

Times

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF OMAN



51

YEARS OF LEGACY

Founded 1975 · Volume 51 No. 50 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group



Find Out More



Choose your perfect match

With Najahi New Subscription-Based Current Accounts from Bank Muscat

Basic

Advanced

Premium



Bank Muscat. Better Everyday.
Terms and conditions apply.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

HM the Sultan, Egypt President discuss US-Iran negotiations

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Abdul Fattahel Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt yesterday discussed ongoing regional developments and their political and economic ramifications. During a telephone conversation, the two leaders stressed the importance of intensifying political and diplo-

matic efforts to steer US-Iranian negotiations toward a resolution of the crisis, achieve de-escalation, and ensure the security of maritime navigation in the Strait of Hormuz. This, they affirmed, would support the consolidation of international peace and security in accordance with the principles of the international law. — **ONA**

TODAY

Sayyid Bilarab to inaugurate Greater Muscat Structure Plan



MUSCAT: At the behest of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, His Highness Sayyid Bilarab bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of State and Governor of Muscat, will grace on Thursday, the launch ceremony of the Greater Muscat Structure Plan. The event will take place at the Experience Centre Building in Sultan

Haitham City in the Wilayat of A'Seeb, the Governorate of Muscat. The plan stands as one of the most significant outputs of the national spatial strategy, serving as a primary driver of urban development at the national level and an enabler for achieving the targets set forth in Oman Vision 2040. — **ONA**

650,000 INSURED IN OMAN AS POLICIES CROSS 32,000

Dhamani platform processed over 11.2 million electronic transactions and over 3.3 million insurance claims

MUSCAT: Since its launch in January 2025, the national health insurance platform 'Dhamani' has processed more than 11.2 million electronic transactions and over 3.3 million insurance claims, with payments made through the platform exceeding OMR59 million.

Dhamani is a comprehensive national platform designed to regulate relationships among all stakeholders within the health insurance ecosystem, ensuring the delivery of high-quality healthcare services while reducing price disparities, enhancing procedural transparency, accelerating transaction processing, and improving the beneficiary experience.

The platform also contributes to building a unified medical



OMR119.7MN

TOTAL HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS REACHED APPROXIMATELY OMR119.7 MILLION AGAINST PAID CLAIMS EXCEEDING OMR95 MILLION

record for insured individuals, thereby increasing the efficiency of medical and insurance decision-making.

The health insurance sector has recorded positive growth indicators, with total health insurance premiums reaching approximately OMR119.7 million against paid claims exceeding OMR95 million, clearly reflecting market expansion and the sector's strengthening role in financing healthcare services.

Data issued by the Financial Services Authority indicates that the number of insured individuals has reached 650,000, with over 32,000 health insurance policies issued. This reflects growing awareness of the importance of health insurance and an expanding base of beneficiaries of insurance services in the Sultanate of Oman.

The sector has witnessed notable growth in recent years, with cumulative premium growth reaching approximately 80% be-

tween 2021 and 2025. Health insurance now accounts for about 22% of the total insurance market, reinforcing its position as one of the most significant components of Oman's insurance sector.

It is worth noting that insurance coverage currently stands at approximately 13% of the total population, highlighting promising opportunities to expand the health insurance umbrella and enhance levels of insurance inclusion. — **ONA**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Over 42,000 Hajj applications received

1 Over 42,000 Hajj applications were submitted for the 1447 AH season, of which 14,000 were accepted. All accepted applicants have completed their travel requirements to the holy sites at a rate of 100%, including 13,560 Omani pilgrims and 440 resident expatriates. **>A3**



OMAN Guava cultivation a local success story

2 A young entrepreneur from the Wilayat of Nizwa is proving that agricultural ambition can drive both economic contribution and food security. By converting local resources into a productive agribusiness, he is helping meet market demand while advancing self-sufficiency. **>A4**

SPORTS Arsenal end 20-year wait, enter final

3 Arsenal secured their place in the UEFA Champions League final after a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Atletico Madrid in the semi-final second leg at the Emirates Stadium. Arsenal won the tie 2-1 on aggregate after drawing 1-1 in the first leg at the Wanda Metropolitano. **>B6**

LEGAL AWARENESS

Shura panel examines proposal to introduce law subject in schools

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Education, Scientific Research and Innovation Committee of the Shura Council discussed a proposal to introduce law subject in the school curriculum for grades ten to twelve, as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen the education system and enhance initiatives related to education, scientific research, and innovation.

During its meeting on Wednesday, the Committee, in the presence of Hamoud Saif Al Saadi, Member of the Council and proponent of the initiative, examined the importance of integrating law education at the secondary level.

Members highlighted that introducing such a subject would enhance students' legal awareness, deepen their understanding of laws and regulations governing



various aspects of daily life, and contribute to shaping responsible behaviour and respect for legal frameworks.

The Committee further noted that linking students to fundamental legal concepts from early educational stages would help develop a generation that is more aware of

its rights and responsibilities, and better equipped to engage with societal issues in an informed and responsible manner.

Discussions also explored international best practices in legal education and the possibility of adapting them to align with the national educational environment.

Members reviewed key aspects related to curriculum development, including technical, administrative, and financial requirements.

These included curriculum design, the availability of qualified teaching staff, and mechanisms for evaluation and follow-up.

The Committee emphasised the need for a comprehensive study to assess the anticipated impact of the proposed subject on students and the broader educational ecosystem before finalising recommendations to the relevant authorities.

In a separate agenda item, the Committee reviewed a proposal submitted by Khamis Hamad Al Ghafri, Member of the Council, to launch a joint educational, awareness, and training programme between the Ministry of Education and the Royal Oman Police.

The programme would target

students in grades eight, nine, and ten.

The initiative aims to enhance early awareness among students and equip them with knowledge and skills to address behavioural and intellectual challenges, including risky behaviours, ideological deviations, and the negative impacts of modern technology.

It also seeks to reinforce values of self-discipline, individual responsibility, and respect for laws and regulations, while strengthening positive engagement between students and state institutions.

The proposal reflects the importance of institutional partnerships—particularly between educational and security entities—as part of an integrated preventive framework that combines educational awareness with practical and behavioural guidance.

>A4

TheGuide



A unique experience

theguideoman.com @guideoman

40°

MUSCAT



Beyond the Balance Sheet

Having built a remarkable career in finance and corporate services across the hospitality and tourism sector, what initially drew you to this field, and what has kept you passionate about it over the years?

From the beginning, I was fascinated by the role finance plays in shaping decisions that go far beyond numbers it is the foundation that allows ideas, projects, and visions to materialize.

The hospitality and tourism sector, in particular, inspired me because it is dynamic and people-focused. It combines service, culture, and business, and I saw an opportunity to create real impact through financial leadership.

What keeps me passionate is the continuous challenge of balancing financial discipline with creativity and innovation, ensuring that organizations remain sustainable while contributing to Oman's growing global presence as a destination.

Finance often sits at the heart of every organization's growth. From your perspective, how can strong financial leadership contribute to building resilience and sustainability in Oman's hospitality and events sector? Strong financial leadership provides the clarity and foresight



needed to manage risks, allocate resources efficiently, and adapt to changing market conditions. In the hospitality and events sector, this is particularly important because of external factors such as seasonality, global travel trends, and economic shifts. A resilient financial strategy not only safeguards the organization but also allows it to invest in people, technology, and sustainable practices. By embedding financial sustainability into op-

TOP WOMEN LEADERS IN OMAN

erations, we strengthen Oman's position as a competitive, attractive, and responsible destination for business and leisure.



Special Report By

Times OF OMAN

In Association with

the origin

Powered by

Ford

LINCOLN

Samira Hilal Al-Naamani
Director of Finance and Corporate Services, Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre (OCEC)
Samira Al Namani has spent over two decades strengthening the financial foundations of Oman's hospitality and events sector. From establishing early finance operations in landmark hospitality projects to supporting the growth of a world-class convention and exhibition destination, her work reflects strategic clarity, resilience, and long-term vision. She views finance not as a back-office function, but as an enabler of people, innovation, and sustainable growth—playing a quiet yet critical role in positioning Oman as a trusted destination for global business and events.

As a woman leader in a demanding industry, what challenges have you faced, and how have you navigated them while continuing to inspire others around you?
Early in my career, there were fewer women in leadership positions, which meant there were limited role models to look up to. I navigated many challenges by focusing on excellence, professionalism, and persistence. I mentor and support other

women, so that together we create a more inclusive environment. My goal has always been to demonstrate that leadership is not defined by gender, but by vision, integrity, and results.

What advice would you give aspiring young girls who are aiming to work in finance, hospitality, or both?
My advice would be: do not limit yourself. Finance and hospitality may seem like very different

worlds, but they intersect beautifully to create opportunities for growth, innovation, and leadership. Build a strong foundation of knowledge, seek mentors, and always be curious to learn. Most importantly, trust your abilities and remain resilient. Challenges will come, but each challenge is an opportunity to grow. The future of these industries in Oman is bright, and there is space for young women to play leading roles in shaping it.

PLANT OMAN 2050

Call to protect environment, expand green cover in Oman

A'SUWAIQ: The Environment Centre in the Wilayat of Al Suwaiq, affiliated with the Environment Authority, organised an environmental event on Wednesday to introduce the "Plant Oman 2050" initiative in the Wilayats of A'Suwaïq and Al Khaburah in North Al Batinah Governorate.

The event was held under the auspices of Sheikh Issa Ahmed Al Maashani, Wali of A'Suwayq, with the participation of several educational, governmental, and private institutions, alongside civil society organisations.

This effort is part of the national initiative implemented by the Environment Authority to enhance environmental sustainability and expand green cover across the Sultanate of Oman.

Hamoud Suleiman Al Harrasi, Head of the Environment Centre in the Wilayat of A'Suwaïq, explained that the event aimed to bolster efforts to support vegetation cover, serving as an extension of the successes achieved by the initiative to plant ten million trees.

He noted that such initiatives



contribute significantly to achieving the environmental and developmental objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

He added that the event included the opening of an awareness exhibition featuring more than 20 corners for various educational, governmental, and private institutions, as well as clubs and civil society organisations from the Wilayats of A'Suwaïq and Al Khaburah.

Participating entities showcased successful models of agricultural nurseries, voluntary afforestation initiatives, and the

experiences of educational institutions in the agricultural wealth sector, in addition to introducing the local trees being cultivated under the initiative.

The activities also featured the presentation of specialised working papers aimed at enhancing environmental awareness.

Furthermore, seedlings of local Omani trees were distributed to various governmental and private institutions and community members, with the goal of encouraging active public participation in afforestation efforts and environmental preservation. -OMA

GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH

Plan to improve ecosystem, natural resource of Dhofar Governorate

RAKHUT: The Directorate General of Environment in Dhofar Governorate held an introductory meeting yesterday in the Wilayat of Rakhut to present a new initiative aimed at strengthening natural resource and ecosystem management under the "Pasture Restoration Project."

The effort is part of broader moves to support environmental sustainability and advance long-term development goals.

The gathering brought together the walis of Rakhut and Dhalkut, members of both the Shura Coun-



cil and the Municipal Council, as well as sheikhs (tribal leaders) and community figures from the two wilayats. An international team from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) also participated.

The meeting falls under ongoing collaboration between the En-

vironment Authority and GGGI to improve ecosystem and natural resource management across Dhofar. The initiative seeks to develop a comprehensive roadmap aligned with sustainable development objectives and green growth strategies for the region.

Participants emphasised that coordinated institutional and community efforts are essential to achieving sustainable natural resource management, positioning Dhofar Governorate as a regional benchmark for environmental action. -OMA

SHAPING DECISIONS

GCC holds meeting

MUSCAT: The Government Communication Centre (GCC) on Wednesday held its 31st meeting under the title "From Monitoring to Decision-Making: How Monitoring and Analysis Enhance the Effectiveness of Government Communication," at a time when data streaming from digital platforms has become a critical element in shaping decisions and creating impact.

The meeting was attended by representatives of communication and media departments in government entities.

The meeting aimed to enhance the integration of efforts and establish more effective practices within the government communication ecosystem, with a focus on monitoring and analysis as a strategic tool that begins with identifying initial indicators and ends only when accurate information reaches the decision-maker, thereby transforming insights into more informed decisions and more impactful messages.

In his address, Dr. Yousef Salim Al Hinai, Head of the Government Communication and Performance Development Unit at the Secretar-

iat General of the Council of Ministers, affirmed that public opinion has today become an active element in shaping the landscape. What circulates on platforms and in the media is no longer mere transient interaction, but rather genuine indicators that require systematic reading and in-depth analysis to support government decision-making, he affirmed.

He added that today's challenge no longer lies in the availability of data, but in the ability to understand it, analyse it, extract its implications, and deploy it in a timely manner. This is where the transformation lies—moving from descriptive monitoring, to interpretive analysis, to preemptive decision-making.

The meeting included a visual presentation on the "Monitoring and Analysis Ecosystem," which focused on its role in enabling entities to rapidly verify information and counter rumors and misinformation by providing accurate facts in a timely manner, thereby enhancing societal awareness and ensuring the delivery of reliable content that contributes to forming a correct

public understanding.

The meeting also showcased successful government experiences in monitoring and analysis. Both the Ministry of Social Development and Oman Investment Authority presented their respective experiences, including the mechanisms they employ to address societal issues and leverage monitoring results to improve services and enhance communication with beneficiaries.

This reflects the importance of partnership among government institutions in exchanging expertise and enhancing integration, which contributes to benefiting from these experiences as inspiring models for developing the government work system and improving its efficiency.

This meeting is part of the Government Communication Center's ongoing efforts to strengthen partnership among communication and media departments in government entities, thereby ensuring the development of a coherent public image that reflects government efforts with accuracy and transparency. -OMA

Ministry of Labour

Auction Announcement

Online auction for the sale of movable assets:

The Ministry of Labour announces an online public auction for the sale of movable assets through the Mzadat Company website (www.mzadat.om), according to the following details:

Auction Type	Nos.	Location of Inspection	Date and time of Inspection	Auction Period
Used vehicles	30	The Ministry's main warehouses at the Vocational College in Al Seeb	13-14/05/2026	17-18/05/2026
Boats	1	The Vocational College in Al Khaboura	13-14/05/2026	17-18/05/2026
Ships	1	The Vocational College in Al Khaboura		

Those wishing to participate in the online auction shall adhere to the following conditions:

To register on the Mzadat website (www.mzadat.om).

- Before participating in the online auction, bidders are required to pay a security deposit of 500 OMR for vehicles, and 200 OMR for boats and ships.
- The buyer must pay the full price of the items through the website within five working days of the auction being awarded.
- Value Added Tax (VAT) of 5% and auctioneer's fee of 0.9% of the item's value will be added to the purchase price.
- The buyer must remove the purchased item within five working days of payment. If the item is not removed within this period, the Ministry shall not be responsible for its loss, damage, or destruction.
1. The deposit amount will be forfeited if the items are not paid for and removed within the mentioned period.
- No warranty of any kind will be given for the mechanical condition of the vehicle, its roadworthiness, or its registration with the Royal Oman Police. The Ministry does not guarantee any defects in the sold items. Prospective buyers are required to inspect the items to verify their condition.
- Vehicles can be inspected during the period from 13 to 14 May 2026, at the warehouse yard of the Vocational College in Al-Seeb, affiliated with the Ministry of Labour, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
- The Al-Khaboura ship and the Saqr 1 boat can be inspected during the period from 13 to 14 May 2026, at the Vocational College in Al-Khaboura, affiliated with the Ministry of Labour, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Note:

- All items will be sold on an "as is" basis.
- Security deposits will be refunded if the bid is unsuccessful.
- The Ministry of Labour reserves the right to cancel or postpone the sale without giving reasons.

For more details, please visit the website (www.mzadat.om) or contact us at: (76617644-94693436).

- For vehicle inspections, please contact the Administrative Affairs Department at the Ministry of Labour during official working hours on the following numbers: (24344102 – 24344129).
- For ship and boat inspections, please contact the Vocational College in Al Khaboura at the Ministry of Labour during official working hours on the following numbers: (21166113 – 21166112).

labour_OMAN

Media Excellence Competition fosters creativity, says Information Ministry

The contest aims to enhance creative capabilities in media sector and reinforces the role of national media as an active partner in achieving Oman Vision 2040



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Information has affirmed that the Media Excellence Competition serves to enhance creative capabilities within the media sector and reinforces the role of national media as an active partner in achieving Oman Vision 2040.

The Ministry began on Wednesday accepting applications for participation in the competition. The submission period continues until 31 May.

Ibrahim bin Salim Al Salmi, spokesperson for the Ministry of Information, stated in a press remark that the competition aims to highlight and empower national media talents, recognise their achievements, and establish a

positive, competitive environment that stimulates creativity and encourages the production of high-quality media content aligned with the rapid developments taking place in the field.

Showcasing content quality

He explained that the Ministry has been committed to realising the competition's vision since its launch in 2004, focusing on identifying areas of success and showcasing content quality across the fields of print journalism, radio and television broadcasting, and digital media.

Al Salmi noted that a specialised committee will review all entries in accordance with the announced

competition criteria, and that submitted works will be evaluated using rigorous media standards.

In concluding his remarks, he called upon media professionals to seize this creative opportunity as a platform for nurturing talent and demonstrating the evolution of Oman's media landscape through its skilled practitioners, innovative ideas, and rich content.

It is worth noting that the terms and conditions for the 2026 Media Excellence Competition, along with registration procedures, are available on the official media portal at the following link:<https://www.omaninfo.om/moi/mec-registration-form.php> -**ONA**

SERVICES FOR PILGRIMS

42,000 Hajj applications submitted for 1447 AH

MUSCAT: Oman's official Hajj mission for the 1447 AH season held a press conference on Wednesday to outline its key preparedness measures, organisational frameworks, developmental initiatives, and services for pilgrims from the Sultanate of Oman.

The briefing also covered updates on transportation and crowd management, along with general indicators for the current season.

Ahmed Salim Al Rashdi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs and Head of Oman's Hajj mission for 1447 AH, stated that the Ministry's approach to managing the Hajj sector is grounded in a philosophy centred on enabling pilgrims to perform this sacred rite in accordance with Prophetic tradition, thereby fulfilling the sharia objectives of facilitation and the removal of hardship.

He emphasised that the pilgrim remains the top priority across all services, with the application of the highest standards of governance, quality, efficiency, and transparency, in full integration with various local and international partners.

He added that the Ministry has continued to enhance its Hajj management system through an electronic platform for pilgrim registration, selection processes, and the procurement of company and service contracts.

He noted that the system received an award as the world's best digital service for pilgrims, achieving a 99% satisfaction rate during the previous 1446 AH season.

The platform has also contributed to greater fairness, transparency, and equal access for pilgrims based on precise and well-regulated eligibility criteria.

He explained that over 42,000 Hajj applications were submitted



for the 1447 AH season, of which 14,000 were accepted based on approved eligibility standards.

All accepted applicants have completed their travel requirements to the holy sites at a rate of 100%, including 13,560 Omani pilgrims and 440 resident expatriates. He noted that the overall satisfaction rate for the previous Hajj season stood at 97%, with the mission aspiring to improve upon this figure during the current season.

During the press conference, the head of the Omani Hajj mission detailed the structured eligibility sorting mechanism, system opening dates for those wishing to register for Hajj, notification procedures for eligible pilgrims across various priority stages, and the final deadlines for pilgrim entry into Saudi Arabia by land and air, in addition to updates on the second Hajj and Umrah Conference and Exhibition.

He mentioned that, following the issuance of new regulations by Saudi Arabia concerning the land transport of pilgrims, the mission immediately notified Hajj companies and initiated direct coordination with the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

This aimed to mitigate operational and financial impacts on both companies and pilgrims while working to find alternative solutions to ensure seamless service delivery.

He also highlighted several signature initiatives for the 1447 AH Hajj season. These include the "Hajj Lab" Initiative, designed to enhance the Omani pilgrim's experience and develop a roadmap for future priorities, as well as the Aviation Initiative, which helped reduce airfare prices by approximately OMR40 compared to last season.

He noted that the share of land-based pilgrims decreased from 5,122 pilgrims in the 1446 AH season to 3,034 in the 1447 AH season.

Another key effort is the initiative to expand pilgrim dispersal planning via land border crossings, which introduced a smart mechanism for real-time bus movement tracking and rapid emergency and crisis response.

In addition, the "Awqaf Beit Al Rabat" Initiative raised over OMR200,000 for eligible beneficiary groups, while the "Hajj Company Readiness Enhancement" Initiative aims to raise performance efficiency and improve service quality.

He also announced the relocation of the Omani Hajj mission's headquarters to a new site characterized by its proximity to the holy sites, availability of modern logistical services, and lower traffic density—factors that will facilitate pilgrim access and enable more efficient operational execution. -**ONA**

REVIEWING REPORT

State Council Office discusses several topics and proposals



MUSCAT: The State Council Office held its fourth meeting of the third annual session of the 8th term on Wednesday, chaired by Sheikh Abdulmalik Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council.

During the meeting, the Office discussed the proposed draft of the "Internal Regulations of the State Council" and the Legal Committee's opinion on the matter.

The meeting also hosted the council's member Ahmed Saif Al Rawahi to discuss the submitted proposal titled "Towards More Comprehensive Evaluation Indicators for Economic Development in Light of Oman Vision 2040."

Furthermore, the Office reviewed several reports submitted by the Council members regarding their participation in regional and international meetings and

forums. This was in addition to reviewing a follow-up report on the implementation of issued decisions and a report monitoring the Council's activities over the recent period.

The meeting concluded by determining the agenda items for the second joint session of the third regular session of the eighth term between the State Council and the Shura Council. -**ONA**

WILAYAT OF SUR

Winners of Central Student Company Exhibition honoured

SUR: The activities of the second Central Student Company Exhibition concluded on Wednesday in the Wilayat of Sur.

The event was organised by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Directorate General of Education in South Al Sharqiyah and the SMEs Development Authority "Riyada".

Renewable energy

The ceremony included the announcement of the final evaluation results for 22 participating student companies representing various governorates, which competed in vital fields such as renewable energy and environmental technologies, in addition to honouring the winners of the competition.

The company "Eco balls" from North Al Sharqiyah Governorate was crowned with the Best Student Company award, while "Aqua Heal" from Muscat Governorate received the Best Innovative Product award. "Green chem" from South Al Batinah



HONOURED: The ceremony included the announcement of the final evaluation results for 22 participating student companies.

Governorate secured the award for the Best Sustainable Product.

Abdullah Ali Al Fawri, Director General of the Directorate General of Education in South Al Sharqiyah Governorate, emphasised that the exhibition achieved its objectives in instilling a culture

of entrepreneurship and empowering students to transform their ideas into realistic projects.

He noted that the selection of "Renewable Energy" as the theme for this edition reflects the youth's awareness of the promising sectors within Oman Vision 2040. -**ONA**

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE BRAND NOW!

For more information, contact:
Sanjeev Rana – sanjeev@mmg.om | +968 9722 1630
Syed Amir Saleem – syed.amir@mmg.om | +968 7847 1944

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBMIT YOUR VOTE!

Omani entrepreneur turns guava cultivation into local success story



Hamoud Thabit Al Nabhani has transformed his deep interest in farming into a thriving guava production venture, now supplying local markets with high-quality fruit

NIZWA: A young entrepreneur from the Wilayat of Nizwa is proving that agricultural ambition can drive both economic contribution and food security. By converting local resources into a productive agribusiness, he is helping meet market demand while advancing self-sufficiency.

Hamoud Thabit Al Nabhani has transformed his deep interest in farming into a thriving guava production venture, now supplying lo-

cal markets with high-quality fruit.

According to Al Nabhani, the project began with a genuine passion for the land and a clear vision: not merely to experiment, but to build a sustainable source of income by making the most of the region's favorable growing conditions.

The farm currently houses around 400 guava trees across two main varieties—Thai guava and dwarf Indian guava—chosen to diversify output and enhance fruit



quality. Irrigation relies on the traditional “Al Haqqi” falaj system, using flood irrigation methods that align with the land’s natural characteristics and ensure a consistent water supply.

These efforts now yield up to 100 kilograms of guavas per day during the harvest season, a rapid

return that underscores the viability of investing in local agriculture.

Al Nabhani credits the Directorate General of Agriculture and Water Resources in A’Dakhiliyah Governorate for its continuing support, particularly in providing pest control solutions that have helped boost productivity and protect crops. He notes that the farm follows environmentally responsible practices, relying entirely on organic bio-fertilizers. This approach preserves the fruit’s natural flavor and high quality while strengthening its competitiveness in local markets.

On the marketing side, Al Nabhani reports strong demand across A’Dakhiliyah Governorate, with regular deliveries to markets in Nizwa, Bahla, and Al Hamra. To ensure freshness and quality, the fruit is packed in plastic containers designed to protect it from harvest to consumer. -GNA



AWARENESS LECTURES

FROM A1 Members review various models



Members reviewed regional and international models that demonstrate the effectiveness of collaboration between schools and law enforcement agencies in improving student awareness and promoting positive behaviour.

The proposed programme includes thematic areas such as drug awareness, cybersecurity, road safety, prevention of bullying and school violence, and the promotion of discipline and responsibility.

Implementation mechanisms were also discussed, including school-based awareness lectures, training workshops, field visits, and interactive activities involving specialists from the Royal Oman Police. The Committee stressed the importance of enhancing student engagement and ensuring the effectiveness of awareness messages through practical and participatory approaches.

Members raised several questions regarding implementation readiness, coordination between relevant entities, target groups, and methods for measuring outcomes. The proponents clarified the objectives and operational principles of the initiative.

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Jamal Ahmed Al Abri, Deputy Chairman of the Education, Scientific Research and Innovation Committee, and attended by H.E. Mansour Zaher Al Hajri, Deputy Chairman of the Shura Council, along with Members of the Committee.

ROBOTICS LABORATORIES

Al Buraimi science, innovation centre inaugurated

AL BURAIMI: Al Buraimi Science and Innovation Centre was inaugurated on Wednesday in Al Buraimi Governorate to the tune of OMR618,000, funded by OQ Refineries and Petroleum Industries.

The opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Dr. Madiha Ahmed Al Shaibani, Minister of Education.

The project spans an area exceeding 61,000 square metres and features an integrated system of educational and technical facilities. These include innovation and robotics laboratories, a planetarium, a mini-science museum, and an educational cinema, alongside specialized halls for scientific modeling and applied technology.

The center is expected to serve 54 public and private schools, as well as universities and colleges in Al Buraimi Governorate. It aims to benefit more than 18,000 students from public and private schools, colleges, and universities, in addition to teaching, administrative, and technical staff, thereby fostering a learning environment that stimulates innovation.

Furthermore, the center offers advanced educational programs, including scientific laboratories, innovation workshops, and digital learning environments, while supporting student projects and implementing specialized scientific programs and competitions to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

The center represents an investment in developing the educational system in the Sultanate of Oman by providing advanced learning environments that encourage creative thinking and support innovation. The role of OQ Refineries and Petroleum Industries is reflected in utilizing its investments to support educational initiatives related to science, technology, and innovation, while enhancing integration with the Ministry of Education to implement pioneering programs



that build student capabilities and equip them with future skills.

Additionally, the center solidifies the contribution of education to the knowledge-based economy by providing students with applied skills, enhancing the readiness of the future workforce, and creating a supportive environment for innovation and entrepreneurship.

The benefits of the centre extend to supporting SMEs and

stimulating the development of practical, innovative solutions, which contributes to providing quality job opportunities and enhancing economic diversification.

The center serves as a supportive platform for preparing national cadres capable of contributing to the knowledge economy, in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

Saif Hamad Al Abdali, Director General of Education in Al Buraimi



mi Governorate, explained that the Al Buraimi Science and Innovation Center is a qualitative addition to the educational system in the governorate.

He noted that it provides an interactive learning environment that supports the development of student skills in science, technology, and innovation, helps link theoretical knowledge with practice, fosters a culture of research and exploration among youth, and

builds future skills to support the knowledge-based economy.

For his part, Omar Mohammed Al Abri, Director General of Corporate Affairs at OQ Refineries and Petroleum Industries, emphasized the significance of the project, stating that the establishment of the Al Buraimi Science and Innovation Center embodies the company's commitment to supporting innovation and enhancing the educational process. He added that it represents a practical extension of OQ Group's social investment strategy aimed at empowering education and youth, and building capacities in the fields of science, technology, and entrepreneurship.

He further noted that the center focuses on providing a stimulating educational and applied environment that contributes to transforming ideas into value-added initiatives and projects for society, reinforcing the transition toward an economy based on knowledge and innovation.

Al Abri explained that the project reflects OQ's commitment to continued investment in initiatives with sustainable impact and enhancing its role as a strategic partner in supporting national development paths and building a more diversified and sustainable economy. -GNA

AL DAKHLIYAH GOVERNORATE

Eastern Mountain Oasis project 50% completed



AL HAMRA: The completion rate of a project codenamed Eastern Mountain Oasis in the Wilayat of Al Hamra, Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, has reached approximately 50 percent. Spanning an area of nearly 10,000 square meters, the project features various tourism and service facilities, including a 300-square-metre investment restaurant, an outdoor theater, and 13 sitting gazebos, in addition to prayer rooms, pedestrian walkways, and open spaces.

The governorate is continuing urban development works in the Al Jabal Al Sharqi (Eastern Mountain) area of Al Hamra as part of its efforts to develop infrastructure and enhance service facilities.

These efforts aim to keep pace with the growing tourism movement, which reaches its peak during the summer season.

The mountain is considered one of the promising natural destinations in the governorate due to its environmental and geographical features that attract visitors and mountain tourism enthusiasts.

The increasing influx of tourists during peak seasons has reinforced the need to develop services and elevate the site's readiness.

In a statement to Oman News Agency, Sheikh Sulaiman Said Al Azri, Wali of Al Hamra, emphasized that the project is being implemented in light of the growing tourism demand in the region and in response to the need for enhanced services. He noted that such projects contribute to raising the readiness of tourism sites and developing them to meet visitor requirements.

He added that the project provides an integrated environment that combines leisure and services while preserving the natural character of the site. It also contributes to improving the visitor experience and stimulating tourism and economic activity in the wilayat.

He further explained that efforts are ongoing to complete the service system at the site by introducing additional facilities, including toilets, directional signage, and designated camping sites, thereby enhancing the site's readiness to receive visitors throughout the year.

These projects come within development plans aimed at enhancing the sustainability of tourism sites and creating an attractive environment for investment.

This contributes to diversifying economic activities in the wilayat and supports the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 in optimizing the use of natural resources and promoting balanced development. -ONA

phasized that the project is being implemented in light of the growing tourism demand in the region and in response to the need for enhanced services. He noted that such projects contribute to raising the readiness of tourism sites and developing them to meet visitor requirements.

He added that the project provides an integrated environment that combines leisure and services while preserving the natural character of the site. It also contributes to improving the visitor experience and stimulating tourism and economic activity in the wilayat.

He further explained that efforts are ongoing to complete the service system at the site by introducing additional facilities, including toilets, directional signage, and designated camping sites, thereby enhancing the site's readiness to receive visitors throughout the year.

These projects come within development plans aimed at enhancing the sustainability of tourism sites and creating an attractive environment for investment.

This contributes to diversifying economic activities in the wilayat and supports the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 in optimizing the use of natural resources and promoting balanced development. -ONA

DHOFAR GOVERNORATE

OMR4 million contract signed for Ateen Natural Park project

SALALAH: Dhofar Governorate signed a construction contract on Wednesday with the Ministry of Energy and Minerals for Ateen Natural Park project in the Wilayat of Salalah, valued at over OMR4 million. The signing took place in the presence of HH Sayyid Marwan bin Turki Al Said, Governor of Dhofar.

Located in the Ateen plain within Salalah, the park spans an estimated area of 270,000 square metres. Designed as an integrated tourist and leisure destination, it aims to offer visitors a blend of nature, relaxation, and family-friendly activities.

Planned facilities include an artificial water channel, dedicated play and entertainment zones, restaurants, rest areas, an event and activity space, as well as full-service public amenities.

A distinctive feature of the project is its roots in community partnership, bringing together Dhofar Governorate, the Energy Sector Social Responsibility Development Foundation, and Petroleum Development Oman (PDO). This collaboration reflects a cohesive approach among government entities, the private sector, and local communities, with the goal of boosting tourism—particularly during the khareef (autumn) season—while maximising the region's natural assets.



The agreement aligns with broader efforts to enhance Dhofar's tourism and recreational infrastructure, support sustainable development and social responsibility initiatives, and improve quality of life.

The contract was signed on behalf of the governorate by Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Ba'owain, Director General of Technical Affairs and Projects at Dhofar Municipality.

The implementing company was represented by Hafidh Salim Al Haddad, while Abdullah Mubarak Al Shukaili, Head of Community Responsibility, signed on behalf of Petroleum Development Oman. - ONA

The agreement aligns with broader efforts to enhance Dhofar's tourism and recreational infrastructure, support sustainable development and social responsibility initiatives, and improve quality of life.

The contract was signed on behalf of the governorate by Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Ba'owain, Director General of Technical Affairs and Projects at Dhofar Municipality.

The implementing company was represented by Hafidh Salim Al Haddad, while Abdullah Mubarak Al Shukaili, Head of Community Responsibility, signed on behalf of Petroleum Development Oman. - ONA



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT
(Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi, India) P.O. Box 1551, P.C. 114,
Sultanate of Oman, Tel: 24783995 ,24786693
Email: office@isdoman.com Website: www.isdoman.com



TENDER NOTICE
REF: ISD/ADMIN/TENDER/001/27-2026
Indian School Darsait is seeking bids from specialised firms who are having experience in the supply of the following services:

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE TENDER	REF NO.
1	Auditorium Movable Partition	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026A
2	Staff Chairs	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026B
3	Students Table & Chair Replacement	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026C
4	Purchase of Red Carpets	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026D
5	Renovation of Existing Boys Washroom (3 Floors)	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026E
6	New Handwash Facility behind the Senior School Auditorium	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026F
7	Split Air Conditioners	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026G
8	Digitalisation of Documents	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026H
9	Renovation of Infirmary	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026J
10	Senior School Compound Wall & Gate Replacement	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026K
11	Interlocking of Play Area – Senior School	ISD/ADM/T -001/27-2026L

Interested parties shall collect the Tender documents from the school admin office against the payment of **RO 10/-** each as a non-refundable Tender fee from **07 May 2026 to 19 May 2026** during the working days (**Sunday to Thursday**) of the school between **07:30 a.m. and 02:00 p.m.**
The completed Tender shall be dropped in the Tender Box kept in the school office on or before **20 May 2026 by 2.00 p.m.**
The school reserves the right to reject any tender without providing any reason and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
The Tender document should be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to **The Head Purchase Subcommittee, Indian School Darsait, PO Box 1551, PCL14, Darsait, Muscat.**

Principal



INDIAN SCHOOL AL MAABELA
Post Box No 134, Postal Code 122
Al Maabela, Sultanate of Oman
GSM: +968 - 78904848, 98890562



TENDER NOTICE

S.No.	DESCRIPTION
1	Annual Maintenance for Complete MEP Work including Maintenance of AC's.
2	Senior Students (Fiber) Furniture – Tables & Chairs
3	IP based PA System
4	Audio Equipment Supply

Competitive tenders are invited from the establishments specialized in each area. The collection of tender documents from School will commence from **07/05/2026** after a **payment of R.O. 10/-** (Inclusive of vat 5%) **for each job.**

The last date of tender submission is on or before **14/05/2026 before 3:00pm.**

The completed tender in all aspects should be dropped in the box kept in the school office.

The tender should be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to:
The Chairperson, Purchase Subcommittee, Indian School Al Maabela

Note: Respective tenders shall clearly mention the: name of service quoted by the bidding party".

The school reserves the right to reject any tender without providing any reason and does not find itself to accept the lowest or any tender



Empowering Businesses

PRESENTS



10TH JUNE, 2026
KEMPINSKI HOTEL MUSCAT



The Next Level of Customer Experience Starts Here.

Oman CX Forum 2026 brings together CX leaders, experts and solution providers to foster innovation, share actionable insights and advance customer experience excellence across industries.



10+
SPEAKERS



400+
DELEGATES



80+
COMPANIES

OMAN CX AWARDS 2026

Oman's top brands across 40+ product and service categories—selected through extensive consumer voting—will be honoured with the 'Times of Oman Best Brand in Customer Experience Award', while select CX industry leaders will also be felicitated at the Oman CX Awards 2026.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBMIT YOUR VOTE!

FOR PARTNERSHIPS, SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES, TABLE OR SEAT BOOKINGS, & OTHER INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:
SANJEEV RANA | sanjeev@mmg.om
| +968 **97221630**
SYED AMIR SALEEM | syed.amir@mmg.om
| +968 **78471944**



EVENT PARTNER



RADIO PARTNERS



Oman, Norway reaffirm commitment to regional, international security

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed relations of cooperation between the two countries and explored ways to further develop and enhance them

MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister received in Muscat on Wednesday Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed relations of cooperation between the two countries and explored ways to further develop and enhance them across various fields to serve the joint interests.

Discussions also addressed a number of current regional and



international developments, as the two ministers exchanged views on the importance of fostering conditions conducive to de-escalation, intensifying efforts to reduce tensions, and support political and diplomatic solutions in order to preserve the region's security and stability, uphold international law, and remain committed to the principles of the United Nations Charter. In this context, the meet-

ings touched upon developments related to the security and freedom of maritime navigation in the region, alongside support for efforts to secure both navigation and the movement of supply chains, thereby contributing to the stability of the global economy.

Both sides emphasised the importance of sustained dialogue and coordination on issues of mutual concern, as well as supporting ef-

forts aimed at strengthening security, stability, and peace in the region and the world.

The meeting was attended by Munthir bin Mahfoudh Al Manthri, Head of the Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry and Kjersti Tromsdal, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Sultanate of Oman, along with a number of officials from both sides.

— ONA



Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box: 770,
Postal Code: 112

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

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 22009004, E-mail: amcoman@choueirigroup.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

AL BURAIMI

Means of enhancing investments explored

AL BURAIMI: Al Buraimi Governorate on Wednesday reviewed its key economic indicators, investment opportunities, and ongoing and future development projects. This took place during a visit to the governorate by Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz).

Efficiency of services

Discussions were held on mechanisms for developing economic and industrial zones, ways to enhance the efficiency of services provided to investors, and streamlining procedures related to the business environment. Additionally, the visit addressed forthcoming expansion plans

aimed at boosting the governorate's economic competitiveness.

The visit included a field tour of the Special Economic Zone in the Niyabat of Al Rawda, with the participation of an investment delegation from the Emirate of Dubai, the UAE.

The Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones and the accompanying delegation were briefed on the construction readiness of the infrastructure and the opportunities available in the industrial, commercial, and service sectors, which offer comparative advantages to investors due to the zone's strategic location. The tour also included a visit to Al Buraimi Industrial City.

— ONA

ENHANCING TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Ministry of Economy holds meeting with World Bank delegation



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Economy held a meeting on Wednesday with a delegation from the World Bank, led by Wendy Werner, Country Manager of the World Bank Group for the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting, held at the Ministry's headquarters, was attended by Dr. Munther Hilal Al Busaidi, Head of the Oman Vision 2040

Implementation Follow-up Unit at the Ministry of Economy, to discuss ways of enhancing technical cooperation in several areas.

The meeting discussed several topics of mutual interest, primarily exploring areas of cooperation between the two sides, economic diversification efforts, and labor market developments in the Sul-

tanate of Oman.

The session also touched upon discussing mechanisms for aligning initiatives to contribute to achieving mutual added value, alongside reviewing economic performance indicators achieved within the Tenth Five-Year Plan and the progress made in implementing programs related to

Oman Vision 2040.

At the conclusion of the meeting, both parties emphasised the importance of continuing technical coordination between them, agreeing to hold subsequent meetings to discuss operational aspects and develop frameworks for joint cooperation.

— ONA

AL JAZEIRA SERVICES CO. SAOG				
P.O. Box 2865, Ruwi, P.C 112, Sultanate of Oman Tel.: 24706499, Fax: 24703653				
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT				
Dear Shareholders, On behalf of the Board of Directors of Al Jazeera Services Co. SAOG ("the company"), I am pleased to present the unaudited financial statements for the 1st quarter ended on 31 March 2026. Profits and assets The revenue from the catering business for 1st quarter ended on 31 March 2026 was up by 26% to 3,283,489 from 2,611,109 reported for the same period last year. The company has incurred operating loss of 107,279 compared to operating profit of 127,529 for the corresponding three months in 2025 due to competitive pressure and prevailing geopolitical situation in the region. The net gains from investments for the period was 312,856 against loss of 92,149 for the corresponding period in 2025. The share of profit from associate company, Al Anwar Ceramics Tiles Co. SAOG for the three months ended on 31 March 2026 was 107,789 compared to profit of 133,653 for the same period in 2025. During the period, the company has reduced its stake in the capital of associate company by 1.28% to 35.71%. The net profit after tax for the three months ended on 31 March 2026 was 298,538 up by 91% compared to profit of 156,179 for the three months ended on 31 March 2025. The shareholders' equity as on 31 March 2026 was 13,935,793 against 14,402,210 as on 31 March 2025. The net assets per share as on 31 March 2026 was 178 baisa as against 184 baisa as on 31 March 2025. Future outlook We remain focused on our core business of catering and allied services and our outlook for the future remains stable. I am pleased to report that your company has adhered to all the applicable regulations covering corporate governance in Sultanate of Oman. Acknowledgements On behalf of the Board of Directors, I express our sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik for his great vision and initiatives as he continues to lead the Sultanate on the path of development, peace and enduring prosperity. We also extend our sincere thanks to our Customers, Shareholders, Muscat Stock Exchange and Financial Services Authority for their continued support. I would also like to thank the management and staff for their commitment and hard work. Abdulredha Mustafa Sultan Deputy Chairman				
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (UNAUDITED) AS AT 31 MARCH 2026				
	Group 31 March 2026	Parent Company 31 March 2026	Group 31 March 2025	Parent Company 31 March 2025
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Furniture and equipment	42,210	2,522	63,019	4,641
Goodwill	90,000	--	90,000	--
Investments in subsidiaries	--	320,444	--	320,444
Investments in associates	10,475,060	10,475,060	10,810,264	10,810,264
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	9,898	9,898	9,898	9,898
Deferred tax asset	163,626	134,916	197,486	178,553
Total non-current assets	10,780,795	10,942,841	11,170,667	11,323,800
Current assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,269,178	1,269,178	2,026,767	2,026,767
Inventories	545,744	--	397,287	--
Trade receivable and other financial assets	4,923,647	114,476	3,714,450	11,569
Dividend receivable from an associate	245,371	245,371	325,518	325,518
Due from related parties	--	1,777,061	--	1,245,038
Cash and bank balances	578,853	174,268	888,402	550,381
Total current assets	7,562,792	3,580,353	7,352,423	4,159,273
Total assets	18,343,587	14,523,194	18,523,090	15,483,073
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Shareholders' capital and reserves				
Share capital	7,820,202	7,820,202	7,820,202	7,820,202
Legal reserve	2,635,348	2,606,734	2,635,348	2,606,734
Other reserves	49,387	49,387	49,387	49,387
Retained earnings	3,551,851	3,392,957	4,124,081	3,967,467
Investment fair value reserve	(120,995)	(120,995)	(226,808)	(226,808)
Total shareholders' capital and reserve	13,935,793	13,748,285	14,402,210	14,216,982
Non-current liabilities				
Employees' terminal benefits	589,629	57,332	520,540	54,271
Total non-current liabilities	589,629	57,332	520,540	54,271
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	2,568,277	18,533	1,764,069	17,902
Due to related parties	453,155	--	454,033	--
Dividend payable	--	--	1,173,031	1,173,031
Bank Overdraft	678,157	678,157	--	--
Provision for Taxation	118,576	20,887	209,207	20,887
Total current liabilities	3,818,165	717,577	3,600,340	1,211,820
Total liabilities	4,407,794	774,909	4,120,880	1,266,091
Total Shareholders' capital and reserves and liabilities	18,343,587	14,523,194	18,523,090	15,483,073
Net assets per share	0.178	0.176	0.184	0.182
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2026				
	Group 31 March 2026	Parent Company 31 March 2026	Group 31 March 2025	Parent Company 31 March 2025
Revenue from contract with customers	3,283,489	--	2,611,109	--
Cost of providing services	(2,998,370)	--	(2,187,845)	--
Gross profit	285,119	--	423,264	--
Other income	1,261	--	2,606	--
	286,380	--	425,870	--
Expenses				
Employees salaries and other costs	(135,393)	(43,980)	(148,140)	(50,921)
General and administrative expenses	(249,583)	(16,239)	(137,100)	(13,882)
Depreciation	(8,653)	(627)	(13,101)	(601)
	(393,659)	(60,846)	(298,341)	(65,404)
Profit/(loss) from operations	(107,279)	(60,846)	127,529	(65,404)
Net Gain from Investments	312,856	312,856	(92,149)	(92,149)
Share of profit from investment in an associates	107,789	107,789	133,653	133,653
Dividend from a subsidiary	--	(41,606)	--	161,984
Finance costs	(4,271)	(1,230)	(1,324)	(716)
Profit before tax	309,095	316,963	167,709	137,368
Income tax expenses	(10,557)	(17,974)	(11,530)	17,241
Net profit after tax	298,538	298,989	156,179	154,609
Other comprehensive income				
Share of fair value reserve in an associate	22,763	22,763	(21,678)	(21,678)
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to the parent co.	321,301	321,752	134,501	132,931
Basic earnings per share	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.002

'THE INVESTOR' CONFERENCE



Oman highlights its experience in real estate projects in Cairo

CAIRO: The Sultanate of Oman on Wednesday showcased its experience in real estate development during its participation in the 5th edition of "The Investor" conference held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

"The Investor" conference was in pursuance of the success story of a conference titled "Oman-Egypt.Land of Opportunities" that was held in November 2025. "Oman-Egypt.Land of Opportunities" conference laid a milestone in the track of economic cooperation between the two countries.

Pillars of sustainability

Abdullah bin Nasser Al Rahbi, the Sultanate of Oman's Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt and its Permanent Representative to the Arab League, said, "The Omani experience in real estate development is based on the pillars of sustainability, quality of life and urban planning. This opens up channels for investment partnerships with Egyptian real estate developers."

Al Rahbi pointed out that the real estate sector in the Sultanate of Oman serves as one of the most important drivers of growth due to its association with many economic sectors.

He explained that, in recent



years, the real estate sector in Oman saw remarkable growth spearheaded by major strategic projects like the Sultan Haitham City and waterfront projects. In addition, the real estate sector underwent an updating of regulations and a streamlining of proce-

dures, said Al Rahbi, noting that this enhanced the Omani market's attractiveness to investors.

Al Rahbi said that the second edition of the conference titled "Oman-Egypt.Land of Opportunities" will be held in Muscat.

— ONA

INTER-MINISTERIAL BRIEFING



Indian seafarers safe amidst West Asia tensions

NEW DELHI: Opesh Kumar Sharma, Director of Shipping at the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, said on Wednesday that all Indian seafarers continue to be safe in the region, and no incident involving an Indian-flagged vessel has been reported since the last briefing in the past 48 hours.

Sharma, while speaking at an Inter-Ministerial Briefing on Recent Developments in West Asia, said that the Ministry has facilitated the safe repatriation of more than 2,999 seafarers, including 23 in the last 48 hours from the Gulf.

Maritime stakeholders

“The Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways continues to coordinate with the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian missions, and maritime stakeholders to ensure seafarer welfare and uninterrupted maritime operations. I am happy to state that all Indian seafarers continue to be safe in the region, and no incident involving an Indian-flagged vessel has been reported since the last briefing in the past 48 hours. No incident has also been reported on any foreign-flagged vessels carrying Indian seafarers,” he said.

“The control room set up at DG Shipping has handled 8,570 calls

and more than 18,732 emails. In the past 48 hours, a total of 156 calls and 668 emails have been received. The Ministry, through the Directorate General of Shipping, has facilitated the safe repatriation of more than 2,999 seafarers, including 23 in the last 48 hours, from various locations across the Gulf region. Port operations across India remain normal, and no congestion has been reported,” he added.

Sharma was asked about India’s views on the United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio’s comments about the offensive part of the operation, which is Epic Fury, and the fact that they are testing for a kind of fragile ceasefire.

Sharma answered, “Operation Epic Fury--I don’t think I can comment on the US or how it is going to affect us, but we are continuously monitoring the situation along with the Ministry of External Affairs and are in touch with our Indian embassies abroad. With respect to the second question on Freedom, my answer will remain the same. I will not hazard a guess on international relations; that’s not my job. The entire Government of India, as a whole-of-government approach, is monitoring the situation.”

— ANI

Iran says US peace plan ‘under review’

‘The US plan and proposal are still under review by Iran,’ ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei told the ISNA news agency. Baqaei added

that Iran’s response would be passed to Pakistan after ‘finalising its views’

TEHRAN: Iran is still looking into a peace proposal put forward by the US, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

“The US plan and proposal are still under review by Iran,” ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei told the ISNA news agency, as reported by AFP.

Baqaei added that Iran’s response would be passed to Pakistan after “finalising its views.” Axios earlier reported that discussions were centered on a 14-point proposal that would see the Strait of Hormuz reopen and Iran’s nuclear programme paused for at least 12 years.

This report could not be verified, but Trump later posted on his social media platform Truth Social that if Iran doesn’t agree to “what has been agreed to,” the US would start bombing again.

Ebrahim Rezaei, spokesperson for parliament’s foreign policy and national security committee in Iran, described the Axios report on



X as “more of an American wishlist than a reality.”

Trump says Hormuz will open if deal is reached

US President Donald Trump has again posted threats on his Truth Social platform that the US will bomb Iran “at a much higher level” if they don’t agree to a peace deal.

What the contents of the peace deal are, remained elusive, with Trump only referring to “what has been agreed to.”

However, earlier reports from Axios suggested that the two sides had been discussing a 14-point memorandum of understanding, including an agreement that Iran would put a moratorium on uranium enrichment for a number of years.

Trump said that if an agreement is reached, “the already legendary Epic Fury will be at an end, and the highly effective Blockade will allow the Hormuz Strait to be OPEN TO ALL, including Iran.”

“If they don’t agree, the bombing starts, and it will be, sadly, at a much higher level and intensity than it was before,” he added.

Iran and US discussing 14-point peace deal — reports

The White House appears to be hopeful that it is close to sealing

some form of agreement with Iran to end the war soon, according to an Axios report.

Citing unnamed US officials, Axios said that a one-page memorandum of understanding (MOU) was in the works and that the US expects an Iranian response on its key points within 48 hours.

The Axios source said the current efforts were the closest the two sides had been to finding an agreement since the war began.

According to the report, the 14-point MOU would declare an official end to the war and launch a 30-day period of negotiations during which Iran would begin to open the Strait of Hormuz.

The MOU also reportedly includes a moratorium on Iran’s nuclear enrichment, with sources telling Axios it would last at least 12 years, after which Iran would be able to enrich but only to a low level.

Iran would also commit to being open to UN inspections. Axios also cited sources saying the option of Iran moving its uranium stock was also being discussed.

Iran’s nuclear programme has been a major sticking point for both sides. Washington has said Iran cannot keep the stockpile and has previously threatened to put boots on the ground to retrieve it. Tehran has maintained it is not

seeking nuclear weapons while defending its right to pursue a civilian nuclear program.

DW could, of course, not independently verify the Axios reports, however, Reuters later cited a Pakistani source confirming it. “We will close this very soon. We are getting close,” the source told Reuters.

China calls for ‘comprehensive ceasefire’ in talks with Iran

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi was hosting his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi on Wednesday amid the ongoing crisis in the Middle East.

Wang told Araghchi that Beijing was “deeply distressed” by the war and called for a “comprehensive ceasefire.”

“We believe that a comprehensive ceasefire is urgently needed, that a resumption of hostilities is not acceptable, and that it is particularly important to remain committed to dialogue and negotiations,” the Associated Press cited Wang as saying.

Iran is heavily dependent on China buying up its oil. Beijing was responsible for 80% of the purchases of Iranian oil before the war due to other countries not wanting to contravene US sanctions.

— Agencies



P.O. Box 560, Ruwi, Postal Code 112, Sultanate of Oman
Tel. # 00968 24437070 ext. 102, Fax # 00968 24437777

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT						STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2026																																																																																			
Respected Shareholders, The Board of Directors of Oman Cement Company SAOG ("the Company") is pleased to present its report together with the unaudited financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2026. During the period, the Company continued to strengthen cost control measures and operational efficiencies. Improved clinker production contributed to reduced inventory adjustments, while disciplined maintenance planning resulted in lower repair and maintenance costs. These initiatives partially offset increases in key input costs. The Company maintained a strong focus on efficiency enhancement, productivity improvement, and cost discipline. The Company continues to hold the following certifications: ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management System ISO/IEC 27001:2022 – Information Security Management System API Spec 10A Monogram License – Manufacture and sale of Oil Well Cement						future capital requirements, market conditions, and shareholder expectations. The Annual General Meeting held on 28 March 2026 approved a dividend of 46.54% of paid-up share capital (OMR 15.4 million) out of retained earnings as of 31 December 2025. Dividend amounts relating to minority shareholders have been transferred to Muscat Clearing and Depository SAOC Distribution to the majority shareholder is in progress Dividend History <table><tr><th>Year</th><th>2021</th><th>2022</th><th>2023</th><th>2024</th><th>2025</th></tr><tr><td>Dividend on paid-up Capital</td><td>10%</td><td>10%</td><td>120.89%</td><td>90%</td><td>46.54%</td></tr></table>						Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Dividend on paid-up Capital	10%	10%	120.89%	90%	46.54%	6. MARKET DEMAND AND OUTLOOK The cement market in Oman remained highly competitive, with continued pressure from: • Local market competition • Imports from neighboring countries • Supply chain challenges • Geopolitical uncertainties The Company adopted a dynamic pricing strategy to respond to evolving market conditions. The Company also continued product diversification, including Portland Limestone Cement (32.5 grade – Hareer Cement) for plastering applications. Demand for the remainder of FY 2026 is expected to remain stable, supported by ongoing infrastructure activities.						7. EXPANSION, MODERNISATION AND UPGRADATION The Company continues to invest in initiatives aimed at efficiency enhancement, capacity optimization, and sustainability, including: (i) Alternative Fuel Project (Kiln-1) Contract awarded for installation of an industrial waste feeding system to utilize shredded waste as alternative fuel, aligned with Oman Vision 2040 decarbonization goals. Project is in progress. (ii) Truck Loading Facility Installation of an additional semi-automatic truck loading system to enhance dispatch efficiency and capacity. Project is in progress. (iii) Municipal Solid Waste Utilization Evaluation of municipal solid waste-based fuel alternatives project to reduce natural gas consumption is under consideration. (iv) Duqm Expansion Project Proposal under consideration to establish a new cement plant in Duqm with a clinker capacity of 5,000 TPD. (v) Carbon Black feeding system installation Installation of Carbon Black handling and feeding system project to receive Carbon Black in bulk trucks, unload into Kiln 2 Bypass hopper and consume by using as Alternative Fuel in Kiln 3 Calciner is under consideration.						8. KEY HIGHLIGHTS • Average sales realization per metric ton increased by approximately 4%, reflecting effective pricing strategies • Overall net sales revenue increased marginally by approximately 0.6%, despite lower sales volumes • Reduction in sales volume was primarily attributable to Eid holidays and adverse weather conditions • Performance demonstrates pricing discipline and operational resilience in a competitive market environment						ACKNOWLEDGEMENT The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to the Government of the Sultanate of Oman, shareholders, employees, and management for their continued support and commitment. The Board also prays to Almighty Allah to grant continued guidance and good health to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq for the prosperity and welfare of the Sultanate.						ASSETS Non-current assets Property, plant and equipment Right-of-use assets Intangible assets Investment in an associate Total non-current assets Current assets Investments at fair value through profit or loss Inventories Trade and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents Total current assets TOTAL ASSETS EQUITY AND LIABILITIES Equity Share capital Legal reserve Voluntary reserve Fair value reserve Retained earnings Total equity LIABILITIES Non-current liabilities Lease liabilities Deferred tax liabilities Employees' end of service benefits Total non-current liabilities Current liabilities Lease liabilities Trade and other payables Current tax liabilities Total current liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES Net assets per share						31 Mar 2026 31 Mar 2025 31 Dec 2025						STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2026 31 Mar 2026 31 Mar 2025 31 Dec 2025						Revenue Cost of sales Gross profit General and administrative expenses Reversal of allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets Operating profit Finance income Finance costs Other income - net Share of profit of an associate Profit before tax Taxation Profit and total comprehensive income for the period Earnings per share Basic and diluted earnings per share (annualized)						18,031,310 (12,924,152) 5,107,158 (1,040,825) 18,864 4,085,197 181,541 (142,329) 2,024 53,419 4,179,852 (655,432) 3,524,420 0.043						17,929,204 (13,790,419) 4,138,785 (973,582) 61,259 3,226,462 376,193 (152,427) 20,614 43,738 3,514,580 (528,870) 2,985,710 0.036						69,847,782 (57,089,458) 12,758,324 (3,706,363) 47,698 9,099,659 697,144 (609,708) 275,701 111,614 9,574,410 (1,271,631) 8,302,779 0.025					
Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025																																																																																				
Dividend on paid-up Capital	10%	10%	120.89%	90%	46.54%																																																																																				
1. PRODUCTION (i) Clinker Clinker production during the period was 850,075 MT, compared to 829,231 MT in the corresponding previous period, representing an increase of 20,844 MT (2.51%). (ii) Cement Cement production stood at 857,908 MT, compared to 864,340 MT in the previous period, reflecting a marginal decrease of 6,432 MT (-0.74%).						2. TURNOVER AND PROFITABILITY (i) Cement Sales Cement sales volume during the period was 849,249 MT, compared to 865,417 MT in the previous period, representing a decrease of 16,168 MT (-1.87%). In value terms, cement sales amounted to OMR 18.031 million, compared to OMR 17.668 million in the previous period, reflecting an increase of OMR 0.363 million (2.05%). The increase in revenue was primarily driven by an improvement in average realization per metric ton of approximately 4%, which partially offset the impact of lower sales volumes. (ii) Clinker Sales No clinker sales were recorded during the period, compared to 17,048 MT (OMR 0.261 million) in the previous period. This aligns with the Company's strategy to optimize product mix and prioritize higher-margin cement sales. (iii) Profit Before Tax Profit before tax for the period stood at OMR 4.180 million, compared to OMR 3.515 million in the previous period, representing an increase of OMR 0.665 million (18.93%). The improvement in profitability was primarily driven by operational efficiencies and cost optimization. However, these gains were partially offset by: • Higher fuel costs • Increase in manpower expenses • Higher raw material costs • Increased CSR expenditure • Absence of interest income due to utilization of fixed deposits for dividend distribution (iv) Profit After Tax Profit after tax amounted to OMR 3.524 million, compared to OMR 2.986 million in the previous period, reflecting an increase of OMR 0.539 million (18.04%).						3. INVESTMENTS The Company's surplus funds were invested in short-term fixed-income instruments, primarily call accounts with commercial banks, in accordance with the Board-approved investment policy, ensuring liquidity and capital preservation.						4. ASSOCIATE COMPANY Mondi Oman LLC The Company's share of profit from its associate amounted to OMR 53,419, compared to OMR 43,738 in the previous period. The investment has been accounted for using the equity method in accordance with IAS 28 – Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.						5. DIVIDEND The Company follows a balanced and sustainable dividend policy, taking into account profitability,																																																																	

SPORTS

SHIFTED FROM BENGALURU

Ahmedabad to host IPL 2026 final on May 31

MUMBAI: The venue for the IPL 2026 final has been shifted from Bengaluru to Ahmedabad.

“Owing to certain requirements from the local association and authorities that were beyond the scope of BCCI’s established guidelines and protocols, the venue has been shifted and reassigned,” the BCCI said in a statement on Wednesday.

While the final will be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on May 31, the HPCA Stadium in Dharamsala will host the Qualifier 1 on May 26 and New International Cricket Stadium in New Chandigarh will stage the Eliminator (May 27) and Qualifier 2 (May 29).

“Owing to certain operational

and logistical considerations, the TATA IPL 2026 Playoffs will be conducted across three venues this season as a special case,” the statement said.

The Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) put out a media release hours after BCCI’s announcement stating that they were willing to host the games but the BCCI decided the venue without formal communication.

“Despite our preparedness and willingness to host the Playoffs,” KSCA’s statement read, “we understand that the BCCI has taken a decision to allot these matches to other venues. While the specific reasons for the same have not been formally communicated to KSCA, we fully respect the prerogative



and decision-making authority of the BCCI in this regard.”

In IPL 2025, the knockouts were held in two venues, with New Chandigarh hosting Qualifier 1 and the Eliminator and Ahmedabad the Qualifier 2 and the final.

This year’s set-up theoretically gives a bigger advantage to the winner of Qualifier 1. Qualifier 2 is usually played at the same venue as the final, whereas this year the winner of Qualifier 2, like the winner of Qualifier 1, will have to travel to a new venue for the final.

Usually the defending champions host the title clash, but Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) will not have the home advantage should they get there. RCB have played five matches at the Chin-

naswamy Stadium this season, winning four, with their only defeat coming against Delhi Capitals (DC) last month. RCB will play their final two league games in Raipur. They are currently second on the points table, with 12 points in nine games, and are well-placed to qualify for the knockouts.

Punjab Kings (PBKS) are currently on top of the table with 13 points in nine matches. Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), Rajasthan Royals (RR) and Gujarat Titans (GT) are level with RCB on 12 points. After the win against DC on Tuesday, Chennai Super Kings stayed in sixth place on the points table but were only two points behind the four teams ranked from second to fifth.

Samson, spinners set up CSK’s clinical win



Delhi Capitals could only put up 155/7, which proved too little as the surface got better to bat on in the second innings

DELHI: Chennai Super Kings’ resurgence with the ball met Sanju Samson’s blazing form as they sealed a commanding eight-wicket win over Delhi Capitals on Tuesday, chasing down 156 with 15 balls to spare in a performance that underlined their growing all-round authority in IPL 2026.

Not long ago, CSK’s bowling looked their Achilles’ heel. Three straight defeats had yielded a worrying return of 10 wickets for 588 runs at an economy rate of 11.37. But the turnaround since has been remarkable.

Over their last seven matches, CSK’s bowlers have claimed 51 wickets — second only to Gujarat Titans’ 52 — while conceding at a tournament-best economy of 8.15. This match was another emphatic chapter in that revival.

On a surface both captains expected to be slow, CSK’s spinners dictated terms from the outset. Akeal Hosein (4-0-19-1) and Noor Ahmad (3-0-22-2) combined control with subtle variation to choke Delhi’s scoring.

The first four overs set the tone: 15 dot balls, just six boundaries, and a wicket as batters struggled to force the pace on a pitch that demanded patience.

KL Rahul and Pathum Nissanka, usually fluent stroke-makers, found timing elusive. CSK doubled down on the pressure by introducing Hosein early against two right-handers, and despite Delhi’s attempt to counter by sending in left-hander Nitish Rana, the move backfired.

Hosein dismissed Rahul and conceded just a solitary dot ball to Rana, finishing with exceptional figures despite bowling only one over outside the powerplay. Delhi limped to 37 for 2 after six overs.

The squeeze tightened through the middle overs. Axar Patel’s lean season continued — his dismissal part of a decisive phase where CSK removed three wickets in 19 balls between overs 8 and 11.

At 69 for 5, Delhi needed a rescue act, and it came from Sameer Rizvi (40*) and Tristan Stubbs (38).

The pair added 65 off 42 balls, injecting momentum into an otherwise stuttering innings. Stubbs adapted smartly to the conditions, using the crease well against Noor’s variations and Gurjapneet Singh’s bounce, while Rizvi showed tactical nous against Anshul Kamboj at the death.

Anticipating Kamboj’s wide



yorker plan from around the wicket, Rizvi shuffled across his stumps to access both sides, combining premeditation with instinct to striking effect.

Kamboj, who had previously dominated with 8 wickets in 63 balls from that angle, went for 34 in 12 balls without success in this outing. Delhi eventually posted 155 for 7 — competitive at halfway, but ultimately insufficient.

A brief drizzle during the interval subtly altered the pitch, making stroke-play easier under lights — and Samson capitalised in style.

If his early season suggested vulnerability — 22 runs in three games at 7.33 — the last seven have showcased a batter at the peak of his powers: 380 runs at an average of 95 and a strike rate of 172.

Samson paced his innings expertly.

He began cautiously, reaching 22 off 22 balls by the eighth over, before launching into overdrive — racing to a half-century in his next 10 deliveries.

His assault on spin was deci-

sive: 12 off 10 against Axar, and a brutal 25 off just 9 balls against Kuldeep Yadav, featuring three sixes and a four.

His unbeaten 87 off 52 balls, accounting for 24% of CSK’s runs this season, was both authoritative and calculated.

At the other end, Kartik Sharma continued his steady rise, contributing a composed 41 off 31 balls in an unbroken partnership that ensured there were no late hiccups.

Even Lungi Ngidi’s successful match-up against Ruturaj Gaikwad — dismissing him for the third time in 17 balls in T20s — proved only a brief interruption.

In the end, CSK made the chase look routine, finishing at 159 for 2 in a clinical display that didn’t even require the use of an impact player. Beyond the win, the net run-rate boost could prove crucial as the playoff race intensifies.

Brief scores: Chennai Super Kings 159/2 (Samson 87*, Kartik 41*) beat Delhi Capitals 155/7 (Rizvi 40; Noor 2-33, Hosein 1-19) by 8 wickets. - Agencies

Gaikwad: ‘Samson is the backbone of CSK’s batting’

DELHI: Skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad called Sanju Samson the backbone of Chennai Super Kings’ (CSK) batting line-up after the latter made a match-winning unbeaten 87 in Delhi on Tuesday.

This was Samson’s third score of 80+ in IPL 2026 with his new franchise and whenever he has crossed 40, CSK have won. This comes as a continuation of his strong form in the back-end of the 2026 T20 World Cup where Samson was the player of the tournament in India’s triumph. “On the batting side,” Ruturaj said in the post-match presentation, “I would say, more than grateful to have Sanju in the side after the tournament he had even in the World Cup and even now. So, obviously, he’s a backbone now.”

“We actually try to find out what works really well for you,” Samson said after the game, “and you try to stick to the basics and you trust

your hands to do the job in this format. So I think I’ve been trying to do that from the last two-three months. I’ve been working a bit on my initial movement and it has been coming off nicely.”

“Yeah, I’ve been doing it [staying back in the crease] from the last, three to five years, so I think comfort definitely plays a huge role in your mindset and the confidence which you have to go in batting. And then definitely it’s a tactical move as well. So according to the bowlers and the wicket, I try to, move around a bit.”

CSK, now on ten points, are sixth on the table. But they are only two points behind the teams placed between second and fifth. They will aim to move up the table further in their next two games as those are against bottom-placed Lucknow Super Giants consecutively - home and away - on May 10 and May 15.



PRIZE MONEY DISPUTE

Players will boycott a Slam ‘at some point’, says Sabalenka



ROME: World No.1 Aryna Sabalenka believes players will boycott a Grand Slam “at some point” because of the ongoing dispute over prize money.

The men’s and women’s top-10 players are demanding a higher percentage of the revenue generated by the four majors, as well as benefit contributions and a greater say in areas such as scheduling.

But until Sabalenka spoke to the media in Rome before the Italian Open, players had been circumspect on the subject of strike action. “I think at some point we will boycott it. I feel like that’s going to be the only way to kind of fight for our rights,” the Belarusian said.

“I feel like the show is on us. I feel like without us there wouldn’t be a tournament and there wouldn’t be that entertainment.”

Fourth-ranked Coco Gauff said she could “100%” see herself boy-

cotting a Grand Slam “if everyone were to move as one and collaborate”. However, world No.3 Iga Swiatek said she supports the call for increased prize money but a boycott would be a “bit extreme”, while Britain’s Emma Raducanu said she “would not be a part” of any boycott.

On Monday, a number of leading players expressed their “deep disappointment” at the prize money at this year’s French Open.

The fund at Roland Garros has increased by 9.5% - but the players believe that is some way below the 22% of tournament revenue they feel they are entitled to.

“I just really hope that we at some point are going to get to the right decision, to the conclusion that everyone will be happy with,” Sabalenka, 28, said. “I feel like nowadays, we girls can easily get together and go for this because

some of the things I feel like it’s really unfair to the players.”

The financial pot at last year’s US Open rose by 20%, with the figure for January’s Australian Open nearly 16% higher. Wimbledon will announce its prize money next month.

French Open champion Gauff thinks strike action would be a genuine possibility if the players come together as one.

“If we all collectively agree, then yes,” the American said.

“I wouldn’t want to be the only one, but we definitely can move more as a collective.

“From the things I’ve seen with other sports, usually to make massive progress and things like this, it takes a union. We have to become unionised in some way.”

World No.2 Elena Rybakina said she has not been involved in the campaign, but would go with the majority. “If the majority say

we are boycotting, then of course I’m up for it. It’s not an issue,” the Australian Open champion said.

However, Poland’s Swiatek said she would prefer continued discussions and negotiations with the majors instead of a boycott.

“I think the most important thing is to have proper communication and discussions with the governing bodies so we have some space to talk and maybe negotiate,” the Wimbledon champion said.

“Hopefully before Roland Garros there’s going to be opportunity to have these type of meetings and we’ll see how they go.

“But boycotting the tournament, it’s a bit extreme... I guess we as players are here to play as individuals, and we’re competing against each other. “So it’s really hard for me to say how it would work, if it’s even there on the picture. For now, I haven’t heard anything.” - Agencies

OMAN OIL PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman crude oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by June 2026 reaching \$103.25. The price of Oman crude oil fell by \$2.91 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$106.16.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

Muscat Stock Exchange 30 index closed on Wednesday at 8,334.27 points, marking a decrease of 57 points, or 0.68%, compared to the last trading session, which closed at 8,391.67 points. >**B2**

INDUSTRIAL CITIES

Oman, UAE explore means of boosting cooperation in free zones



ABU DHABI: Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz), met in Abu Dhabi with Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Presidential Court. The meeting aimed to boost cooperation in economic zones, free zones and industrial cities.

During the meeting, both sides reviewed avenues of economic cooperation and integration opportunities between the economic and free zones of the two countries, in addition to discussing investment opportunities in industrial and logistics sectors, as well as advanced technologies.

Al Yousef also met with Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy and Tourism of the United Arab Emirates, and

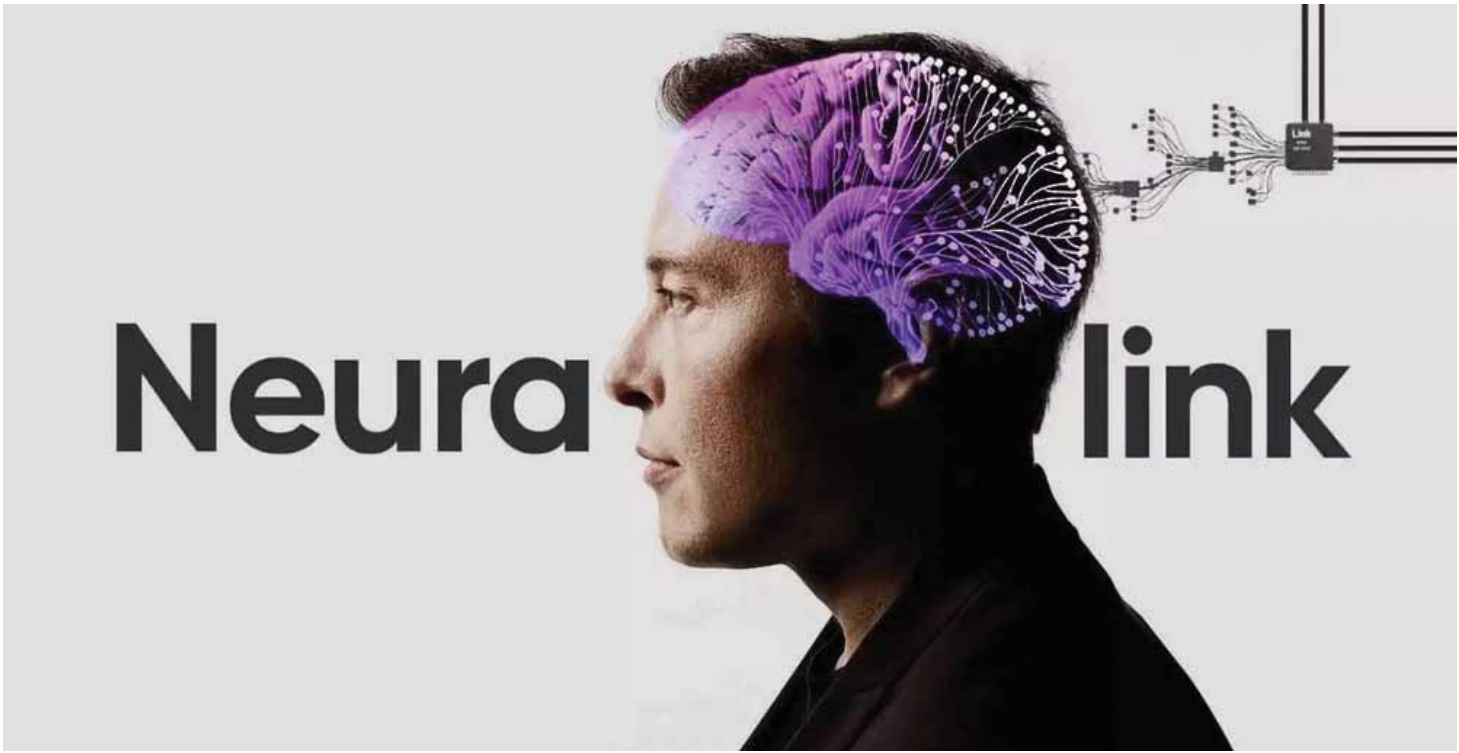
Sheikh Ahmed bin Said Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, along with a number of officials, investors, and entrepreneurs from various economic sectors.

The meetings explored opportunities to enhance economic and investment cooperation, exchange expertise and knowledge in the development of economic and free zones, advanced industrial technologies, lifestyle models in economic cities, and best practices for improving the business environment. These efforts aim to support the competitiveness of economic zones and enhance the attraction of high-value investments and regional supply chains.

A meeting was also held with the operating company of Al Rawdah Special Economic Zone to discuss project developments, explore required support mechanisms, and enhance local added value. -**ONA**

OIA expands tech portfolio with strategic investment in Neuralink

Neuralink is considered one of the world's leading pioneers in the field of Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCI), developing ultra-precise neural implants designed to be embedded in the brain



MUSCAT: Oman Investment Authority (OIA) announced its investment in the US-based company "Neuralink," as part of OIA's strategic direction toward investing in impactful future technologies in the healthcare sector.

Neuralink is considered one of the world's leading pioneers in the field of Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCI), developing ultra-precise neural implants designed to be embedded in the brain to enable direct communication between humans and digital electronic devices, thereby unlocking new possibilities for treating complex neurological disorders.

Neuralink is among global companies developing technologies that enable direct communication between the brain and electronic devices, bypassing traditional sensory or motor pathways. These technologies are being utilized to support patients suffering from strokes or neurodegenerative diseases such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), which damages the motor neurons responsible for

movement while cognitive abilities remain intact.

Neural devices, including brain implants, allow patients to translate brain signals into digital commands, such as typing or controlling devices. Recent clinical trial results demonstrated that the company's first human patient was able to control a computer and type using thought alone, highlighting the transformative potential of this technology in restoring a degree of independence and improving quality of life.

The investment aligns with OIA's efforts to diversify its international investment portfolio and strengthen its presence in innovative sectors and deep technology fields.

Neuralink has received official approvals to conduct human clinical trials in the United States using highly precise robotic surgical technologies for implant procedures. Over the past two years, the company has implanted its neural devices in 21 patients as of

January 2026, including 17 procedures performed during 2025 alone, reflecting the accelerating pace of operations and expansion of clinical trials.

Neuralink is also working closely with regulatory authorities and participating hospitals to continuously improve its devices while maintaining the highest safety standards. To date, the company has recorded zero serious device-related adverse events, contributing to the rapid expansion of its

clinical trial participant program, which grew from only three participants in 2024 to multiple participants per month during 2025.

In addition, the company is developing the "Blindsight" project, a neural visual prosthesis aimed at restoring vision by stimulating the brain's visual cortex using digital camera inputs. The project's name is inspired by a concept associated with visual perception in neuroscience, referring to the ability to respond to visual stimuli without full conscious awareness. Human trials for the technology are planned for the future, with early versions expected to provide low-resolution vision that will gradually improve as the technology advances.

Neuralink is distinguished by its vertically integrated operating model, managing all major stages of development in-house, including research and development, neural implant manufacturing, robotic surgery systems, neuroengineering, and specialized surgical teams. This integrated structure enables the company to accelerate technological development, enhance safety standards, and scale toward high-volume production in the coming years.

Notably, Oman Investment Authority's investments are distributed across more than 52 countries worldwide, as part of its strategy to diversify its investment portfolio and strengthen its presence across sectors, contributing to financial sustainability and economic diversification goals. -**ONA**

SUMMIT

Indian firms commit \$20.5bn investment in US; pharma dominates with \$19.1bn

NEW DELHI: Indian investments in the United States at the 2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit reach a record \$20.5 billion as industry leaders cement their roles as primary partners in the American economy, according to the US Embassy & Consulates in India.

The pharmaceutical sector accounted for the vast majority of the financial commitment, with planned investments exceeding \$19.1 billion, led by Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, which planned an \$11.75 billion acquisition of New Jersey-based Organon & Co.

Other major players participating in this expansion include Aurobindo Pharma Ltd, Biocon Group, Cipla Limited, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Granules India Ltd, Jubilant Group, Lupin Limited, Piramal Pharma Ltd., and Zydus Lifesciences Limited.

These companies focus on manufacturing expansions, research and development, and the establishment of new greenfield facilities to address drug shortages and enhance the resilience of the healthcare supply chain.

In the industrial sector, JSW



Steel affirmed plans to commission \$255 million in modernisation projects at its existing facilities in Ohio and Texas. Simultaneously, 12 Indian companies announced more than \$1.1 billion in new greenfield and expansion projects.

Among these, from the manufacturing segment, the Ahmedabad-based Abhyuday Group committed over \$900 million across five US sites, creating 1,500 American jobs.

Other significant contributors include Jindal Pipe and Jindal Tubular USA, which will invest \$87 million in Texas and Mississippi, and Jivo Wellness, bringing \$15

million to its operations. Polyhouse Inc. also directed \$2 million toward Los Angeles to support the US shipbuilding industry.

The technological and digital infrastructure segment also saw a significant influx of Indian capital. Mumbai-based Sterlite Technologies Ltd. invested \$100 million to support AI and telecom infrastructure, a project expected to create 500 jobs.

Techdome Solutions, RoshAI, Atri AI, Kissflow, and SatoriXR also announced individual investments ranging from \$1.5 million to \$7.5 million across states like Cali-

fornia, Texas, and Michigan, creating almost 150 jobs in the process.

Furthermore, the Indian Institute of Technology Madras Global Research Foundation will invest \$4.5 million to establish a research and collaboration hub in California.

In the energy sector, MagnoInnovation Lab (Kerala) will invest \$2 million to establish US field operations and support energy sector applications.

These investments are expected to create thousands of jobs while strengthening supply chains and expanding production capacity across various US states.

Speaking at the SelectUSA kickoff reception in New Delhi, United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor noted that these commitments showcased the strength and attractiveness of the US market for foreign investors.

"I am proud to advance our goal to double US-India bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030. Through fair, balanced, and mutually beneficial trade, we're attracting world-class investment to the United States and creating shared prosperity for both nations," Ambassador Gor said in a statement. -**ANI**

EXPECTATIONS BOTTLED UP SUPPLY



Oil prices fall 2nd day amid possible US-Iran peace deal

SINGAPORE: Oil prices yesterday fell for a second day on expectations bottled up supply from the key Middle East producing region could resume flowing after The US indicated a possible peace deal may be reached to end the war with Iran.

Brent crude futures for July fell \$1.52, or 1.38%, to \$108.35 per barrel, after dropping 4% in the previous session.

US benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) futures for June declined \$1.50, or 1.47%,

to \$100.77, after closing down 3.9% the day before. US crude oil inventories fell for a third week, while gasoline and distillate stocks also declined, market sources said, citing American Petroleum Institute (API) figures. Crude stocks fell by 8.1 million barrels in the week ended May 1, the sources said.

Gasoline inventories fell by 6.1 million barrels, while distillate inventories fell by 4.6 million barrels compared to a week earlier, the sources said. -**ONA**

MARKET

MSX index ends lower marginally

According to the report issued by Muscat Stock Exchange, market capitalisation dropped by 0.620% from the last trading day, reaching approximately OMR38.31 billion



MUSCAT: Muscat Stock Exchange 30 index closed on Wednesday at 8,334.27 points, marking a decrease of 57 points, or 0.68%, compared to the last trading session, which closed at 8,391.67 points.

The total trading value reached OMR75,506,894, representing a rise of 6.8% from the previous trading session, which recorded OMR70,685,558.

According to the report issued by Muscat Stock Exchange,

market capitalisation dropped by 0.620% from the last trading day, reaching approximately OMR38.31 billion.

Non-Omani investors recorded purchases valued at OMR4,721,000, accounting for 6.25% of total trading activity, while non-Omani sales amounted to OMR5,385,000, or 7.13%. Net non-Omani investment dropped by OMR663,000, representing a 0.88% decline.

— ONA

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	8,445.96	8,383.98	8,391.67	8,397.65	-5.98	-0.07
FINANCIAL INDEX	13,246.67	13,206.67	13,241.15	13,237.53	3.63	0.03
Industry Index	10,229.08	10,167.98	10,206.35	10,217.25	-10.89	-0.11
Services Index	3,361.75	3,333.31	3,337.16	3,339.17	-2.01	-0.06
MSX Shariah Index	664.24	659.80	662.35	663.11	-0.76	-0.11
MSX TR INDEX	13,041.03	12,945.32	12,957.21	12,966.43	-9.23	-0.07
FINANCIAL TR IDX	16,253.47	16,204.39	16,246.69	16,242.25	4.45	0.03
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	13,100.85	13,022.60	13,071.75	13,085.70	-13.95	-0.11
SERVICES TR IDX	4,492.18	4,454.17	4,459.31	4,461.99	-2.68	-0.06
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,209.68	1,209.68	1,209.68	1,209.68	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
159,617,234	70,685,558	5,837	38,549,827,861	22	34	22	78

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

IDN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PWA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000000226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	41,665	12,286	10	0.288	0.285	0.286	0.285	0.289	0.006	2.076	0.295	0.290	0.317	0.100	12,638,682
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	861,536	351,132	21	0.406	0.408	0.406	0.408	0.404	0.004	0.990	0.408	0.406	0.408	0.100	665,386,113
OM0000000972	OQAS NETWORKS	21,865,186	5,944,786	719	0.269	0.274	0.269	0.270	0.268	0.002	0.746	0.270	0.270	0.278	0.100	1,169,268,458
OM0000000420	BANK NIZWA	152,175	22,975	12	0.150	0.151	0.150	0.151	0.150	0.001	0.667	0.151	0.148	0.151	0.100	337,779,908
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	1,378,122	509,941	38	0.372	0.373	0.369	0.373	0.372	0.001	0.269	0.373	0.369	0.400	0.100	242,802,198
OM00000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	9,675	7,498	4	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.774	0.001	0.128	0.775	0.775	0.778	0.100	96,795,919
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	557,173	253,680	12	0.386	0.390	0.386	0.390	0.390	0.000	0.000	0.390	0.387	0.390	0.100	437,913,027
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	1,097,239	98,752	23	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.100	32,051,457
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	197,064	309,206	24	1.850	1.851	1.850	1.850	1.851	-0.001	-0.054	1.850	1.850	1.850	0.100	185,000,000
OM00000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,430,897	1,204,543	460	0.487	0.489	0.489	0.489	0.487	-0.001	-0.201	0.496	0.496	0.496	0.100	382,019,200
OM0000002804	ASAPPA FOODS	1,670	1,353	6	0.823	0.823	0.796	0.821	0.823	-0.002	-0.243	0.821	0.797	0.821	0.100	98,530,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	4,754	1,772	3	0.373	0.373	0.372	0.372	0.373	-0.001	-0.268	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.100	39,060,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	1,231,233	243,645	55	0.200	0.201	0.197	0.197	0.198	-0.001	-0.503	0.198	0.197	0.198	0.100	133,627,711
OM00000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	206,950	77,021	17	0.374	0.374	0.372	0.372	0.374	-0.002	-0.535	0.372	0.371	0.373	0.100	87,944,520
OM00000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	300,474	100,294	20	0.330	0.337	0.330	0.333	0.335	-0.002	-0.597	0.333	0.333	0.333	0.100	66,600,000
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	235,116	29,270	26	0.125	0.125	0.124	0.124	0.125	-0.001	-0.800	0.124	0.124	0.128	0.100	21,700,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	16,420,120	7,702,499	745	0.472	0.473	0.466	0.468	0.472	-0.004	-0.847	0.468	0.467	0.468	0.100	3,512,993,825
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	365,459	67,814	54	0.187	0.187	0.185	0.185	0.187	-0.002	-1.070	0.185	0.181	0.185	0.100	40,700,000
OM0000000926	OMAN TELECOM	7,188,069	10,847,462	360	1.528	1.528	1.500	1.508	1.530	-0.022	-1.438	1.508	1.508	1.508	0.100	1,331,000,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	1,536,706	302,653	70	0.200	0.200	0.196	0.196	0.199	-0.003	-1.508	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.100	140,023,643
OM00000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	17,276,063	3,897,849	476	0.234	0.234	0.230	0.230	0.234	-0.004	-1.709	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.100	1,521,966,642
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO	62,001	7,113	21	0.117	0.117	0.114	0.114	0.116	-0.002	-1.724	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.100	10,280,000
Total		73,509,347	32,065,515	3,176												

Parallel Market

OM0000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	2,150	398	2	0.184	0.188	0.184	0.188	0.175	0.013	7.429	0.188	0.166	0.188	0.100	37,163,262	
OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	10,028	802	7	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.076	0.004	5.263	0.080	0.080	0.083	0.100	5,000,000	
OM00000001772	ALANWAI INVESTMENT	286,140	50,070	28	0.180	0.190	0.180	0.190	0.184	0.006	3.361	0.190	0.189	0.189	0.192	0.100	56,725,057
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	115,200	4,393	9	0.038	0.039	0.038	0.039	0.038	0.001	2.632	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.040	0.100	3,315,000
OM0000004669	SHARQIAH DESALINATION	3,500	613	3	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.172	0.003	1.744	0.175	0.167	0.175	0.100	17,115,378	
OM00000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	66,140	4,948	6	0.074	0.075	0.074	0.075	0.074	0.001	1.351	0.075	0.071	0.077	0.100	23,035,974	
OM0000001020	ASYAD SHIPPING	4,870,007	1,463,924	263	0.299	0.300	0.297	0.302	0.298	0.004	1.342	0.302	0.302	0.302	0.302	0.000	1,573,040,773
OM00000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	51,662,254	27,896,616	1,028	0.533	0.548	0.532	0.537	0.530	0.007	1.321	0.537	0.537	0.538	0.100	4,296,000,000	
OM00000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,344,277	299,166	54	0.222	0.224	0.221	0.222	0.220	0.002	0.909	0.222	0.212	0.222	0.100	324,697,524	
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	39,766	7,700	9	0.194	0.194	0.193	0.194	0.193	0.001	0.518	0.194	0.194	0.194	0.100	538,988,438	
OM0000010823	OMAN GATEWAY FUND	1,602	1,818	2	1.135	1.135	1.135	1.135	1.130	0.005	0.442	1.135	1.140	1.145	0.000	31,036,858	
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	1,170	266	2	0.218	0.229	0.218	0.229	0.228	0.001	0.439	0.229	0.206	0.229	0.100	149,009,246	
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	400	480	1	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.195	0.005	0.418	1.200	1.200	1.206	0.100	73,530,000	
OM00000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	3,267	673	4	0.282	0.286	0.282	0.286	0.285	0.001	0.351	0.286	0.285	0.287	0.100	15,730,000	
OM0000001152	OMAN NATL ENG & INVESTMENT	10,000	1,540	2	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.000	0.000	0.154	0.143	0.155	0.100	23,100,000	
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	4,000	593	3	0.147	0.150	0.147	0.150	0.150	0.000	0.000	0.150	0.147	0.150	0.100	4,500,000	
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	43,306	25,291	3	0.584	0.584	0.584	0.584	0.584	0.000	0.000	0.584	0.584	0.580	0.100	101,407,950	
OM0000001608	OMAN PACKAGING	2,443	476	1	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.000	0.000	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.100	6,324,993	
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO	308,068	53,601	15	0.175	0.175	0.173	0.174	0.174	0.000	0.000	0.174	0.174	0.177	0.100	21,206,250	
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	207,917	16,559	16	0.080	0.080	0.079	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.080	0.079	0.080	0.100	1,680,000	
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	150,000	24,750	4	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.000	0.000	0.165	0.162	0.165	0.100	52,043,805	
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	671,067	143,997	334	0.215	0.215	0.212	0.215	0.215	0.000	0.000	0.215	0.213	0.215	0.100	653,556,684	
OM00000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	16,962	2,069	3	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.000	0.000	0.122	0.122	0.123	0.100	34,610,276	
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	8,334	690	2	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.000	0.000	0.072	0.072	0.073	0.100	18,000,000	
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	16,001	1,698	6	0.108	0.109	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.106	0.107	0.100	16,498,342	
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	490	164	1	0.341	0.341	0.341	0.341	0.341	0.000	0.000	0.341	0.341	0.341	0.100	24,002,990	
OM00000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	34,404	3,748	10	0.109	0.110	0.108	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.110	0.109	0.120	0.100	71,757,650	
OM00000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	57,927	10,242	8	0.177	0.177	0.176	0.177	0.177	0.000	0.000	0.177	0.170	0.177	0.100	13,367,394	
OM00000009569	JABAL REIF	30,810	3,147	4	0.102	0.103	0.102	0.103	0.103	0.000	0.000	0.103	0.102	0.103	0.100	17,922,000	
OM00000009908	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SF2)	22,355,688	7,175,899	423	0.322	0.323	0.319	0.321	0.321	0.000	0.000	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.040	1,110,496,563	
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	23,523	12,890	30	0.549	0.551	0.547	0.547	0.548	-0.001	-0.182	0.547	0.547	0.547	0.100	180,987,372	
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTL DEVPMT & INVESTMENT	15,969	5,572	5	0.351	0.351	0.346	0.350	0.351	-0.001	-0.285	0.350	0.347	0.350	0.100	173,619,640	
OM0000001384	FINANCIAL SERVICES	378	91	1	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.241	-0.001	-0.415	0.240	0.239	0.248	0.100	4,800,000	
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	71,408	30,479	30	0.429	0.429	0.425	0.427	0.429	-0.002	-0.466	0.427	0.420	0.435	0.100	216,495.195	
OM00000020341	OMAN CHLORINE	13,320	2,620	10	0.197	0.197	0.196	0.197	0.198	-0.001	-0.505	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.100	14,087,242	
OM0000000868	THE PEARL REIF	133,450	23,735	16	0.178	0.179	0.177	0.178	0.179	-0.001	-0.559	0.178	0.178	0.105	0.100	105,275,765	
OM0000000341	BARKA WATER AND POWER	5,000	862	4	0.174	0.174	0.172	0.172	0.173	-0.001	-0.578	0.172	0.172	0.174	0.100	27,520,000	
OM0000002911	FINANCIAL CORPORATION	2,970	333	4	0.113	0.113	0.112	0.112	0.113	-0.001	-0.885	0.112	0.117	0.114	0.100	74,834,356	
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	13,750	3,066	2	0.223	0.223	0.223	0.223	0.225	-0.002	-0.889	0.223	0.223	0.225	0.100	44,518,739	
OM00000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	17,658	1,572	4	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.090	0.001	-1.111	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.100	19,779,360	
OM00000032825	NATIONAL DETERGENT	100	69	1	0.690	0.690	0.690	0.690	0.700	-0.010	-1.429	0.690	0.630	0.690	0.100	13,000,000	
OM0000000897	MAJAN COILS	54,630	7,128	6	0.133	0.133	0.134	0.134	0.132	-0.002	-1.504	0.134	0.134	0.136	0.100	12,000,000	
OM00000003901	NATIONAL GAS	743,690	90,361	70	0.113	0.113	0.111	0.112	0.113	-0.001	-0.868	0.113	0.113	0.123	0.100	10,285,000	
OM00000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	210	44	1	0.211	0.211	0.211	0.211	0.215	-0.004	-1.860	0.211	0.212	0.215	0.100	3,904,523	
OM0000004703	SEMBOCAR SALAH	842,738	219,816	108	0.264	0.268	0.258	0.268	0.263	-0.005	-1.901	0.258	0.258	0.288	0.100	246,276.035	
OM00000003901	AI MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MKTNG	21,880	25,586	8	1.180	1.180	1.170	1.170	1.200	-0.030	-2.500	1.170	1.151	1.170	0.100	80,703,000	
Total	46	84,262,368	37,621,056	2,553													



ADVERTISE WITH US,
FIND THE RIGHT **CANDIDATES**
FOR YOUR COMPANY

CONNECT

PRINT EDITION



WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
THURSDAY, MAY 07, 2026

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Email to : amcoman@choueirigroup.com



**RENT**

**CARGO**

**VACANCY**



RENT OR SALE?

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Email: amcoman@choueirigroup.com



CARGO MADE SIMPLE

Advertise with us

Send your advertisement to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

PLACE
YOUR
ADVT HERE

Send your ad to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com





WJ Towell Group Company

Quality car rentals at competitive prices.

- Fleet of 2,000 vehicles
- Choose from a wide range of brands & models
- PDO, OXY and BP spec vehicles available
- Attractive rates for short-term & long-term lease

Muscat 9679 0594
9679 0684

Sohar 9731 6218
Salalah 9429 9325

www.orbit-oman.com



JOB WANTED

FINANCE MANAGER

M.com graduate with 32+ yrs of experience in Oman & India.
Expertise in budgeting, costing, accounting upto finalization, Consolidation, financial reporting, cash flow, VAT, taxation, banking relations, internal controls & ERP (SAP/Focus) implementation. Strong background in statutory compliance and financial management.

Contact: +968-94676186

SENIOR MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL

Experienced Indian Male with EXPERT in all SECTOR PROJECTS, 30+ yrs Exp: (27yrs in OMAN) in Construction, Infrastructure & Industrial Projects
15-20% Growth | Budget & Cost Control
Project & Contract Mgmt | P & L | Risk Mgmt
M.Tech, B.Tech | LSS | PMP

Seeking Senior position & open to all industries

Contact: +968 79227820 | Email: adaminttc@gmail.com

FINANCE

Indian Male/CPA, CMA, CA Finalist & B.com
having OACPA membership 13+ years of experience in Financial Reporting & Analysis, Budget & Forecast, MIS Reports, Audit & Assurance Services, available for Senior Management roles in Finance.

Email: su.cpacma@gmail.com - GSM: 90605330

SALES & MARKETING

Seeking a suitable position in **SALES, MARKETING**
having 16 yrs of experience in Oman & 25 yrs of total experience in the field of Infrastructure, Industrial and Building material products.
BE Mechanical, DIM, Valid D/L

Contact: 9497 6056

LOOKING FOR ARCHITECT JOB?



Send your advertisement to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

CHANGE OF NAME

We Asfak Ahmed (holder of Indian passport No. C4324362) and Saira Begum Asfak Ahmed Shaikh (holder of Indian passport No. V9129198) having permanent address in Room No. 24 Plot No. 6 Tardeo Plot Gate No. 7 Malwani Colony Malad West Mumbai-400095 Maharashtra India (complete address in India) and presently residing at the following address in Barka, PB No. 566, PC-320, Sultanate of Oman hereby solemnly affirm and declare to change the name of our child **AZZAN ASFAK MUSTAK SHAIKH** holder of Indian passport No. V4007910 the name of our child will be henceforth known as **AZZAN ASFAK AHMED SHAIKH** for all purpose. Any objection towards change of name of our minor child may please be communicated to Embassy Of India, Muscat, Diplomatic Quarters, Al Khuwair, P. Box No. 1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman.

LOOKING FOR ENGINEERING JOB ?



Send your advertisement to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

CHANGE OF NAME

We Asfak Ahmed (holder of Indian passport No. C4324362) and Saira Begum Asfak Ahmed Shaikh (holder of Indian passport No. V9129198) having permanent address in Room No. 24, Plot No. 6 Tardeo Plot gate No. 7 Malwani Colony Malad West Mumbai-400095 Maharashtra India (complete postal address in India) and presently residing at the following address in Barka, PB No. 566 PC-320, Sultanate of Oman hereby solemnly affirm and declare to change the name of our child **AFNAN ASFAK AHMED** holder of Indian passport no. V9133014 the name of our child will be henceforth known as **AFNAN ASFAK AHMED SHAIKH** for all purpose. Any objection towards change of name of our minor child may please be communicated to Embassy Of India, Muscat, Diplomatic Quarters, Al Khuwair, P. Box. No. 1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman.

JOB VACANCY

URGENTLY REQUIRED

An Excellent grade construction company required following staff for **CIVIL DIVISION**

- SR. PROJECT ENGINEER
- PLANNING ENGINEER
- DRAUGHTSMAN
- HSE EXECUTIVE
- CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Kindly send your CV to
civilrecruitment2627@gmail.com

- MEP ENGINEER
- SITE ENGINEER
- SURVEYOR
- QA/QC MANAGER

URGENTLY REQUIRED

A reputed excellent grade construction company have the following vacancies

- PROJECT MANAGERS (CIVIL & MEP)
- SITE ENGINEERS (CIVIL)
- CARPENTRY DIVISION FOREMAN

Those who have Oman experience kindly forward their CV to
vacancyoman2026@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male Accountant, 10 yrs experience in Muscat, valid Oman D/L. 79774800

MBA finance with 14 yrs of GCC experience as a senior accountant, with expertise up to finalization. Contact: 98869499

CA Inter qualified lady (Keralite, 3+ yrs experience) available in Oman (family visa), seeking full-time,part-time opportunities. Contact: 91281006,78536919

42yrs female (M-com) with D/L working as finance manager 18 yrs of exp overall (15 yrs in Oman) currently working in a reputed shipping company Contact: 98184705

Senior Accountant Indian-male, 19-yrs exp-in-Oman, shipping& logistics, trading&contracting upto finalization with Oman-D/L cont- 95915852

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Looking for job accounts, purchase etc. with D/L Cont. 92505721, Email:sagarjohn28@gmail.com

Senior Accountant with BSc in Accounting & MBA (OACPA Certified) 9 years Oman experience, capable of handling all accounting-related works, with Oman D/L. Contact: 7959 6642

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

Sudanese accountant with 11 yrs experience in Oman seeks job. Contact: 97849429

ADMINISTRATION

Indian male, 16 yrs experience in Oman seeks job for admin, secretary or any suitable post, holding Oman D/L M: 94019955

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

MBA graduate (Sri Lankan, female) with 3 yrs corporate experience seeks admin,office support role. Immediate joining.+968 78414146

IT

IT support professional with 14 yrs' experience in international private school IT environment. Skilled in hardware, networking, IT infrastructure, time and attendance systems & user support. Call: 93027572

ENGINEER

Sr Program manager (B.Tech, MBA) female, 11+ yrs in product delivery, operations management & AI led projects. Seeking opportunity in Muscat on dependent visa. Contact : 90963084 Email: challapranavi@gmail.com

Experienced IT Support professional with 8+ yrs of expertise in ITSM. Immediate joiner. Contact: +968 76461900 (+91) 9952190495, WhatsApp

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

ENGINEER

MEP Engineer with 3 yrs experience seeking suitable placement & can join immediately. Contact +968 75099651

BE Civil Engr. Indian male, 11yrs experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L seeks placement. Contact: 93867573, Email:pineasdhas@gmail.com

MANAGER

SriLankan MBA over 22 yrs of GCC experience seeking opportunities as Commercial manager, contract manager, or senior quantity surveyor in the construction industry. Available immediately. Contact: +96890452762 Email: similyaas@gmail.com

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

LOGISTICS

Indian male, warehouse, logistics supervisor, 15+yrs of overall experience looking for a job. Contact 98531104

PURCHASE/ PROCUREMENT

Indian male procurement executive with 11 yrs of experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L available in Muscat for immediate joining. Contact: 92345877

SALES/MARKETING

Looking for merchandiser job or salesman of 10 yrs in Oman. Contact 75137846, 79510980

Indian male, BBA, 20 yrs experience in Sales & Marketing in Oman. holding valid Oman driving license seeks suitable placement. Contact No : 93011232 Email: jitinjoshua920@gmail.com

FOREIGN MINISTER

Cuba rejects no oil blockade claim of US

HAVANA: Cuba rejected remarks by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio that there is no oil blockade against the island.

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez accused Rubio of lying, saying the statement contradicted an executive order signed by U.S. President Donald Trump on Jan. 29 that threatens tariffs on countries trading oil with Cuba.

“In four months, only one fuel ship has arrived in Cuba. All our suppliers are intimidated and threatened in violation of free trade rules and freedom of navigation,” Rodriguez said.

He added that Rubio “knows very well the damage caused to the Cuban people” by what he called the oil siege.

Cuba also criticized another executive order signed Friday by Trump, which imposes secondary sanctions on the energy sector, including measures against foreign banks linked to the Cuban government and migration restrictions.

The order allows Washington to block people or entities operating in key Cuban sectors, including energy, mining, defense and security, or those providing material, financial or technological support to the Cuban government or sanctioned individuals.

The Cuban government has called the measures illegal.

The United States has maintained sanctions against Cuba for over 60 years, with a comprehensive trade embargo officially instituted in February 1962. The sanctions have since remained in place, and at times tightened or slightly eased. — *Xinhua*

Ukraine accuses Russia of breaking unilateral ceasefire

At least 27 people were killed and dozens more injured in Russian strikes across eastern Ukraine late on Tuesday night, just hours before Kyiv’s proposed ceasefire came into effect at midnight Wednesday

KYIV: Ukraine said on Wednesday that Russia had violated a unilateral ceasefire called by Kyiv by attacking Ukrainian cities overnight with more than 100 combat drones and three missiles.

At least 27 people were killed and dozens more injured in Russian strikes across eastern Ukraine late on Tuesday night, just hours before Kyiv’s proposed ceasefire came into effect at midnight Wednesday (2100 GMT).

“With mere hours until Ukraine’s ceasefire proposal comes into force, Russia shows no signs of preparing to end hostilities,” “On the contrary, Moscow



intensifies terror,” wrote Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha on social media. On Wednesday morning, he said that Russia had breached a unilateral ceasefire declared by Ukraine by launching 108 combat drones and three missiles at Ukrainian cities.

“This shows that Russia rejects peace and its fake calls for a ceasefire on May 9th have nothing to do with diplomacy. Putin only cares about military parades, not human lives,” Sybiha wrote on X, referring to the Kremlin’s own unilateral call for a halt to fighting during its World War II army parade on May 9.

Deadly attack on Zaporizhzhia

At least 12 people were killed and 20 injured in the southeastern city of Zaporizhzhia after a Russian attack with guided aerial bombs was followed up by Iranian-designed Shahed drones.

“A cynical strike on facilities in the city of Zaporizhzhia,” City Council Secretary Rehina Kharchenko told the Reuters news agency. “After the hit, the enemy intentionally began attacking those locations with Shahed drones.”

Further north, six people were killed and 12 injured when power-

ful glide bombs smashed into the frontline city of Kramatorsk, four people were killed in Dnipro and five people were killed in a strike on gas production facilities in the Poltava region.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that the Poltava attack was “especially vile” because Russia, like in Zaporizhzhia, launched a second missile at the same target when emergency rescuers were working at the scene.

“These are absolutely cynical, senseless terrorist strikes devoid of any military sense,” Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram. “Such Russian strikes on our cities and villages

do not cease for a single day.”

The attacks came after five people were killed and 39 wounded on Monday night and after Moscow declared that it would observing a ceasefire later this week on Friday and Saturday as Russia commemorates the allied victory over Nazi Germany in World War II.

The Russian Defence Ministry said it would strike back at Ukraine if it tries to disrupt the festivities on Victory Day, which Russia marks annually on May 9 – but has continued to bombard Ukrainian cities in the meantime.

“Russia could cease fire at any moment, and this would stop the war and our responses,” said Zelenskyy, rebuking Moscow for its “utter cynicism” in continuing its attacks. “Peace is needed, and real steps are needed to achieve it. Ukraine will act in kind.”

Ukrainian attacks on Russia continue

Meanwhile, before its unilateral ceasefire came into effect at midnight, Ukraine also continued its attacks on targets inside Russia, aiming at oil facilities in an effort to further disrupt Moscow’s war economy.

Zelenskyy said Ukrainian forces launched their own F-5 Flamingo cruise missiles at targets including military-industrial complex facilities in Cheboksary, located more than 1,500 kilometres (900 miles) away. The regional health ministry said three people were injured. — *nw*

Full story at timesofoman.com/world

SHIFTING COURSE

North Korea drops reunification goal from constitution

PYONGYANG: North Korea has removed all references to reunification with South Korea from its constitution, according to a document circulating on Wednesday.

The revision marks a sharp break from decades of policy dating back to 1948, when Pyongyang had formally committed to pursuing unification.

The change was reported after the South Korean Unification Ministry shared a document seen by the country’s Yonhap News Agency and international media.

The updated constitution, introduced in March, also has a new clause defining North Korea’s territory. It says this includes the area bordering China and Russia to the north, “and the Republic of Korea to the south,” using South Korea’s official name.



The revision also sees leader Kim Jong Un, as chairman of the State Affairs Commission, designated as North Korea’s head of state. Previous language has de-

scribed the chairman post differently — as the country’s supreme leader who represents the state.

It adds that command over North Korea’s nuclear forces

rests with the State Affairs Commission chairman, formalising Kim’s authority over the country’s nuclear forces and describing North Korea as a “responsible nuclear weapons state.”

What does change mean for relations with South Korea?

Political scientist Lee Jung Chul of Seoul National University, cited by Yonhap, said the new policy could form a basis for “peaceful coexistence” between the two Korean states. Lee said the omission of a specific inter-Korean border suggested that Pyongyang was seeking to avoid confrontation for the time being.

Pyongyang has adopted an increasingly hostile policy toward Seoul in recent years, while reject-

ing calls for dialogue from South Korean President Lee Jae Myung.

Kim began shifting course in late 2023, calling Seoul the “main enemy,” and later ordered the demolition of a major reunification monument in Pyongyang.

In January 2024, he urged a constitutional amendment that defined South Korea as the North’s “primary foe and inviolable principal enemy,” stating that North Korean territory was separate from the South.

Kim has vowed to expand nuclear forces, while Pyongyang carried out four missile tests in April — the highest monthly total in more than two years.

The North has also been drawing closer to Russia, sending troops and artillery shells to support its invasion of Ukraine. — *nw*

SCHOOL SHOOTING

2 killed and 7 injured in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO: A 13-year-old student opened fire Tuesday inside a school in the city of Rio Branco, the capital of Brazil’s northern state of Acre, killing two staff members and injuring several students, local police said.

The suspect brought a gun from home and fired shots in the hallway leading to the principal’s office, Felipe Russo, commander of the Special Operations Battalion of the Military Police of Acre, told local media.

The teenage attacker has been arrested. Emergency services, including ambulances, police officers and forensic experts, have been dispatched to the scene for investigation and treatment of the wounded. — *Xinhua*

STARK WARNINGS

Iran War: How the jet fuel shortage affects air travel

BRUSSELS: Should the worst fears become realised, air travel could become a nerve-racking ordeal for passengers in the coming weeks and months. If, as a result of the Iran war and the ongoing blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, jet fuel does begin to run short, significant disruptions to air traffic are to be expected. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) have recently issued stark warnings to that effect.

The jet fuel shortage is already affecting air travelers: Due to the sharp rise in kerosene prices, numerous airlines worldwide are passing at least part of the increased costs on to their customers. The erosion of passenger rights is illustrated by the Spanish airline Volotea: For several weeks now, its customers have expected a surcharge of up to €14 (\$18.50), levied seven days before departure, depending on how kerosene prices develop. Volotea added a corresponding clause to its terms and conditions.

Facua — the Spanish consumer protection organisation — considers this unlawful, accuses the airline of a lack of transparency in its pricing and has filed a formal complaint. “If this is not stopped quickly, there is a risk that other airlines could also commit similar violations,” says Facua head Ruben Sanchez.

But higher ticket prices are not the only problem travelers are increasingly facing. Above all, there



is a threat of massive flight cancellations if jet fuel supply begins to falter, as is already the case in parts of Asia. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) warns that a similar scenario is also emerging in Europe just as the summer holiday season is getting underway. In anticipation of potential shortages, numerous airlines worldwide have already begun to scale back their schedules as a precaution. Most recently, Lufthansa canceled 20,000 flights scheduled for the coming months. What does this mean for affected passengers? In the EU, passenger rights are regulated by the Air Passenger Rights Regulation

In the European Union, the framework is more clear. The Air

Passenger Rights Regulation determines what airline customers can expect. “In the event of cancellations, passengers are generally entitled to compensation of between €250 and €600, depending on the flight distance,” says the Saxony Consumer Advice Center. In addition, passengers are entitled to meals, hotel accommodation, and alternative transport. The regulation applies to all flights departing from an airport within the EU, regardless of where the operating airline is based. For flights from a non-EU country to the EU, it only applies if they are operated by an airline based in the EU.

There is no compensation, however, if the airline informs passengers of the cancellation at least two

weeks before departure. “Currently, we are expecting airlines to cancel flights with enough notice to avoid having to pay compensation to passengers,” says Andre Duderstaedt, advisor in the Mobility and Resource Protection team at the German Consumer Advice Center. This way, the airlines would also avoid the question of whether the expected jet fuel shortage constitutes an “extraordinary circumstance.”

Is the jet fuel shortage an “extraordinary circumstance”?

In “extraordinary circumstances,” airlines are exempt from the obligation to provide compensation as defined in the EU Air Passenger



Rights Regulation. Air traffic controller strikes or natural disasters constitute “extraordinary circumstances” but whether a potential jet fuel shortage would hold up in court remains to be seen. “It all hinges on whether the airline has done everything within its power to operate the flight as scheduled,” explains Kamila Kempfert, head of the Consumer Advice Center in Görlitz, Saxony. Whether compensation will actually be paid, depends on the specific case. Travelers should therefore carefully review their cancellation notice.

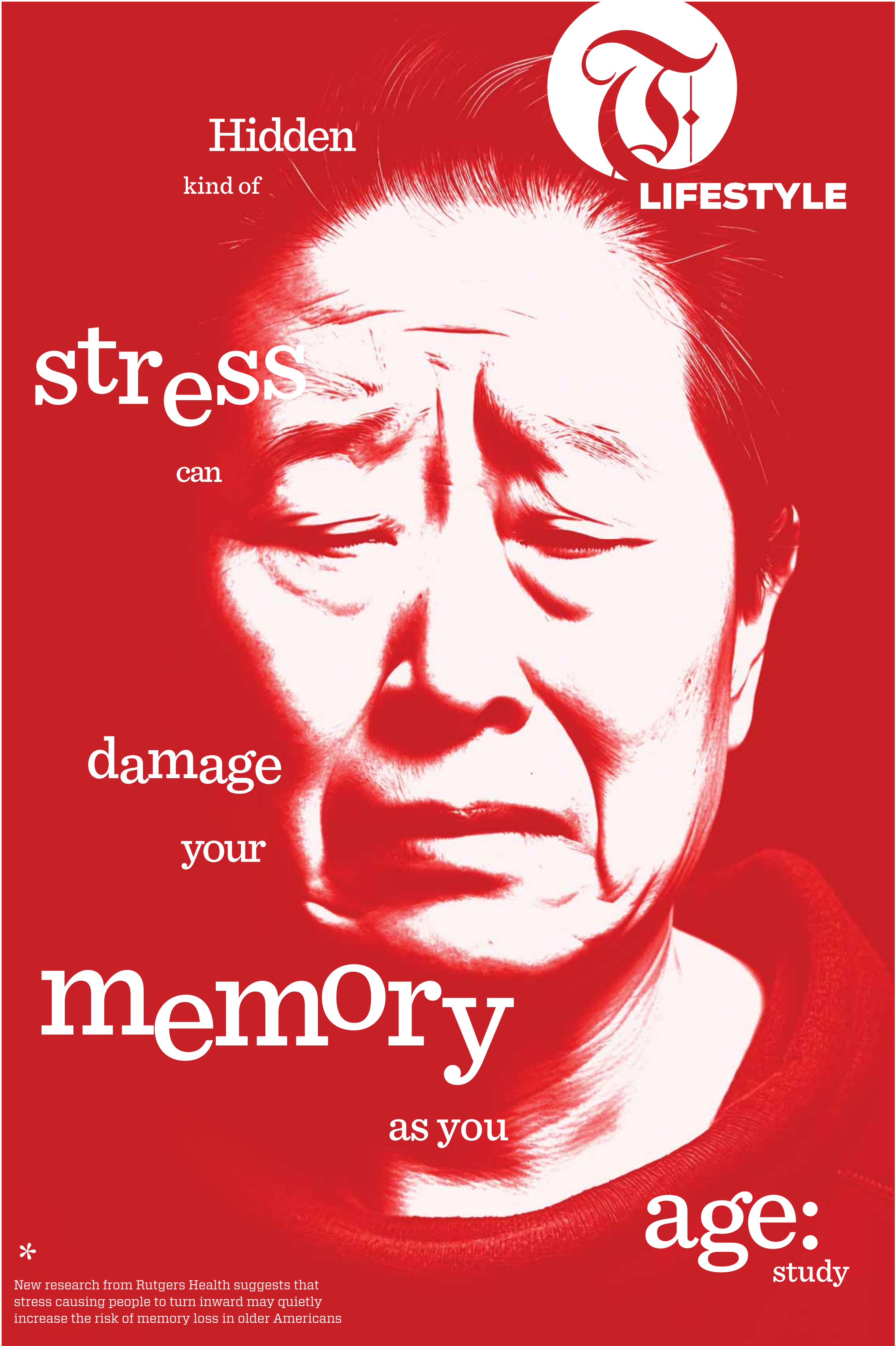
The situation regarding flight passenger rights is quite different outside the EU — for example, in the United States. There is no standard set of rules regarding how customers are compensated for canceled flights. “Each airline has its own rules for compensation in case of delays or cancellations,” says the US Department of Transportation. It is entirely at the discretion of the airlines whether

they cover meals and accommodation during long wait times. In the case of canceled flights, passengers are only entitled to a refund of the ticket price.

The US is less heavily affected by the jet fuel shortage

On the other hand, the jet fuel shortage is likely to affect the US significantly less than other regions of the world, as its dependence on imports is much lower. According to the European Federation for Transport and Environment, supplies that are typically transported through the Strait of Hormuz account for around 30% of kerosene demand in the EU. Therefore, it is not surprising that average fuel costs per passenger have risen by €29 on inner-European flights and by as much as €88 on intercontinental flights since the start of the war. This is clearly reflected in higher ticket prices.

— *nw*





Hidden kind of stress can damage your memory as you age: study

*

New research from Rutgers Health suggests that stress causing people to turn inward may quietly increase the risk of memory loss in older Americans

A NEW study reveals that internalising stress—especially feelings of hopelessness—may significantly speed up memory decline in older Chinese Americans. Surprisingly, factors like community support didn’t show the same impact.

Researchers say cultural pressures and stereotypes may cause emotional struggles to go unnoticed and untreated. The findings suggest that targeted, culturally sensitive stress relief could play a powerful role in preserving cognitive health.

Stress that people turn inward may be quietly increasing the risk of memory loss in older Chinese Americans, according to new research from Rutgers Health.

The study, published in The Journal of Prevention of Alzheimer’s Disease, was conducted by researchers at the Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Ageing Research. It explored a range of factors that could either raise or reduce the risk of cognitive decline in Chi-

nese adults over age 60.

This group was selected in part because older Chinese Americans have often been overlooked in research on brain ageing, leaving important gaps in understanding how memory loss develops in this population.

“With the number of older Asian Americans growing significantly, it’s vital to better understand the risk factors of memory decline in this understudied population,” said Michelle Chen, a core member of the Center for Healthy Aging Research at Rutgers and the study’s lead author.

Cultural pressures and hidden emotional strain

The researchers noted that cultural expectations may play a role in shaping mental health outcomes. The model minority stereotype, which portrays Asian Americans as consistently successful, educated and healthy, can create added pressure while

also masking emotional struggles.

At the same time, many older immigrants face challenges such as language barriers and cultural differences, which can contribute to ongoing stress. While these issues are not unique to Asian Americans, the researchers say they may be particularly relevant in this context.

“Stress and hopelessness may go unnoticed in ageing populations, yet they play a critical role in how the brain ages,” said Chen, who is also an assistant professor of neurology at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. “Because these feelings are modifiable, our goal is for this research to inform culturally sensitive stress-reduction interventions to mitigate these feelings in older adults.”

Large study tracks memory changes over time

To better understand these effects, the team analysed data from the Popula-

tion Study of Chinese Elderly (PINE), the largest community-based cohort study focused on older Chinese Americans. The dataset included interviews conducted from 2011 to 2017 with more than 1,500 participants living in the Chicago area.

The researchers examined three key sociobehavioral factors: stress internalisation, neighbourhood or community cohesion and external stress alleviation

Key finding points to internalised stress

Among these factors, internalised stress stood out. This form of stress includes feelings of hopelessness and a tendency to absorb stressful experiences rather than express or resolve them. It was strongly linked to worsening memory across three waves of the PINE study.

In contrast, the other factors did not show a significant connection to changes

in memory over time.

Implications for prevention and support

Because internalised stress can potentially be addressed, the findings suggest an opportunity to develop targeted strategies that support emotional well-being and cognitive health in older adults. The researchers emphasise the importance of culturally sensitive approaches that take into account the unique experiences of ageing immigrant populations.

The study was supported by the Rutgers-NYU Resource Centre for Alzheimer’s and Dementia Research in Asian and Pacific Americans, co-led by William Hu of the Rutgers Institute for Health and Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Coauthors include Yiming Ma, Charu Verma, Stephanie Bergren and William Hu of the Rutgers Institute for Health. - ANI

SPORTS

Arsenal end 20-year wait, seal spot in Champions League final

Saka's goal in the second-leg semi-final secured a 1-0 win over Atletico Madrid as the Gunners advanced on 2-1 aggregate

LONDON: Arsenal reached the Champions League final for the first time in 20 years as Bukayo Saka sealed a 1-0 win against Atletico Madrid on Tuesday.

Mikel Arteta's side settled the semi-final second leg with Saka's strike late in the first half at an ecstatic Emirates Stadium.

The Gunners, who drew 1-1 in the first leg in Madrid last week, held firm after Saka's goal to go through 2-1 on aggregate.

Arsenal will face Paris Saint-Germain or Bayern Munich in the final in Budapest on May 30.

Holders PSG, who beat Arsenal in the semi-finals last year, have a 5-4 lead ahead of the second leg in Munich on Wednesday night.

It was a cathartic night for Arsenal, who are back in the Champions League final for the first time since losing 2-1 to Barcelona in their only previous appearance in the showpiece in 2006.

Arsenal have never won the



Champions League, with their two major European trophies coming in the 1994 Cup Winners' Cup and the 1970 Inter-Cities Fairs Cup.

Their last continental final ended in a 4-1 defeat against Chelsea in the 2019 Europa League.

It is shaping up to be Arsenal's greatest ever season as they chase a Premier League and Champions League double.

Even Arsene Wenger's 'Invincibles' — who won the club's last English title in an unbeaten top-flight campaign in 2004 — might have to bow to the current generation if they finish the job.

Fittingly, it was Saka — the homegrown symbol of the Arteta era — who proved Arsenal's

match-winner. Now just four games from immortality, Premier League leaders Arsenal were given a huge boost in the title race when second-placed Manchester City drew at Everton on Monday. The Gunners will be crowned champions if they win their last three games against West Ham, Burnley and Crystal Palace.

Once the title is decided, Arsenal will head to Hungary with a maiden Champions League crown in their sights.

Arsenal endured jibes about their perceived lack of mental strength after a run of four defeats in six games in all competitions sparked painful memories of previous failures to end their six-year wait for silverware.

But the 'nearly-men' and 'serial choker' labels applied only weeks ago are on the verge of being banished forever.

Thousands of Arsenal supporters massed outside the stadium before kick-off to greet their team with flares and flags, a vociferous display of affection underlining Arsenal's desperation to make history.

It was the kind of evening in north London, when nothing was beyond the realm of possibility as Arsenal moved closer to casting off the shackles of two decades of underachievement.

After some tense performances during the Premier League run-in, Saturday's 3-0 rout of Fulham had showed Arsenal at their flow-

ing best in a riposte to the critics who claim they only win ugly.

This was a more prosaic display but no-one with an affinity to Arsenal was bothered in the slightest.

Arsenal were nearly caught on the counter in a frenetic start when Julian Alvarez shot just wide before Giuliano Simeone's close-range effort deflected past the post. But Arsenal recovered from those anxious moments to deliver a dominant spell that brought their 44th minute goal.

Viktor Gyokeres' clever run unhinged the Atletico defence and his cross reached Leandro Trossard inside the area. Trossard wriggled into just enough space for a low drive that Jan Oblak weakly pushed out to Saka, who reacted quicker than his flat-footed markers to slot home from four yards.

Arteta jubilantly punched the air as all around him the Emirates erupted into a roiling red sea of celebration.

Atletico tried to ruin the party in the second half, but Gabriel Magalhaes made a last-ditch tackle on Simeone to avert a certain goal before David Raya repelled Antoine Griezmann's blast.

Arteta recently revealed he visualised Arsenal conquering the Champions League even in the difficult early days of his reign. The Spaniard now is just one win away from seeing that daydream become a glorious reality. - Agencies

ATLETICO MANAGER

Simeone 'proud and peaceful' after exit

LONDON: After yet another Champions League elimination, Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone rallied with his players in front of the team's fans.

He yelled, pumped his fists and applauded as the Atletico fans chanted support despite a 1-0 semi-final loss to Arsenal that ended the team's hopes of winning the European competition for the first time. There was no desperation, no anguish, no extreme sadness. Simeone was at peace, proud of how far Atletico made it.

"No one expected that we would be here," Simeone said. "We competed with a team that had so much strength and power. We gave it our all and now we have to accept the place that we're in. I'm grateful to our supporters and our players. I feel proud to be where I am right now."

Simeone wasn't even complaining with the refereeing despite two penalty calls that didn't go Atletico's way in the second half. "If we got knocked out, it's because our opponents deserved to get through," Simeone said. "If you ask me how I feel, I feel calm and peaceful. The team gave ab-

solutely everything." Atletico, the third power in Spanish football, behind Barcelona and Real Madrid, were playing in the Champions League semi-finals for the first time in a decade — since they lost the final to rivals Real Madrid in 2016. It was the only Spanish team to reach the last four of the European tournament this season, eliminating five-time champions Barcelona in the quarter-finals.

Atletico ended the season without lifting a trophy after not reaching the final in the Spanish Super Cup, losing the final of the Copa del Rey to Real Sociedad, and struggling in the league, where they sit in fourth place, 25 points behind leaders Barcelona with four games remaining.

"There were high hopes for us in the Copa and in the Champions League," Atletico midfielder Koke Resurrección said. "We were not consistent in the league; we were not at the level we should have been. But we lost the Copa in a penalty shootout and in the Champions League, we were this close to advancing." - Agencies



GUNNERS MANAGER

Arteta hails 'incredible night'

LONDON: Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta was overjoyed as his side reached the Champions League final for the second time in its history on Tuesday, saying there had been a huge positive shift in energy and belief following crucial results over the last week.

Arteta, who had sprinted onto the pitch at the final whistle to hug his players and then ran to the home fans for a series of oles, said it had been an "incredible night".

"I cannot be happier, prouder for everybody that is involved in this football club," Arteta told reporters. "We have all been so aligned on the desire and ambition that we had."

The victory means Arsenal have also equalled their club record for most wins in a single season. They have now won 41 games across all competitions, matching the 55-year-old record set in the 1970-71 campaign.

Arteta said he had never experienced such a raucous build-up and atmosphere both inside and outside the stadium during his time at the Emirates, and that his side now had the bit between its teeth again.

"It's great. Everybody can feel a shift in energy and belief in everything," Arteta said.



"Let's use it in the right way and understand that the margins and the difficulty of what we are trying to achieve is huge, but we have the ability and conviction today, that is for sure."

Arsenal's midfield engine, Declan Rice, also said the side had regained its momentum.

"We have kind of turned a corner again. We went through a stage where we weren't performing at our best. We were a bit sloppy in our play, but we have found a new way to play again," Rice told Ama-

zon Prime. "When you have got confidence in football, it is everything. I know everyone is focused."

Rice also underscored the longer-term progression Arsenal have made and the importance of their league game against his former side West Ham United at the weekend.

"We have kept building—we have kept pushing each other. This competition and the Premier League. We have gone full throttle," Rice said. "Sunday now is a massive one." - Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE

Everton fan arrested for alleged racist abuse against Man City's Semenyo

LONDON: Merseyside Police arrested an Everton fan during his side's match against Manchester City for alleged racist abuse towards Antoine Semenyo.

The supporter was apprehended at the Premier League fixture between the sides at the Hill Dickinson Stadium on Monday, which finished 3-3.

Police said a 71-year-old man from Nottinghamshire was arrested "on suspicion of a racially aggravated public order offence" after "supporters and stewards reported that racist abuse was shouted by a fan".

"An investigation into the incident during the match remains ongoing and we continue to work closely with Everton FC," said a police statement.

"He has now been bailed with conditions, which includes not to go within one mile of any designated sports stadium in a period of up to four hours before kick-off, during the match and up to four hours after the game has ended."



Everton said in a statement that "behaviour of this nature will not be tolerated".

"Racism and discrimination in all forms are completely unacceptable. They have no place in our stadia, our sport or in society," the club said.

"The club will continue to work closely with the authorities to support their investigation and will take the strongest possible action in line with its zero-tolerance approach."

It is the second time Ghana international Semenyo, 26, has been

the target of racist abuse this season.

While playing for former club Bournemouth in the opening Premier League match of this season, Semenyo reported being racially abused by a spectator during their 4-2 defeat at Liverpool.

Semenyo subsequently said more should be done to tackle racism in football, including possible prison sentences for those convicted of abuse.

Manchester City praised the "swift action" of Everton and Merseyside Police.

The club said England defender Marc Guehi, 25, also suffered on-line racist abuse following the match.

"We are incredibly disappointed to hear that Marc Guehi was subject to a series of vile racist social media posts last night," said a City statement.

"We will continue to offer our full support to both Antoine and Marc and never accept discrimination of any kind in our game."

Casemiro backs Carrick for permanent ManU job

LONDON: Manchester United midfielder Casemiro said on Tuesday that Michael Carrick has already shown he has all the qualities to be a great manager at the club and backed calls for the former England international to be given the role on a permanent basis.

Carrick was handed the interim role until the end of the season after the club sacked Ruben Amorim in January following a turbulent 14-month spell.

United have won 10 of their 14 matches under Carrick, including victories over Arsenal, Manchester City, Liverpool and Chelsea, to climb to third in the Premier League and seal a berth in next season's Champions League.

"I think he's a guy who has already demonstrated that he has very good qualities to be a Manchester United coach,"



Casemiro told ESPN Brazil. "Of course, the season is year-round. But since he arrived, he's been doing an incredible job and I think that with more time, he has everything to be a great manager of Manchester United." United are third on 64 points with three league matches remaining and travel to Sunderland on Saturday. - Agencies



TEAM'S PARTICIPATION

Our World Cup host ‘is FIFA, not Trump or America’: Iran

TEHRAN: Iran’s football chief said their World Cup host “is FIFA, not Mr Trump or America” and has called for respect towards the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) if the national team is to travel to the United States for this summer’s tournament.

There remains uncertainty over Iran’s participation at the World Cup because of the war with the US and Israel.

Iranian FA (FFIRI) chief Mehdi Taj was among a delegation which turned back from the Canadian border before last week’s FIFA Congress in Vancouver, because of what they felt was disrespectful treatment by immigration officials.

Taj said the decision to return home was their own choice, but Canada’s immigration minister confirmed to parliament that the FFIRI president’s visa had been cancelled while he was in the air because of his links to the IRGC.

FIFA secretary general Mattias Grafstrom wrote to express regret for the “inconvenience and disappointment” and has invited FFIRI to Zurich for a meeting about their World Cup preparations on 20 May.

Taj told state broadcaster the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) on Tuesday that he would seek assurances from the governing body about the treatment of Iranian officials at the World Cup.

“We need a guarantee there, for our trip, that they have no right to insult the symbols of our system - especially the IRGC,” Taj said.

“This is something they must pay serious attention to. If there is such a guarantee and the responsibility is clearly assumed, then an incident like what happened in Canada will not happen again.”

The US, Canada and Mexico will



co-host the World Cup between 11 June and 19 July.

Iran are scheduled to play two games in Los Angeles, against New Zealand on 15 June and Belgium on 21 June, and then Egypt in Seattle on 26 June.

US secretary of state Marco Rubio said last week that no-one with ties to the IRGC would be admitted to the country.

“We are going to the World Cup, for which we qualified, and our host is FIFA - not Mr Trump or America,” Taj said.

“If they accept hosting us, then they must also accept that they must not insult our military institutions in any way.

“Because if they do, then naturally it could create the same kind of situation that happened in Canada, where there was a possibility we might have to return.

“So there must be this kind of guarantee so that we can go with peace of mind.”

FIFA president Gianni Infantino said Iran will be going to the US and playing as scheduled - despite Iran’s request in March for their matches to be moved to Mexico.



Infantino defends FIFA World Cup ticket prices



FIFA has faced searing criticism over the cost of World Cup tickets, with fan organisation Football Supporters Europe branding the pricing structure “extortionate” and a “monumental betrayal”

BEVERLY HILLS: FIFA president Gianni Infantino on Tuesday defended World Cup ticket prices, insisting that football’s global governing body was obliged to take advantage of US laws that allow tickets to be resold for thousands of dollars above face value.

FIFA has faced searing criticism over the cost of World Cup tickets, with fan organisation Football Supporters Europe (FSE) branding the pricing structure “extortionate” and a “monumental betrayal”.

FSE filed a lawsuit with the Eu-



ropean Commission in March targeting FIFA over “excessive ticket prices” for the tournament.

FIFA’s own World Cup resale website, FIFA Marketplace, last week advertised four tickets to the July 19 final in New York at a cost of more than \$2 million each.

Speaking at the Milken Institute Global Conference in Beverly Hills, Infantino said the eye-watering prices reflected demand to watch the World Cup.

“If some people put on the resale market, some tickets for the final at \$2 million, number one, it doesn’t mean that the tickets cost \$2 million,” Infantino said.

“And number two, it doesn’t mean that somebody will buy these tickets,” Infantino said. “And if somebody buys a ticket for the final for \$2 million, I will personally bring him a hot dog and a Coke to make sure that he has a great experience.”

Fan groups have contrasted the difference in price of tickets for this summer with the Qatar World Cup in 2022. The most expensive ticket for the final in 2022 was around \$1,600 at face value, while in 2026 the most expensive ticket for the final is about \$11,000 at its original price.

Infantino was adamant that the steep increase in face-value prices were justified.

“We have to look at the market—we are in the market in which entertainment is the most developed in the world. So, we have to apply market rates,” Infantino said.

“In the US, it is permitted to resell tickets as well. So, if you were to sell tickets at the price which is too low, these tickets will be resold at a much higher price. And as a matter of fact, even though some people are saying that the ticket prices we have are high, they still end up on the resale market at an even higher price, more than double of our price.”

Infantino said that FIFA received in excess of 500 million ticket requests for 2026, compared with fewer than 50 million combined for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups.

The FIFA leader added that 25 per cent of tickets for the group phase were priced at under \$300.

“You cannot go to watch in the US a college game, not even speaking about a top professional game of a certain level, for less than \$300,” Infantino said. “And this is the World Cup.” - Agencies

SPANIARD GOLFER



Rahm eligible for Ryder Cup after deal with European Tour

LONDON: Jon Rahm has reached a deal with the European Tour that will allow him retain his membership and remain eligible for next year’s Ryder Cup at Adare Manor in Ireland.

In an agreement similar to that signed by eight other LIV golfers in February, the Spaniard will pay all outstanding fines for playing in events that clashed with European Tour tournaments. The tour is now known as the DP World Tour.

Two-time major winner Rahm has been punished for three conflicting events this season, and has around £2 million (\$2.7 million) in fines outstanding since

he joined the Saudi breakaway circuit in 2023.

In exchange for securing conditional releases for 2026, Rahm has also said he will play in agreed European Tour events for the remainder of this year.

“The DP World Tour and Jon Rahm have come to an agreement on conditional releases to play in conflicting tournaments on LIV Golf during the remainder of its 2026 season,” said a DP World Tour spokesman.

“This involves payment of all outstanding fines accrued from 2024 to date, along with participation in agreed DP World Tour tour-

naments (outside the majors) in the remainder of the 2026 season.”

The 31-year-old, who made his Ryder Cup debut in 2018, was a captain’s pick for the 2025 tournament at Bethpage Black, won by the European team.

Rahm in March accused the DP World Tour of “extorting players” as he explained why he had not signed a deal to settle his fines for playing.

Saudi Arabia’s Public Investment Fund said last week it was withdrawing its multi-billion dollar backing of LIV Golf at the end of the season, plunging the future of the tour into doubt. - Agencies

‘THE GO TO DESTINATION’

UK government discusses hosting Olympics in 2040s

LONDON: The UK government said on Tuesday that it is in “discussions about supporting potential bids” for the Olympics and Paralympics in the 2040s, according to a BBC Sport report on Wednesday.

It added that “initial work examining whether the UK could host the Games for the first time since London 2012 will assess key factors such as potential cost, socio-economic benefit and [the] chance of success”.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) says it wants to make the UK “the go to destination” for hosting major sports events, and that it is also considering whether to support bids to stage golf’s Ryder Cup and Solheim Cup in the 2030s.

The last time the two team competitions were staged in the UK was in 2014 and 2019 respectively, both at Gleneagles in Scotland.

In recent months there has been growing momentum behind a possible attempt to bring the Olympics back to the UK for a fourth time.

Last year London mayor Sadiq Khan said he wanted the city to bid for the 2040 Games.

With Los Angeles in the US and Brisbane, Australia hosting the 2028 and 2032 Games respectively, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is yet to choose cities to stage the events in 2036 and beyond.

In December, the chair of fund-



ing agency UK Sport told BBC Sport a bid “has to be an aspiration”, suggesting Liverpool and Manchester could be co-hosts.

In February, a group of political leaders urged the government to ensure any future bid would be based in the north of England, saying there was a “compelling” case for it to host the event.

The Ryder Cup takes place every two years with 24 of the best players from Europe and the USA going head-to-head over three days in matchplay competition. The two continents take it in turns to host the event.

In March, it was revealed that Bolton is bidding to host the Ryder Cup in 2035. If successful it would be the first time in more than 30 years that the event is staged in England.

As part of plans for a new

‘sporting events framework’, the government says it may seek to make it a criminal offence to resell tickets for specific events - such as Euro 2028 - without authorisation, claiming it “will make it easier to bid for, secure and deliver major sporting events”.

It added, “The new changes will also ensure more tickets are available to fans at face value, rather than being snapped up by exploitative ticket touts and resold at inflated prices.”

England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland are hosting Euro 2028, while the UK is also the sole bidder to host the 2035 Women’s World Cup. The Women’s T20 World Cup, European Athletics Championships and Commonwealth Games are among the major sporting events in the UK this summer. - Agencies

ROUND-UP

Meethaq Islamic: Milestones driving leadership and growth in developing banking sector

Meethaq continues to enhance its products and services to meet the evolving needs of diverse customer segments

MUSCAT: Amid the continued growth and transformation of Oman's banking sector, Meethaq Islamic Banking from Bank Muscat stands out as a leading model contributing to the advancement of Islamic banking in the Sultanate. This progress is driven by the delivery of innovative financial solutions that fully comply with Sharia principles.

Meethaq continues to enhance its products and services to meet the evolving needs of diverse customer segments, with a strong focus on financial inclusion and sustainable economic development. Meethaq is committed to transparency, innovation, Sharia oversight and governance that further strengthen its position as a trusted and preferred banking partner.

As part of efforts to highlight recent developments, Meethaq Islamic Banking organized a media engagement session for journalists and media representatives from various outlets. The event, held at the Grand Hormuz Hotel in Muscat, aimed to showcase the latest updates and introduce its comprehensive range of Islamic banking products and services. The session also provided a platform for open dialogue, enabling direct engagement between media representatives and Meethaq officials.

During the session, Meethaq presented its leading role in advancing Islamic banking through a detailed overview of its services for individuals and corporates. The presentation highlighted key financial solutions, investment funds managed by Meethaq, and initiatives supporting corporate social responsibility and community development.

Meethaq's financial highlights underscore its strong market position, with total assets reaching RO 2.08 billion, net financing at RO 1.658 billion, and customer deposits at RO 1.69 billion, up to December 2025. These figures reflect its solid performance and growing role in the Islamic banking sector in the Sultanate.

On this occasion, Ali bin Ahmed al Lawati, Assistant General Manager, Meethaq Corporate Banking, said: "We are pleased to host a distinguished group of journalists and media professionals, whom we consider key partners in our success. This engagement reflects Meethaq's commitment to transparency and open engagement with the media, while providing an opportunity to showcase our achievements in delivering innovative Islamic banking solutions. Since its inception, Meethaq has played a key role in shaping the Islamic banking landscape through



products and services that create real value for customers.

"We remain committed to strengthening trust by offering best-in-class financial solutions tailored to the needs of individuals and corporates. While continuing to reinforce our position through the adoption of best practices and ongoing development. We also extend our sincere appreciation to all media representatives for their vital role in highlighting the country's economic and social development."

Sami Bait Rashid, Assistant General Manager, Meethaq Personal Banking, stated: "Meethaq has achieved significant milestones over the past period, driven by a clear vision and a strategy centered on innovation and customer excellence. Through this engagement, we aim to communicate our latest developments and enhance awareness of our wide range of products and services for individuals and corporates. We have expanded our branch network across

the Sultanate to provide accessible, Sharia-compliant banking solutions. We value the trust our customers place in us and remain committed to strengthening it through continuous development and innovation; while maintaining our leading role in advancing Oman's banking sector."

Sharia-compliant standards
All Meethaq products are governed by the principles of Islamic Sharia under the oversight of the Sharia Supervisory Board, which plays a vital role in ensuring that all products and services are fully compliant with Sharia rules and principles. This oversight reinforces transparency and strengthens customer trust. Drawing on its specialized expertise, the Board continuously reviews and develops financial solutions to keep pace with the evolving Islamic banking sector and meet market needs, while upholding the highest standards of governance and compliance.

The Sharia Supervisory Board convenes regularly to review procedures, operations, transactions, contracts, and agreements executed by Meethaq, issuing fatwas, decisions, and recommendations accordingly. The Board comprises scholars and specialists in Islamic jurisprudence and contemporary economics, responsible for reviewing and approving products, services, activities, investments, operations, and transactions prior to their implementation. In addition, post-implementation audits are conducted through the Shari'a Compliance and Audit Department to ensure appropriate execution in accordance with the Sharia rulings, resolutions, and fatwas issued by the Board.

Innovative banking solutions for individuals
Meethaq operates an extensive branch network across Oman, with 32 branches and 64 ATMs and CDMs, in addition to access to

over 900 Bank Muscat machines, ensuring seamless and convenient banking services.

Retail banking services include financing and investment solutions, savings plans in addition to investments and wealth management solutions that are offered to the highest standards and at competitive rates. These, on top of every-day banking needs including: savings and current accounts, debit and credit cards, motor takaful, as well as premium Hafawa banking services that is designed for high-net-worth individuals seeking a premium banking experience. Financing solutions include: home finance, auto finance, personal finance, education and travel financing, all compliant with Islamic principles.

Advanced payment experience

Meethaq offers an integrated suite of debit and credit cards designed to meet the needs of diverse customer segments and lifestyles, combining flexibility, wide acceptance, and exclusive benefits. The portfolio includes a range of options such as Hafawa Visa Signature debit card, Hafawa Privilege Visa Debit Card, Standard Visa debit card and Niswa Visa debit card, as well as Hafawa Visa Signature credit cards and Visa Platinum and Gold credit cards.

Meethaq also offers the Meethaq Lulu Credit Card, which delivers added value for shoppers, particularly for everyday purchases and grocery spending, through exclusive benefits and offers that enhance convenience and savings.

In addition, Meethaq provides tailored solutions for the corporate sector through corporate credit cards that support efficient expense management and enhance business flexibility.

Recently, Meethaq launched the national debit card "Maal", introduced by the Central Bank of Oman, as part of its commitment to providing secure and innovative payment solutions that enhance the national payments ecosystem and customer experience.

Strategic partnerships for business growth

Meethaq plays a vital role in supporting corporate growth by providing banking services and financing solutions to key sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries, mining, logistics, education, research, and innovation. It has contributed to the establishment and growth of numerous companies, positioning itself as a key financier for major projects aligned with national economic objectives.

It offers a comprehensive suite of services for corporates and SMEs, including working capital finance, project finance, trade finance solutions such as letters of credit and guarantees, as well as investment solutions like Mudaraba-based deposits and sukuk.

Meethaq takes pride in the trust it has earned from individuals and institutions, reflected in the growing demand for its Sharia-compliant banking solutions. Its offerings are designed to keep pace with evolving market needs, with a strong focus on financing projects

that contribute to the national development and economic growth. This includes supporting food security initiatives and financing real estate and housing projects that help provide suitable living solutions for the community.

Meethaq also provides a wide range of corporate banking services, including current and call accounts, corporate purchase cards, and value-added services such as financial transfers, cheque collection and clearing, digital banking solutions, payroll systems, and foreign exchange services. All products and services are structured in accordance with Sharia principles through contracts such as Murabaha, Musharaka, Ijara, Wakala, and others.

Advanced technologies for greater efficiency

Meethaq continues to support Oman's digital transformation in line with Oman Vision 2040 by delivering innovative and accessible financial solutions. It has made significant investment in advanced technologies and modern banking platforms to enhance user experience, security, and operational efficiency.

Recent developments include enhancements to KYC services, improved password security, expansion of digital payment solutions including Apple Pay, simplified digital account opening, and instant transfers to Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Philippines and Egypt.

Strong commitment to community

In the area of social responsibility, Meethaq continues to support national initiatives aligned with Islamic values, including its annual Zakat campaign in collaboration with the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs. It provides secure digital solutions that enable zakat payments anytime and anywhere.

It also supports various community programs in charity and sustainable development, reinforcing its role as a responsible partner in Oman's development.

Promising investment opportunities

In the investment space, Meethaq recently launched the "Equity Fund," a Sharia-compliant open-ended fund registered with the Financial Services Authority in Oman. The fund aims to achieve capital growth and sustainable returns by investing in Sharia-compliant equities across regional markets.

Journey of excellence

Since its inception, Meethaq Islamic Banking has established itself as a leader in delivering high quality Sharia-compliant banking services and solutions. It has received numerous prestigious local, regional, and international awards, including Best Islamic Investment Bank in Oman from Islamic Finance News (IFN), Market Leadership Award within Global Islamic Finance Awards (GIFA), Best Islamic Digital Bank in Oman from Global Finance, and the Pioneer in Islamic Digital Banking from Oman Economic Review Magazine, among others.

PREMIUM RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

Al Mouj Muscat signs sub-development agreement with Aurelian expanding marina residential offering

MUSCAT: Al Mouj Muscat has signed an agreement with Aurelian Development, appointing it as the sub-developer for a premium residential project in the marina sector of its award-winning waterfront destination.

The development will introduce a contemporary residential complex with a total built-up area of approximately 39,000 square metres, comprising 176 premium-class apartments designed to reflect modern architecture, refined living standards, and a seamless connection to the vibrant coastal environment.

Set within the heart of Al Mouj Muscat's established master-

planned community, the project will offer residents direct access to the destination's signature lifestyle amenities, including its marina, 18-hole PGA-standard championship course, leisure and hospitality offerings, retail experiences, and landscaped public spaces.

The development is designed to complement the existing urban fabric while introducing new residential opportunities within one of the Sultanate's most sought-after addresses.

Regional growth strategy

For Aurelian Development, the project marks a significant milestone in its regional growth strategy



egy and its long-term commitment to the Omani market. By combining thoughtful design, strong placemaking principles, and premium residential offerings, the development aims to attract both local and international buyers seeking a distinctive waterfront

lifestyle in Muscat.

lifestyle in Muscat.

Nicolay Pozdnyakov, Board Member of Aurelian Development, said: "Al Mouj Muscat represents one of the region's most compelling examples of integrated waterfront living. Our collaboration brings together complementary expertise and a shared commitment to quality, enabling us to deliver a residential offering that responds to evolving lifestyle expectations while contributing to the continued growth and dynamism of Muscat's real estate landscape."

Ahmed Al Massan, Acting CEO of Al Mouj Muscat, added: "Strategic partnerships are central to the continued evolution of Al Mouj

Muscat. By working with developers who share our long-term vision for excellence and community building, we continue to strengthen the destination's appeal as a leading lifestyle and investment hub not only in Oman, but across the region."

The partnership underscores a shared ambition to continue elevating the standards of integrated community living in Oman. Together, Aurelian Development and Al Mouj Muscat aim to deliver a project that enhances the destination's evolving urban landscape while contributing to Oman's growing appeal for high-quality real estate investment and lifestyle-led development.

We make your Business bigger than your problems.



We get you ahead on

- Booth production
- Event conceptualisation
- Event management



Wait, there's more

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