• Funded accounts increased by 2% in H1 2025 compared to H1 2024, and by 60% compared to H1

2024.
• Active accounts rose by 22% compared to H2 2024, and 84% compared to H1 2024, demonstrating strong engagement and growing platform activity.

Strategic milestones and leadership evolution
CFI's vision for expansion and leadership took bold new steps this quarter:
Appointment of Ziad Melhem as Group CEO: In a defining move, Ziad Melhem stepped into the role of Group CEO during Q2, marking a new era of leadership. Co-Founders Hisham Mansour and Eduardo Fakhoury transitioned to Chairman and Vice Chair-

man of the Group, continuing to guide long-term strategy and governance.
Official Launch of CFI South Africa: Expanding the Group's on-ground footprint, CFI celebrated the official launch of its operations in South Africa, reinforcing its commitment to long-term presence and growth in key markets.
Launch of CFI Academy: A major initiative aimed at empowering traders and investors through education, the CFI Academy was launched to provide accessible, professional-level knowledge across trading and investing topics.
Launch of CFI Bahrain: Laying the foundation for CFI's entry into Bahrain, with the support and license from the Central Bank of Bahrain, further enhancing CFI's global presence as part of the group's bold growth strategy.

Global partnerships and brand growth
Q2 2025 was defined by high-profile partnerships that elevated CFI's global brand visibility:
Official Online Trading Partner of the 2025 Turkish Airlines EuroLeague Final Four: A major

step into elite international sports sponsorship, boosting brand presence in Europe and beyond.
Official Online Trading Partner of Etihad Arena: A high-impact partnership with the UAE's premier entertainment venue, emphasizing CFI's connection to innovation, performance, and community engagement.

New global icon joins CFI family
In a landmark brand moment, CFI announced the appointment of Maria Sharapova, five-time Grand Slam champion and entrepreneur, as its official Global Brand Ambassador. The partnership reflects shared values of discipline, excellence, and international reach.

Celebrating excellence: Awards & recognition
In recognition of its continued excellence, CFI received several prestigious awards in Q2, including:
• "Most Regulated Trading Broker" - ProFX Expo MENA 2025
• "Best Broker in the Middle East" - Money Expo Abu Dhabi 2025
• "Best Trading Tools - Africa" and "Best Rising Broker - Africa" -

Finance Magnates Africa Summit (FMAS:25)
• "Most Transparent FX Broker" and "Best FX Broker, Middle East" - World Finance Forex Awards 2025

Looking ahead
Ziad Melhem, Group CEO of CFI, commented: "Stepping into the CEO role during a quarter of record-breaking performance makes this chapter especially meaningful. Q2 2025 was not only about numbers, it was about momentum. From our global partnerships and regional expansion to launching initiatives like the CFI Academy, we are actively shaping the future of trading. The results we're seeing today reflect years of building, refining, and pushing boundaries. With a world-class team behind me, I'm excited about what we'll accomplish together in the second half of the year and beyond."
As the Group progresses through 2025, its focus remains steadfast: scaling innovation, expanding its global footprint, and delivering world-class trading experiences to clients everywhere.

FOLLOWING CUSTOMER UPTAKE

Bank Muscat relaunches Asalah and Al Jawhar referral scheme with cash rewards

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in Oman, has launched its highly popular Asalah and Al Jawhar referral scheme for the year 2025 after the great success of the campaign.
The current referral scheme is a continue programme that offers cash rewards when referring new customers to the Bank to enjoy an extraordinary banking experience. It is worth noting that the current scheme is cross-referral between the two segments, "Asalah Priority Banking" and "Al Jawhar Privilege Banking". Asalah customers may refer Al Jawhar customers to the Bank, while Al Jawhar customers may also refer customers to open a new Asalah salary account and avail the advantages of this year's campaign. The Asalah and Al Jawhar referral scheme sees positive feedback from customers every year.
The scheme offers Asalah customers and new customers a chance to win OMR 100 for every successful referral after the referees meet the eligibility criteria. The referees should have a monthly salary of OMR 3,500 or transfer and maintain a deposit of OMR 30,000 in their savings accounts. Customers may transfer the deposit to a new Bank Muscat account or an exist-



ing account within a maximum period of 30 days from the date of referral. Both the referrer and referee get a sum of OMR 100 if the referee successfully meets all eligibility criteria, including having a monthly salary of OMR 1,000 - 3,499 or maintaining a deposit of OMR 10,000 - 29,999 in their Bank Muscat Al Jawhar savings accounts. Customers may transfer the deposit to a new or an existing Bank Muscat savings account within a month from the date of successful referrals. The referrer and referee wins OMR 50 per successful referral, if the referee successfully meets all eligibility criteria after opening the new Al Jawhar account.

NEW SMARTPHONES



Nothing launches Phone (3a) Series and CMF Phone 2 Pro

MUSCAT: Nothing, the designed London-based tech brand known for shaking up the smartphone industry, has officially arrived in Oman with the launch of its new Nothing Phone (3a) series and CMF Phone 2 Pro. The much-anticipated debut was marked by an exclusive launch event at Mövenpick Hotel Muscat, welcoming industry leaders, tech enthusiasts, and local partners. The new smartphones will

be available across various local retailers, both in store and online. The event was led by Rishi Gupta, Regional Director of Nothing for the Middle East and Africa, alongside Pradeep Kumar Tripathi, Founder and Chairman of GPT Group, the brand's official distributor in Oman.
"Oman has always been a market that appreciates both innovation and individuality," said Rishi Kishor Gupta.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY VISION

Marriott Business Council Oman unites to serve and inspire over 5,000 hours of community engagement and counting

MUSCAT: Established with a mission to Serve Our World, Marriott Business Council Oman continues to lead by example, embodying Marriott International's enduring values and social responsibility vision.
Comprised of leaders and associates from six of Oman's flagship properties: JW Marriott Hotel Muscat, The St. Regis Al Mouj Muscat Resort, Al Bustan Palace, a Ritz-Carlton Hotel, W Muscat, Sheraton Oman Hotel, and Aloft Muscat, the Council works collectively to deliver initiatives that uplift the community, support environmental preservation, and enhance the well-being of all those they serve.
Under the leadership of Samir Messaoudi, Chairman of the Marriott Business Council Oman and General Manager of JW Marriott Hotel Muscat, the Council launched a remarkable lineup of initiatives in the first half of 2025. From distributing iftar meals to taxi drivers and hosting Ramadan dinners for refugees, to organizing a charity bazaar for Eid Al Fitr donations, the team demonstrated a strong spirit of togetherness and compassion. Volunteers also united to clean Azaiba Beach on World Earth Day and removed harmful debris from the ocean during World Ocean Day at Al Bustan, reaffirming their commitment to nurturing the environment.
The impact of these efforts is both heartfelt and measur-



able. More than 5,000 volunteering hours have been contributed by passionate associates across all six hotels. Nearly OMR 7,500 was provided as in-kind donations, ranging from hosting displaced communities to providing meals, gifts, and event spaces. Furthermore, over OMR 5,400 was raised through internal fundraising efforts, all channeled into supporting charitable organizations across Oman.
These efforts are a clear reflection of Marriott's Serve 360 platform, which emphasizes sustainability and social impact. Alongside these flagship campaigns, the Council has also participated in blood donation drives, community marathons,

educational workshops, and career fairs, further expanding its positive reach across Oman.
Samir Messaoudi, Chairman of Marriott Business Council Oman and General Manager of JW Marriott Hotel Muscat, commented: "It is inspiring to witness how our associates from various Marriott properties work hand in hand for a shared purpose, to make this world a better place to live in. These passionate volunteers give their time and energy not just to serve within our hotels, but to extend compassion outward into the community and the environment. This is a reflection of what Marriott stands for: purpose-driven hospitality with a global impact."

FROM BAA1 WITH STABLE OUTLOOK

Moody's upgrades Bank Nizwa to investment grade (Baa3)

MUSCAT: In a significant development reflecting Bank Nizwa's - the leading and most trusted Islamic bank in Oman - strategic and sustainable growth, Moody's Investors Service announced significant upgrades to its long-term foreign and local currency deposit ratings, which have been elevated to an investment grade Baa3 from Ba1 with stable outlook. Concurrently, the bank's Baseline Credit Assessment (BCA) and Adjusted BCA have also seen a robust improvement.
These prestigious upgrades reflect Bank Nizwa's unwavering commitment to financial excellence and its strong positioning within the Sultanate's evolving economic landscape. The enhancements directly reflect the positive momentum driven by improved operating conditions, which are continually strengthening the bank's financial perfor-

mance, including capital buffers.
Khaled Al Kayed, Chief Executive Officer of Bank Nizwa, commented, "We extend our sincere gratitude to our shareholders, customers, and the official authorities - including the Central Bank of Oman (CBO), Ministry of Finance and Debt Management Office - for their continued support and unwavering commitment to financial discipline and strategic oversight. Their efforts have contributed to creating a conducive environment for the growth and prosperity of financial institutions in the Sultanate of Oman. This rating stands as a testament to Bank Nizwa's operational resilience and reflects the deep confidence placed in us by our shareholders, customers, and partners. It also aligns with the aspirations of Oman Vision 2040, which lays a strong foundation

for diversified economic growth, robust fiscal sustainability, and an Islamic finance sector capable of contributing meaningfully to a progressive and resilient future."
He added, "As the nation's first Islamic bank, we view this upgrade as a strong affirmation of the growing relevance of Sharia-compliant finance as a catalyst for national stability, financial inclusion, and enduring value creation. A rating action of this nature strengthens market sentiment, improves long-term credibility, and enables us to channel Islamic financial solutions toward effectively creating a tangible transformational impact."
The upgrades to Bank Nizwa's deposit ratings and Baseline Credit Assessment (BCA) reflect Moody's positive outlook on the bank's intrinsic financial strength, reaffirming its strong capital adequacy and ample liquidity.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Europcar Oman and Bahrain: Driving change through CSR

MUSCAT: Europcar Oman and Bahrain is redefining corporate social responsibility, striving to create a lasting impact on the local community through a vibrant series of health, environmental, and educational campaigns.
One of the highlights of this initiative is the upcoming Blood Donation Campaign, set for September 11, at The Diplomatic Club. This vital event will support the Oman Hereditary Blood Disorders Association and is being organized in collaboration with the Oman American Business Council (OABC) and The Diplomatic Club. Other business groups, including the British Business Forum (BBF) and the Indo Gulf and Middle East Chamber of Commerce, will also join this important effort.
In October, Europcar will host the impactful Early Breast Cancer Detection Campaign, offering free mobile mammogram screenings for women aged 40 and above on October 11 and 12 at The Diplomatic Club. This initiative, made possible through partnership with the Oman Cancer Association (OCA) and the support of OABC and The Diplomatic Club exemplifies Europcar's dedication to women's health and empowerment.
In alignment with Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Europcar will also support the OCA's Annual Walkathon, underscoring its dedication to raising awareness and providing support for cancer patients and their families.
Additionally, Europcar will power a beach clean-up activity organized by OABC in November, promoting environmental stewardship and community engagement—an essential part of its commitment to sustainability.
In December, Europcar is proud to support the Oman Summit for Diabetes and Endocrine Across the Lifespan, scheduled for December 4-5, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel - Qurum. This conference will gather medical professionals from across the Sultanate and feature approximately 17 international experts in diabetes and endocrinology, including the President of the International Diabetes Federation. To facilitate this important event, Europcar will provide various mobility solutions to support such an important event.
"At Europcar, we believe that true success is measured by the positive change we create in the lives of those around us. CSR is not just an initiative for us—it's a culture," said Nitin Sapre, CEO of Europcar Oman and Bahrain.

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Explore more; worry less with Ford Expedition

With ample space for up to eight passengers, this full-size SUV is built to keep families, friends and baggage all comfortably in tow



MUSCAT: The Ford Expedition is a perfect SUV that can be a trusted partner for life's everyday moments and spontaneous escapes. From weekday school runs and busy errands to cross-country adventures and scenic countryside drives, the Expedition is designed to deliver fun, flexibility and freedom with every drive.

With ample space for up to eight passengers, this full-size SUV is built to keep families, friends and baggage all comfortably in tow. Its clever cabin layout includes a sliding second-row seat that pro-

vides effortless access to the third row, even with a child safety seat in place. Comfort travels with you no matter where you sit, thanks to reclining third-row seats and generous legroom that make long journeys feel like a breeze.

When adventure calls, the Expedition answers with best-in-class towing capability. Whether towing a trailer for a weekend camping trip or hitching up a boat for a beach getaway, the standard Trailer Tow Class IV system makes it

all feel easy. Loading up is just as smooth with the available hands-free power lift-gate.

Beneath the hood lies a muscular 3.5-liter EcoBoost® engine delivering up to 380 horsepower and a robust 637Nm of torque. Paired with a 10-speed automatic transmission, the Expedition offers refined, responsive power that adapts seamlessly to city streets, highways, or winding off-road trails—while still offering impressive fuel economy.

The Expedition is equipped with advanced safety and traction technologies to handle whatever lies ahead. From Collision Avoidance Detection and Blind Spot Information System to the rugged confidence of Control Trac with Electronic Limited Slip Differential, rest easy, backed by systems designed to protect and empower.

Inside, the Ford Expedition is a hub of modern convenience and cutting-edge technology. The SYNC® 4 system with a vibrant 12-inch LCD touchscreen keeps you connected and in control. Multiple USB ports, a wireless charging pad and a 220-volt outlet keep everyone powered up, while Tri-zone Electronic Temperature Control ensures custom comfort for all passengers. And with the expansive Panoramic Vista Roof, every ride becomes a scenic experience, no matter the destination.

Whether navigating the school run or blazing new trails on a weekend escape, the Ford Expedition is engineered to elevate every drive. Bold, capable and thoughtfully designed, it is the SUV that makes the journey just as exciting as the destination.

In Oman, Ford vehicles are brought to you by Arabian Car Marketing Co.

NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN NBO empowers businesses with seamless merchant payment solutions

MUSCAT: The National Bank of Oman (NBO) continues to support business owners through an integrated suite of merchant payment services designed to simplify payment acceptance, processing, and enhance customer convenience. The Bank offers a full spectrum of merchant payment solutions, including Point of Sale (POS) terminals, an E-Commerce Payment Gateway and Merchant QR Codes. These services cater to a wide range of businesses, applicable to all registered and licensed entities such as home and microbusinesses, retail stores, corporate entities, small and medium-sized entities (SMEs) and government entities.

Commenting on this, Dr Ali Al Shekaili, Assistant General Manager – Head of Digital and E-Channels at NBO, said, "As Oman's economy becomes increasingly digital, we believe it is essential to equip every business with the means to thrive. Our merchant payment solutions reflect this belief by helping businesses accept payments securely while staying competitive, connected and ready for what comes next." The POS terminals support local and international card schemes including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, UnionPay, Discover and Diners Club. The features include POS



system integration with electronic cash registers, kiosks, and vending machines. In addition, it supports converting transactions to Easy Payment Plans, paying in local currency with Dynamic Currency Conversion, paying using rewards points and real-time data synchronisation as sales data from the POS is automatically reflected in the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, ensuring accurate inventory levels, financial records and reporting.

The E-Commerce Payment Gateway supports 3D secure online payments and offers a secure and seamless checkout experience. The solution offers link payments, recurring payments, and batch payments options, as well as smart routing of transactions through a single application programming interface. E-commerce payment gateways are compatible with ERP systems, websites and mobile apps.

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