

HIS MAJESTY SENDS CONDOLENCES TO SOUTH AFRICAN PRESIDENT

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa on the death of former South African President, Frederik de Klerk. In his cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy to the president, the bereaved family and the people of South African Republic. **-ONA**



HM RECEIVES THANKS FROM KUWAIT

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has received a cable of thanks from Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait in reply to His Majesty's condolences cable to him on the death of Sheikh Saud Abdullah Saud Al Malik Al Sabah. In the cable, Sheikh Nawaf expressed his sincere appreciation for His Majesty's heartfelt sympathies, praying to the Almighty Allah to rest the departed soul in peace in paradise and to protect His Majesty against all harm. **-ONA**



OVER 35,000 JOB VACANCIES FOR OMANIS IN 2021

In its third report on performance indicators, the Ministry of Labour said that it was able to provide 35,344 job opportunities in the public and private sectors in the Sultanate of Oman



Times News Service

MUSCAT: More than 35,000 job vacancies in the public and private sectors were announced by the Ministry of Labour between January and September this year. In its third report on performance indicators, the Ministry of Labour said that it was able to provide 35,344 job opportunities in the public and private sectors in the Sultanate of Oman. The report shows that 19,535 job opportunities were created in the units of the state's administrative apparatus, of which 10,328

have started work while 9,207 others have joined but they are under various stages of induction under Ministries of Education, Health, Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

Private sector

In the private sector, 8,562 Omanis were employed by replacing expatriates, out of a total of 28,081 new contracts registered in the private sector for Omanis between January and September 30. Among them 63 per cent were males and 36.3 per cent were females.

Regarding the number of expatriate workers in the private

sector, the ministry's report indicated that the Sultanate witnessed a decrease in the number of expatriate contracts in the current year by 7.5 per cent in all the governorates. The number of expatriate workers until the end of September 2020 had reached 14,49,406, while the number declined to 1,339,136 this year.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labour is also conducting a number of tests for job seekers having various academic qualifications at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences in Salalah for 37 vacant jobs. The jobs are in various departments and sections of the Dhofar Municipality.

UNESCO'S LISTING

Omani navigator among influential world personalities



MUSCAT: A number of academics and researchers of Oman's history have praised the UNESCO's listing of Omani navigator Ahmed bin Majid to the list of influential world personalities.

The listing, which coincides with the 600th birthday of the Omani navigator, will be recognised during a UNESCO's International Programme of celebration of historic events and influential persons.

Ahmed bin Majid will be the sixth Omani personality on the International Programme. The listing of his name also reflects the great role he has played since

long in navigating across the seas and oceans in order to communicate with the people and cultures of the world.

Dr Ahmed bin Saif Al Hamami, the Sultanate's Permanent Representative to the UNESCO, expressed his congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the government and the people of Oman on incorporating the name of Omani navigator in the list of most influential personalities, worldwide, during the UNESCO General Conference, which also coincides with the celebrations of the 51st National Day.

>A4

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Himam Trail run

1 Over 420 runners from 30 countries will take on Himam Trail challenge. >A4

WORLD

Biden, Xi summit

2 The presidents of China and US to hold a virtual meeting this week. >A7

MARKET

Oman-India business

3 A round-table held on Oman, India trade and investment avenues. >B2



Sayyid Badr visits Oman's pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai

A2

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OMAN

PRAYER TIMINGS



Dhuhr.....	11:56pm
Asr.....	3:05pm
Maghrib.....	5:27pm
Isha.....	6:40pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:03am

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SAYYID BADR VISITS OMAN'S PAVILION IN DUBAI

Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Minister of Foreign Affairs visited the Sultanate of Oman's pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai on Saturday. During his visit, Sayyid Badr was briefed on the components that the exhibition embodies and represents Oman's cultural and historical heritage through different times. — ONA



Oman pavilion highlights glorious civilisation

DUBAI: Oman's civilisation is embodied in portraits throughout the ages highlighting its visions and realities. This civilisation advances from the interaction that has shaped the vision of Omanis throughout history represented in preserving their cultural and social identity.

The observer of this civilization will find that it is the product of collective thinking of a society that has established solid foundations from which it presses ahead in all directions, to be actively present and astonishing to the tracker of its path.

Within the framework of partnership, understanding and exchange at all spheres, the Oman pavilion continues to participate in Expo 2020 Dubai. It sheds light on diverse stories of sustainability starting from connecting minds to creating opportunities for the future, which are identical to the key themes of the Expo 2020 Dubai.

The striking design of the Omani pavilion is inspired by the frankincense tree (boswellia sacra tree). It was designed by two Omani young women; Rehab Al Zakwani and Alyaa Al Batashi, who developed touches representing an addition to the achievements made by the Omani youth in Oman. The external spaces surrounding the pavilion host ten Omani frankincense trees, which were protected by the Oman Botanic Garden in 2013 after being threatened by one of the road extensions in Hasik, in the southern part of Sultanate of Oman. These natural trees are planted in a panoramic landscape view, and they will be returned to the garden after the expo.

The Omani pavilion begins with narrating to the visitors the life of frankincense tree as the story of the pavilion.

The pavilion seeks to highlight four key themes namely sustainability, fostering talents, communication and knowledge. The pavilion consists of two floors: the ground floor (the mother tree), where the visitor is at a real-life meeting with the electromechanical design of the tree, which is centred in the middle of the hall, mimicking the exact details of the natural tree and symbolizing many physical, emotional and spiritual meanings as well as its various practical uses.

On the perimeter wall, a panoramic screen shows the story of Omani frankincense from Wadi Douka and its journey via the world's various civilizations

through times (trade in the Arabian Peninsula, mummification in ancient Egypt, Christian prayers in the Old Testament and traditional Chinese medicine), in line with the key theme of Expo 2020 Dubai, Connecting Minds.

On the first floor, the Growth Hall "The Forest of Sustainability", visitors walk through a virtual forest of frankincense trees made from transparent display screens used to showcase eight different and sustainability stories in Oman. The stories are about projects of sustainable dimension namely the Million Date Palm Plantation Project, the use of drone techniques for pollination and fish farming, the use of Internet of Things (IoT) technology to feed fish, renewable energy and wind energy project in Dhofar, sustainable cities, environmental conservation, waste management, the Oman Botanic Garden, and the marvellous and unique diversity of terrains in the Sultanate of Oman.

The first floor themed the Harvest Hall, displays the methods adopted by Sultanate of Oman in fostering talents and resources, the transfer of skills and knowledge between generations and disciplines. It also highlights new ideas and opportunities to create a vibrant society.

The first floor of the pavilion is a modern and active area with a focus laid on people through the use of display screens that resemble frankincense crystals telling stories about Oman's knowledge-based economy, such as An Omani scholar specialising in antiquity who talks about frankincense, music, creative industries, women in the higher fields, nascent Omani companies and Sultan Qaboos academic chairs.

The first floor also hosts the Hall of Trade, which is about a journey through time and space, starting from a display on the wall of an ancient port (Al Baleed site) for the export of frankincense till reaching Oman's future vision. The hall shows activities of trans-

Probe begins on causes of camel deaths

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources with the help of Sultan Qaboos University and the Veterinary Services at the Affairs of the Royal Court, completed procedures to investigate the causes of sudden camel deaths in the Dhofar Governorate.

The team of specialised veterinarians examined the camels and took the necessary samples of fodder, water and blood for laboratory analysis.

The team also dissected a number of infected camels that were donated by the citizens of the area to conduct further research and investigation into the causes that led to the death of the camels. — ONA





SMARTEN UP DRIVE SAFE



A TIMES OF OMAN HANDS-FREE DRIVING INITIATIVE



شركة مطاحن الدقيق عوماني



REF: OFM/TD-02-2021
SCRAP SELL

Oman Flour Mills SAOG, (OFM) invites specialize vendor to participate in our tender for the "Scrap sell" as per the scope of work and specifications.

Tender Ref no.	OFM/ADM-01/2021
Tender subject	Scrap sell
Tender fee	RO.100/- (refundable)
Date for Visit location	16.11.2021 + 17.11.2021
Closing date of the tender	25.11.2021
Mode of payment of tender fee	By cash – Finance dept.
For communication	Mr. Mohamed Al Balushi # 93912022 Mr. Ullas # 99857234

Vendor selection will be based on "BEST and FINAL OFFER" process, please provide the contact details of the authorized person for final discussions.

Interested parties need to submit the bids separately in a sealed envelope with our ref. no duly mentioned and drop them at the tender box of our Atyab Investment Building



omanflourmills | Oman Flour Mills



مطارات عُمان Oman Airports

FLOATING TENDERS

Oman Airports Company announces the following tenders:

Tender REF.NO	TENDER TITLE	DOC'S FEE OMR	Last date for DOC'S DISTRIBUTION	TENDER SUBMISSION DATE
ITC- 211102	Supply Of Low Voltage Electrical Consumables For Oman Airports.(Call off contract)	100	22 nd November 2021	20 th January 2022
ITC- 211103	Supply of Fire Detection and Alarm System (FDAS) Consumables (Notifier Brand) for Oman Airports.(Call off contract)	500	22 nd November 2021	20 th January 2022
ITC- 211104	Supply of Consumables for Civil Maintenance Works for Oman Airports.(Call off contract)	100	22 nd November 2021	20 th January 2022
ITC- 211105	Supply of Air-conditioning Consumables for Oman Airports.(Call off contract)	100	22 nd November 2021	20 th January 2022
ITC- 211106	Supply of Vehicle Consumables For Oman Airports.(Call of contract)	100	22 nd November 2021	20 th January 2022
ITC-211002	Provision of Cleaning Services, Pest Control, Waste Management, Internal Plants Landscaping And Business Support Services For Duqm Airport.	500	22 nd November 2021	13 th December 2021

Tenders Collection: Specialized companies may obtain Tender Documents/ Specifications from Procurement Department upon receipt of complete payment of tender fees by Cash Transfer/deposit into below OAMC bank account and submittal of clear scanned copy of deposit Receipt along with a copy of Company Commercial Registration Certificate to Email: (**FinanceTenders@omanairports.com**) provided with company name, tender number & contact person as a mandatory.

OAMC Bank Account Details:
Account Name: Oman Airports Management Co.S.A.O.C.
Account No: 0423010849180012
Name of Bank: BANK MUSCAT
Branch: Corporate Branch, CBD Area, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
SWIFT Code: BMUSOMRX

Required Bond: All participating Companies must provide a bank guarantee, issued by locally registered bank, for the sum of not less than 1% of the Tender value, addressed to the Chairman of the Internal Tender Committee, valid for 90 days from the date of submission of the Tenders.

Submission: All bids shall be submitted as per mentioned instructions in the tender documents and late bids will not be entertained.

All Technical Queries shall be sent to:
oamctenders@omanairports.com

The committee is not bound to accept the lowest tender.
Any payment received after last date of documents distribution will not be refunded

Headquarter Address:
Muscat International Airport
South Forecourt Building, First Floor
Oman Airports Management S.A.O.C
Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

Note: All Correspondence / Clarification / Enquiries send an e-mail:
oamctenders@omanairports.com

THE ORDER OF THE RISING SUN, GOLD AND SILVER



Japanese honour for Al-Maskri

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Embassy of Japan in the Sultanate of Oman hosted on November 10, 2021 at the Ambassador's residence a ceremony to confer "The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star" on Salem Nasser Al-Maskri, former Secretary General of the Higher Education Council of the Sultanate of Oman.

The conferment ceremony was attended by a number of senior officials and dignitaries. Kobayashi Toshinori, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Sultanate of Oman conferred the Order on Al-Maskri on behalf

of the Government of Japan.

The Government of Japan announced on November 3, 2020 the conferment of the Order on Al-Maskri in recognition of his outstanding contributions to promoting friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and the Sultanate of Oman in the field of education, particularly academic exchange. The long-awaited conferment ceremony was finally realised after a delay of a year due to concerns over the coronavirus.

The Order of the Rising Sun, one of the prestigious decorations in Japan, was introduced in 1875.

UNESCO

<FROM> A1 Omani navigator

He said that the incorporation of such personalities comes after the respective country prepares a full dossier, which is verified by a number of experts, following which the dossier is examined by the Executive Council of the Unesco for approval. However, the approval of the dossier by the Unesco General Conference is a final step. Academic

and researcher Dr. Mohammed bin Hamad Al Shua'ili, member of the State Council said in a statement to ONA that Oman is rich in cultural heritage in various fields, mainly in the maritime field. Oman has introduced to the international community influential personalities with remarkable contributions and achievements, he said. — ONA

Over 420 runners to take on Himam Trail challenge

The race is set to start in front of the Bait Al Rudaydah Castle in Birkat Al Mouz on 3 December

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The countdown to the 2nd edition of the Himam Trail Run Race is on with over 420 runners from 30 countries preparing for a challenge that will put their trail running and endurance skills to the test.

Taking centre stage in Nizwa on 3 December, the race is set to start in front of the Bait Al Rudaydah Castle in Birkat Al Mouz, where trail running enthusiasts and professionals will run one of three distances, 70km, 35km or 20km in a route across Jabal Akhdar.

The ultimate 70km challenge is the most technical, presenting athletes with a daunting elevation of 2,210m. The race then covers relatively flat ground to Wadi Al Mauydaen towards the middle point, Wadi Bani Habib, before starting the descent back to Birkat Al Mouz through Sayq and Sallut.

The distance is certified by the International Trail Running Association (ITRA), and is worth three ITRA points to each finisher. The first runner to finish the course will receive a prize of OMR500, OMR300 for second and OMR150 for third.

The first female finisher will receive OMR150 and all runners completing the course within 18 hours will receive a medal.

The 2nd distance is an intermediate course that offers a carefully-considered route of 35km offering



RECOGNISED: The distance is certified by the International Trail Running Association (ITRA), and is worth three ITRA points to each finisher.



a variety of terrains and a comfortable descent to the finish line.

The race follows the same route as the beginners' race to the village of Al Muaydin and then climbs to reach Masirat Al Rawajih, a total elevation of 1,050m before turning back and finishing in Birkat Al Mouz. All runners finishing within the eight-hour time limit will receive a medal.

The third distance is beginners' race which has been designed for newcomers to trail running and runners aged 16 and over.

The course covers 20km and an elevation of 350m through the old

town of Birkat Al Mouz and lush date plantations nearby before following a wide wadi towards the mountains and passing through Tawi Saddah and the village of Al Muaydin before turning back towards Birkat Al Mouz.

All races begin at 6.15am on Friday 3 December 2021. It is recommended that runners seek accommodation within the area. A number of options are available and the organisers have negotiated preferential rates for registered Himam Trail Run Race runners.

The Himam Trail Run Race is organised by Al Sahwa Team, un-



der the umbrella of Nizwa Club. The event is also supported by Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) as main partner, Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, Oman Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, and the Authority for SME Development (Riyada).

The event will operate in accordance to the latest safety procedures as per guidance from the Ministry of Health and Supreme Committee. Masks are mandatory for spectators while in the start/finish areas and during the closing ceremony.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

TENDER NOTICE

The Internal Tender Committee at the Ministry of Interior announces the following tenders:

S.N.	Tender No.	Tender Description	Last date for obtaining of tender documents	Last date of bid submission	Tender Document's fee
1	04/2021	Cleaning of the two Hospitality Buildings in Al Khuwair and Al Watteyah for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
2	05/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at Al Buraimi Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
3	06/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at North Al Batinah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
4	07/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at South Al Batinah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
5	08/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at Al Dakhiliyah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
6	09/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at Al Dhahirah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
7	10/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at South Al Sharqiyah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
8	11/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at North Al Sharqiyah Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
9	12/2021	Cleaning of the offices of the Walis and their deputies in their respective Neyabats and the buildings of the Conciliation & Reconcile Committee at Al Wusta Governorate for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
10	13/2021	Maintenance and repair of the central air conditioning system, split and window units for the Ministry's building No. (2) for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-
11	14/2021	Maintenance, cleaning, arranging and irrigation of the gardens of the Ministry's General Office in Al Khuwair for the year 2022	09/12/2021	16/12/2021	RO 25/-

Interested companies/establishments specialized in the above-mentioned works and registered with the Tender Board may obtain the tender documents of terms and specifications from the Services & Procurement Department (Services Section) at the premises of the Ministry in Al Khuwair, during official working hours, against payment of the above-mentioned fees starting from Sunday 14/11/2021.

Bidders shall enclose an interim warranty in the form of a bank guarantee/cheque, approved by a locally registered bank at 1% of the bid value, addressed to the Ministry of Interior, and valid for 90 days from the date of bid submission. Any bid not meeting the required conditions shall not be considered.

Bids shall be submitted, duly signed and stamped, in closed envelopes sealed with red wax and addressed to the Chairman of the Internal Tender Committee at the Ministry of Interior, bearing the tender number and subject with no indication to the name of the bidder.

Bids shall be deposited in the tender box kept at the office of the Undersecretary of the Ministry at the premises of the Ministry in Al Khuwair, at 10 a.m. of the last date of bid submission stated above. Representatives of bidding companies/establishments have to attend the envelope opening at 11 a.m. on the last day of bid submission.

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

INTERNAL TENDER COMMITTEE

AL HAZM CASTLE:

A masterpiece of Islamic architecture

Al Hazm Castle in Rustaq is one of the most magnificent castles in Oman and was built in 1708, towards the end of the reign of Al Yarubi tribe over Oman when they made Al Rustaq the capital. It is about 160 km away from Muscat and is on UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites along with Al Rustaq Fort.

Though the castle was designed primarily for defence and security purposes, it features delicate artistic architectural elements. The most important feature of the main building of the castle is its intricate Indian wood door. The castle also has a prison, mosque and a religious classroom. There is also a falaj that runs underneath the castle and provides vital water to many date trees and other agricultural

treasures in the area. Al Hazm Castle stands as a solid reminder of Oman's proud history and enduring heritage.

According to Oman's Ministry

of Tourism the castle is a masterpiece of Islamic architecture as it does not contain any ceiling rafters. Instead, the roofs are held up by columns. "The width of each wall is no less than three metres, and this castle, with its fortified towers and cannon openings in the upper storeys, was built so that its various entrances were not located opposite each other."

Over 90 per cent of the Al Hazm Castle maintenance work in the Wilayat of Rustaq has been completed. The completion rate of the Al Hazm Castle maintenance work in the Wilayat of Rustaq in the South Al Batinah Governorate, which was implemented by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, has reached 95 per cent," Oman News Agency (ONA) recently said in a statement.



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SOO CHAI

New Sri Lanka’s tea brand launched

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the Sultanate of Oman, Ameer Ajwad launched a new brand of Ceylon Masala Tea, ‘Soo Chai’ at the auditorium of the National Bank of Oman (NBO) in Muscat on 10 November, 2021.

Ceylon masala tea named ‘Soo Chai’, is a product of Soo Group (Pvt) Ltd in Sri Lanka which includes premium quality blend of Ceylon tea combined with high quality Ceylon spices with over 10 natural health boosting ingredients.

Soo Chai is the first-ever of its kind in the market of masala tea



products and offers a unique twist to the masala tea industry with spices such as cardamom, cinnamon, clove, star anise, nutmeg, peppercorns, ginger, turmeric and cumin.

Shan Abeywardena, Managing

Director of Soo Group (Pvt) Ltd introduced the new brand ‘Soo Chai’ by highlighting its health benefits during the launch. NBO General Manager Tariq Atiq and high ranking officials of the

bank including the Head of Sales and Business Development G V Ramakrishna participated at the launch. Soo Chai masala tea was served by the Co-partner of Soo Group Shezna Sumanadeera among the guests.

The Embassy of Sri Lanka organised meetings between the entrepreneurs of Soo Group (Pvt) Ltd and the management of prominent hypermarket chains and hotels in Oman with a view to promoting this new Sri Lankan product in the Omani market. The product attracted a huge interest among the prospective importers and masala tea fans.

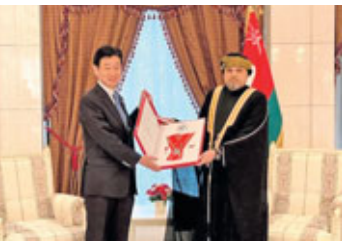
OMAN CIVIL ORDER

HM order for Japan personalities

TOKYO: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has conferred Oman Civil Order (Second Class) to a number of Japanese personalities.

The Japanese personalities are Taro Kono, Yasutoshi Nishimura, and Seichiro Ito, in appreciation from His Majesty the Sultan for their efforts and contributions for boosting bilateral relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Japan in various spheres.

The orders were given away by Dr. Mohammed bin Said Al Bu-



saidi, the Sultanate’s ambassador accredited to Japan during a reception organised on the premises of the Sultanate’s embassy in Tokyo.—**ONA**



MUSCAT MUNICIPALITY

Advertisement No. 50 /2021

specialized Companies in the field of tender shown below and registered with Tender Board, may obtain tender documents from the website through the following link: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) against non-refundable fees until the end of deadline stipulated below.

Tender No	No E- Tender	Description of Tender	Tender Fee	Last date to collect the tender	Tender return date	Grade
PRE/21/061	2021/MM/QS-30	Supply & Fixing Kiosk in Wilayat A'Seeb (E- Tender)	Rial 25	09/12/2021	23/12/2021	Specialized
PRE/21/072	2021/MM/QS-31	Replacing Of Damaged Gantry Signs In Various Locations In Muscat Area (Re Call) (E- Tender)	Rial 25	09/12/2021	23/12/2021	Specialized
PRE/21/091	2021/MM/QS-32	Supply of Safety Barriers (E- Tender)	Rial 25	25/11/2021	05/12/2021	Specialized
PRE/21/092	2021/MM/QS-33	Supply of Spare Parts for Road Marking Machines (E- Tender)	Rial 25	09/12/2021	23/12/2021	Specialized

Tender Conditions :-

1- Bidders shall submit their offers electronically accompanied with an electronic copy of abond issued by any local bank in Oman addressed to Muscat municipality. The bond shall be (1%) of the tender value valid for ninety (90) days starting from the date of bids submission. Any tenders which do not meet the required bond shall not be accepted.

2- Tender Bonds shall be placed in the Tender Bond Box for E-Tendering in the Ground floor at Muscat Municipality Building, Ruwi, before 10:00 am as per the date Mentioned in the above table. All envelopes are to be clearly marked with the name of the Tender being presented and no other marks.

3- For any inquiries regarding tenders, please visit e-tendering website: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) .

4- For technical support of e-tendering system please send an email to (etenderhd@mtcit.gov.om) or call (+96824402200).

Website: www.mm.gov.om



Electronic Tender (s)

Majan Electricity Co. (SAOC) Announces the Following E-Tender

Tender NO	Description	Grade	Last date for buying	Submission date	Tender price (including 5% VAT) R.O.
128/2021	SUPPLY, DESIGN, INSTALLATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTACT CENTRE FEATURE ENHANCEMENT, LICENSES AND IP PHONES	Specialist	21/11/2021	30/11/2021	26/300
129/2021	11 KV NETWORK INTERLINKING AND SECTIONALIZING AT VARIOUS LOCATION IN SAHAM & KHABOURAH AREA AT NORTH AL BATINAH GOVERNORATEA	C	21/11/2021	30/11/2021	26/300
130/2021	NEW 11KV OUTGOING FEEDERS FROM AL HUJRA PSS PHASE 3 AT SOHAR NORTH BATINAH GOVERNORATE	C	23/11/2021	30/11/2021	26/300
131/2021	SUPPLY AND IMPLEMENT AND CONFIGURE ON-PREMISES SHAREPOINT AND BUSINESS PROCESS WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	Specialist	22/11/2021	30/11/2021	26/300
132/2021	SUPPLY OF CAPACITOR BANK 3MVAR, 11.5KV FOR MAJAN STORE.	Specialist	23/11/2021	30/11/2021	26/300

Interested Firm having relevant experience in the similar nature of services and registered with Tender Board and Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) for electrical work, may register and obtain the tender documents from E-Tendering Site <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against online payment of non-refundable fees mentioned above for each tender.

The Tenderers should enclose a copy of Bank Guarantee issued by any registered bank in the Sultanate of Oman for a value of (1%) of the submitted bid value valid for a period of (90) days from the date of Submission, and addressed to The Chairman of the Tender Committee .The original Bid Bond to be delivered in sealed envelope, and the tender number and title of project only are to be mentioned on the envelopes. The place of submission the original bond would be at MJEC Contracts & tenders office at MJEC building in AL Sawari Center in Sohar or at MJEC Contracts & tenders office at Muscat in Al Mubailah- opposite to the industrial Area beside to Bank Suhar ,before 10 A.M. according to the assigned date of submission of the tender. Any Submission of original tender bond after the time and date mentioned in the advertisement will not be accepted and tenderer offer will be rejected.

The Completed signed and sealed commercial and technical offer with all tender documents should be submitted and uploaded online into the above mentioned E-Tendering website .The Hard copies of the tender document are not accepted. The bidder must submit a separate envelopes electronically for technical and financial proposal

For more information please contact Tel no.:24051501- 26944266
For any technical assistance please contact
Helpdesk: +968-24402200.
E-mail: etenderhd@ita.gov.om

Preference of awarding the tender will be given to those bidders who achieved a high percentage of purchasing from Local Products & and have a High level percentage of Omanization.

The Company is not bound to consent the lowest Bid or any other Tenders.

“WITH ELECTRICITY WE PROGRESS PLEASE AVOID EXTRAVAGANCE IN CONSUMPTION”



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WORLD



CONSERVATORSHIP ENDS

Britney’s conservatorship terminated after 13 years

WASHINGTON : Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Brenda Penny freed pop star Britney Spears from the conservatorship of her father James Spears during a court hearing, Sputnik citing NBC News reported.

The judge ended the 13-year conservatorship that allowed James Spears to make her professional, social and financial decisions. According to CNN, Britney Spears’ attorney held a news conference following the termination of her conservatorship today after a ruling from Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Brenda Penny.

“As of today, effective immediately, the conservatorship has been terminated as to both the person and the estate,” attorney Mathew Rosengart said outside the courthouse. “This is a monumental day for Britney Spears.”

In September, Spears’ father, Jamie Spears, was suspended from her conservatorship, reported Variety.

Britney’s conservatorship began in 2008 after the singer had several mental breakdowns publicly. Her father Jamie Spears served

as both a conservator of her estate and person for more than a decade, but, in 2019, he temporarily stepped down as manager of her person due to his own health issues.

Earlier this year, Britney and her lawyer filed the official court petition to request the removal of Jamie as conservator of the songstress’ estate. **ow**



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NOTICE FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The Board of Directors of Dhofar University (S.O.A.C) is pleased to invite the shareholders of the company to attend the seventeenth Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the company (AGM) to be held on Sunday, 28 November 2021 at 1:00 PM via the electronic platform for holding AGM's, which can be accessed from the website of Muscat Clearing and Depository Co. (www.mcd.gov.om). If the quorum is not present to convene the AGM, a second meeting will be held on Monday, 29 November 2021 at 01:00 pm. Agenda of the valid meeting will be as follow:

AGM Agenda

- To consider and approve the board of directors' report on the activities of the company and its financial status during financial year ended on 31 August 2021.
- To consider and approve the board of director's report on the organization and management of the company, during the financial year ended on 31 August 2021.
- To consider and approve the auditor's report on the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended on 31 August 2021.
- To consider the transactions entered into by the Company with related parties during the financial year ended on 31 August 2021.
- To appoint the Auditor for the new financial year ended 31st August 2022, and determining his fees.

As per the Articles of Association of the company and the MOCI's guidelines of holding AGM's for SAOC companies via electronic means defined by ministerial decree number 65/2020 , please be advised of the following

- A legal person only has the right to appoint a natural person to attend the AGM and vote on decisions taken on his behalf via electronic means. This natural person must have an ID issued by Muscat Clearing and Depository Company SAOC.
- Shareholders have the right to vote on any of the items of the agenda starts no earlier than 3 days from the date of holding the AGM. In case the shares owned by a shareholder changed (increased/decreased), the vote shall be void and a new vote needs to be made on the day of the AGM.

In case of any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Legal Advisor Mr. Mohammed Abbas, Tel. No.: 23237108, GSM: 94043168

Regards,

Chairman

Legal Advisor

External Auditor

EXPLOSION

Explosion hits bus on busy road in Kabul

KABUL: An explosion struck a bus on a busy road in the western part of Afghanistan's capital Kabul on Saturday, Xinhua reported citing an eyewitness.

“We heard a huge blast in the minibus carrying commuters in Mahtab Qala locality of Dashti Bari area. The whole place has now been sealed off by the Taliban's security forces,” an eyewitness told Xinhua. **ANI**



Announcement

As the end of the fiscal year approaches, the Ministry of social development would like to notify all companies, institutions and individuals to submit their financial claims by 02/12/2021.

The Ministry is not responsible for delays in the payment of such claims submitted after the date mentioned above.

We thank you for adhering to our request; your cooperation is much appreciated.

www.mosd.gov.om

COVID CASES

China’s latest COVID resurgence spreads to 21 provinces

BEIJING: The latest COVID-19 resurgence in China had spread to 21 provincial-level regions as of Saturday, where new locally transmitted cases or asymptomatic carriers were reported during the past few days, a health official said Saturday.

With the number of COVID-19 cases surpassing 250 million worldwide, the country is facing greater challenges of preventing inbound cases, said Mi Feng, a spokesperson for the National Health Commission, at a press conference.

The country is also facing the risk of infectious respiratory illnesses brought about by low temperature, noted Mi, adding that risks are doubled under such circumstances. **ANI**



Muscat Gases Company SAOG

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COMPANY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Shareholders,

We would like to present to you the unaudited consolidated financial statements for the period ended 30th September 2021.

At the group level, the total turnover of the Company for the period ended 30th September 2021 is 12.294 million OMR compared with 11.868 million OMR for the same period of the last year, i.e. an increase of 4% mainly due to increase in the export and local bulk sales.

The parent Company's total turnover for the period ended 30th September 2021 is 11.527 million OMR compared with 11.868 million OMR for the same period of last year, i.e. a decrease of 3% mainly due to decrease in the project sales.

At the group level, we made a net profit after tax of 193,648 OMR for the period ended 30th September 2021, compared with 152,640 OMR for the same period of the last year, i.e. an increase of 27% mainly due to increase in the export and local bulk sales.

The parent Company's net profit after tax for the period ended 30th September 2021 is 110,911 OMR compared with 152,640 OMR for the same period of the last year, i.e. a decrease of 27% mainly due to decrease in the project sales.

The Management is focusing on the enhancement of LPG business to yield better results in the coming period and the Company will put all its efforts to maximise the shareholders return.

Thanking you,

Engr. Omar Ahmed Salim Qatan
Chairman

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

	30 September 2021		30 September 2020	
	Parent RO	Group RO	Parent RO	Group RO
ASSETS				
Non-current Assets:				
Property, plant and equipment	2,671,138	3,034,871	3,246,147	3,246,147
Right of use assets	218,450	218,450	247,128	247,128
Investment	1,404,000	-	-	-
Goodwill	-	996,800	-	-
Trade Receivable	437,346	437,346	583,128	583,128
Total Non-current Assets	4,730,934	4,687,467	4,076,403	4,076,403
Current Assets:				
Inventories	1,361,433	1,383,689	213,135	213,135
Trade and other receivables	2,070,738	2,103,050	1,795,558	1,795,558
Cash and cash equivalents	2,442,555	2,520,171	2,089,389	2,089,389
Available for sale investment	-	-	1,757,182	1,757,182
Total Current Assets	5,874,726	6,006,910	5,855,264	5,855,264
TOTAL ASSETS	10,605,660	10,694,377	9,931,667	9,931,667
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity:				
Share capital	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Statutory reserve	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Special reserve	1,457,067	1,457,067	1,457,067	1,457,067
Land revaluation reserve	753,887	753,887	1,110,887	1,110,887
Retained earnings	112,639	195,376	173,897	173,897
Total Equity	6,323,593	6,406,330	6,741,851	6,741,851
Non-current Liabilities:				
End of service benefits	66,365	67,091	57,515	57,515
Non current portion of Term Loan	561,797	561,797	799,075	799,075
Non current portion of lease liabilities	221,794	221,794	246,299	246,299
Deferred tax	148,520	148,520	195,624	195,624
Total Non-current Liabilities	998,476	999,202	1,298,513	1,298,513
Current Liabilities:				
Trade and other payables	2,861,284	2,851,937	1,586,686	1,586,686
Dividend payable	-	-	-	-
Bank overdraft	331,464	331,464	208,874	208,874
Current portion of Term Loan	52,740	52,740	63,079	63,079
Current portion of lease liabilities	6,128	6,128	5,727	5,727
Income Tax	31,975	46,576	26,937	26,937
Total Current Liabilities	3,283,591	3,288,845	1,891,303	1,891,303
Total Liabilities	4,282,067	4,288,047	3,189,816	3,189,816
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	10,605,660	10,694,377	9,931,667	9,931,667
Net Assets Per Share (RO)	0.211	0.214	0.225	0.225

Note: The complete account will be sent by email to any shareholders who request them in either Arabic or English as requested within 7 days of the request.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	2021		2020	
	Parent RO	Group RO	Parent RO	Group RO
Revenue	11,527,249	12,293,680	11,868,440	11,868,440
Cost of sales	(10,897,941)	(11,560,487)	(11,081,229)	(11,081,229)
Gross Profit	629,308	733,193	787,211	787,211
General and administration expenses	(612,001)	(618,548)	(595,850)	(595,850)
Investment and Other Income	113,176	113,176	80,426	80,426
Profit share from UIGC	-	-	(92,210)	(92,210)
Profit for the period before tax	130,483	227,821	179,577	179,577
Provision for Income tax	(19,572)	(34,173)	(26,937)	(26,937)
Net Profit for the period after tax	110,911	193,648	152,640	152,640
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	110,911	193,648	152,640	152,640
Earnings per share	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.005

Biden, Xi to hold bilateral summit

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told reporters on Friday that the US relationship with China was very important

BEIJING: China's President Xi Jinping and US President Joe Biden will hold a virtual meeting at the beginning of the week, the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced on Saturday.

The White House first released a statement on the meeting on Friday, saying the two leaders would discuss ways "to responsibly manage" bilateral competition and "to work together where our interests align" on Monday night in Washington/ Tuesday morning in Beijing.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told reporters on Friday



VIRTUAL MEETING: China and the US have recently made overtures for future cooperation, with China announcing a climate pact with the US on November 10.



that the US relationship with China was among the most its consequential. White House press secretary said she "wouldn't set the expectation...that this [meeting] is intended to have major deliverables or outcomes."

Overtures for future
China and the US have recently made overtures for future cooperation, with China announcing a climate pact with the US on November 10. However, tensions over Taiwan and trade remain points of

concern for both leaders.

The White House statement added that Biden would be clear about US intentions and "concerns with the PRC."

Climate cooperation

On November 10, China's climate envoy Xie Zhenhua announced an ambitious climate pact with the US. Zhenhua made the announcement at the UN climate summit in Glasgow. Though scant on details for now, the deal reflects a commitment by the two economic rivals to brush aside differences and cooperate on areas of mutual interest.

In a joint statement, Beijing and Washington also agreed to meet regularly to address climate issues.

The pact came after Biden criticized Xi for his lack of leadership in tackling climate change. The Chinese leader did not attend the COP26 climate conference, drawing widespread criticism from world leaders since his country is the world's biggest carbon polluter.

The US and China are the world's top two greenhouse gas emitters — accounting for around 40% of global emissions.

Growing tensions
Tensions have been rising between the United States and China over the democratically governed island of Taiwan.

China sees Taiwan as part of its own territory, destined for eventual reunification with the mainland by force, if necessary.

Biden earlier in October said his country had a "commitment to defend" Taiwan, which US officials later walked back since it broke with the US position of maintaining "strategic ambiguity" when it came to Taiwan.

Biden's comments came after China sent a record number of military jets into Taiwan's air defense zone for four consecutive days, raising tensions between the two.

Biden had also added that he didn't want "a cold war with China," when he made comments about defending Taiwan as it faced growing military pressure from Beijing. On November 10, Xi warned against a return to Cold War-era tensions in the Asia-Pacific.

"Attempts to draw ideological lines or form small circles on geopolitical grounds are bound to fail," the Chinese leader told leaders at a virtual economic and trade conference hosted by New Zealand. Biden was also present at the conference.

"The Asia-Pacific region cannot and should not relapse into the confrontation and divisions of the Cold War era," Xi added. **mw**

5.1 MILLION SHARES SOLD

Elon Musk sells nearly \$7 billion worth of Tesla shares



CALIFORNIA: Tesla CEO Elon Musk has offloaded a combined \$6.9 billion (€6.03 billion) worth of stock in the electric car company, regulatory filings showed Friday.

Musk, who is the world's richest person and Tesla's top shareholder, promised last weekend that he would sell 10% of his shares if his Twitter followers approved the move.

The billionaire has taken advantage of a meteoric rally in Tesla's stock price that has helped the firm's value more than double since June, surpassing \$1 trillion.

On Friday, new filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission showed that Musk had sold about 640,000 shares for roughly \$687.3 million.

Earlier this week, he sold about 5.1 million shares worth about \$5.69 billion.

He now needs to offload about 10 million more shares to fulfill his pledge to sell 10% of his holdings.

Musk faces huge tax bill
Musk sold the shares to pay what's expected to be a hefty tax bill on stock options granted by Tesla in September.

"I only have stock, thus the only way for me to pay taxes personally is to sell stock," he had said. Tesla does not pay him a cash salary.

The options are part of a compensation package agreed on in 2018 that provided the CEO with shares if Tesla hit certain financial targets.

Musk still owns about 167.5 million shares, just under 17% of the company, according to the SEC filings and data provider FactSet.

Musk's tweet prompted heavy selling in the stock this week. Tesla's shares fell for four out of five days, sliding a total of 15%.

The market value lost this week, some \$187 billion, is more than the combined market capitalizations of Ford Motor Co and

General Motors Co.

Cashing out at the most opportune time
By getting Twitter users to greenlight the sales, Musk has blunted potential criticism of cashing out at a time when Tesla's valuation has become frothy and shares are at record highs.

Regulatory filings showed the tech entrepreneur had initiated the sale of at least some of these shares ahead of the Twitter poll. Tesla remains the world's most valuable automaker and Musk is the wealthiest person in the world, according to Forbes, with a net worth of around \$278.7 billion.

The share sale came in the same week as Tesla's competitor Rivian Automotive Inc. made its market debut.

The electric carmaker rocketed to a \$86 billion market value despite having no revenue, in another sign of the current stock market euphoria. **mw**

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Mohamed bin Zayed receives US National Security Council Coordinator for MENA region

ABU DHABI: Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, on Friday, received National Security Council Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa, Brett McGurk and his delegation, at Al Shati Palace.

During the meeting, they discussed the strategic cooperation and joint coordination between the UAE and the United States (US) and ways to enhance them at all levels in the best interests of the two countries. His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed and McGurk exchanged views on the overall issues and topics of mutual interest, particularly the latest developments in the Middle East and joint work to enhance pillars of security, peace and stability in the region. The US delegation included Robert Malley, Special Envoy for Iran, and several senior officials.

Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed Al Nahyan, National Security Adviser; Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan; Sheikh Mo-



ammed bin Hamad bin Tahnoun Al Nahyan, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Airports Board of Directors, and Yousef Manea Al Otaiba, UAE Ambassador to the United States, attended the meeting.

Earlier, Sheikh Mohamed received a US Congress delegation led by Senator Ben Cardin.

Sheikh Mohamed welcomed their visit to the UAE and pointed at the significance of such visits to exchange views and thoughts regarding various issues of mutual interest, especially the Middle East issues.

He discussed with the Congress

delegation friendship ties and cooperation between the UAE and the US in various domains and ways to promote them for the benefit of the two friendly countries.

The parties also tackled a number of issues, the latest developments in the Middle East and efforts to achieve peace and stability and issues of joint interest.

They also exchanged views regarding them, especially concerning initiatives to build bridges of understanding and dialogue to build confidence among the region's countries. **ANI**

CANDIDACY FILES

Daughter of Philippine President Duterte files her candidacy for 2022 Vice President elections

MANILA: Sara Duterte-Carpio, the daughter of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, on Saturday filed her candidacy for vice president in the May 2022 elections.

Carpio, 43, sent a representative to the Commission on Elections to file her candidacy as substitute vice presidential candidate under the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats (Lakas-CMD) that she joined earlier this

week. Carpio will be the running mate of presidential aspirant former Senator Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the son of former President Ferdinand Marcos.

In a resolution on Saturday, Marcos's party Partido Federal ng Pilipinas adopted and endorsed Carpio as its candidate for vice president in next year's elections.

This week, Carpio and Marcos stood as sponsors at a wedding of a

political ally's daughter.

The poll body allows the substitution of candidates for the 2022 elections until Nov. 15. Under the rules, substitution is accepted if a candidate dies, withdraws, or is disqualified by the poll body.

Carpio, the mayor of Duterte's hometown Davao City, is the top pick for president in the 2022 elections, according to several polling surveys. **ANI**

COVID CASES RISE

Germany records 50,000 COVID cases, 235 deaths in last 24 hrs

BERLIN: The COVID-19 situation in Germany continues to deteriorate, as the daily number of cases of the deadly infection has surpassed 50,000 once again.

The Robert Koch Institute (RKI), a German federal government agency and research institute responsible for disease control and prevention, said that 235 deaths related to COVID-19 have been registered in the last 24 hours. Germany's number of new cases per 100,000 people over the past week has now risen to 249.1, reported German broadcaster DW.

"The situation is serious and I recommend that everyone takes it as such," DW quoted Jens Spahn Health Minister as saying. He warned against the fourth

COVID-19 wave.

Germany needs to take the necessary steps to break the spread of another coronavirus wave.

According to DW, Lothar Wieler, Chief of Germany's Robert Koch Institute (RKI) for infectious diseases revealed that intensive care beds in some places are full. They further mentioned that the states of Saxony, Thuringia and Bavaria are the most affected by the fourth wave of infections.

Stringent measures to control COVID-19 spread will most likely wait until a meeting next Thursday between outgoing Chancellor Angela Merkel and the leaders of the 16 states.

DW quoted RKI as saying in a weekly report, "for larger events

to be cancelled where possible or avoided, and for all other non-essential contacts to be reduced."

2G policy to be introduced in Germany to curb the spread of COVID-19, stated Spahn. The term 2G in Germany is used in the context of an entry rule at public events or public places. As per the policy, entry of only two vaccinated or recovered individuals is allowed, who must be tested first.

Talking about the initiatives Germany will be taking in the wake of the rising COVID-19 cases, he mentioned that the country will commence free testing in the upcoming days, provide incentives to doctors, less public contact and preference to indoor meetings. **ANI**



Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Defence invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in the following tenders:

SUBJECT	TENDER NUMBER	LAST DATE FOR INQUIRIES	LAST DATE TO OBTAIN TENDER	TENDER DOCUMENT PRICE PER COPY RO.
SUPPLY OF OIL & LURICANTS	34/2021	13/12/2021	20/12/2021	750 RO
SUPPLY OF INDUSTRIAL GASES	35/2021	13/12/2021	20/12/2021	122 RO
SUPPLY OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES	29/2021	29/11/2021	06/12/2021	550 RO
SUPPLY OF PRINTING MACHINE	30/2021	06/12/2021	13/12/2021	515 RO

1. Tenders documents and terms may be obtained on payment from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, gate No. 14 of MAM Camp between 0900 to 1300 hrs on the working days.

2. Payment of Tender documents to be made by using of any Visa Electron Cards or "Visa credit" Cards or through Smart Card issued from all the banks are operated in Oman.



Upbeat Kiwis look to take flight against fearless Aussies

Both teams are eyeing a maiden T20 World Cup title and will go into the summit clash on the back of thrilling wins

DUBAI: Trans-Tasman rivals New Zealand and Australia will meet in the final of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup final on Sunday and while they are two contrasting units, it will be a battle of two highly equipped teams at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

It will be a rematch of the 2015 ODI World Cup final on Sunday and while Australia had thrashed New Zealand by seven wickets in the summit clash six-and-a-half years back, the Kiwis definitely hold the edge this time around thanks to their consistent showing in showpiece events in the last couple of years. Both teams are eyeing a maiden T20 World Cup title and will go into the summit clash on the back of thrilling wins. "We know that we have a final



AUSTRALIA VS NEW ZEALAND: Australia has nothing to lose as they walked into the tournament on the back of some not so quality performances against the likes of Bangladesh.

on Sunday, and whoever we're taking on should be good fun. We'll give it everything we've got, but at the end of the day there's certain things you can't control, so we'll see what happens," Daryl Mitchell

had said in the post-match press conference after his heroics against England in the first semi-final in Abu Dhabi.

On the other hand, Australia has nothing to lose as they walked

into the tournament on the back of some not so quality performances against the likes of Bangladesh. Not many had predicted that Australia will reach the semi-finals of the event, but then, the Aussies

love to rise to the challenge in big-ticket events.

The Aaron Finch-led side didn't start too well, but has gained momentum at the right time and are now looking to give their "absolute

best" against New Zealand. The thrashing at the hands of England at the start of the Super 12 encounters is a thing of the past as the Aussies put on a super show against Pakistan in the second semi-final to chase down 176 with six balls to spare. The hero undoubtedly was Matthew Wade and he has already rung the warning bells for the Kiwis.

"I feel like this (Pakistan) game was probably hard on nerves than maybe what the final will be because now we're in it. We've got nothing to lose. We're going to go out there, do our absolute best," said Australia batter Matthew Wade.

While these are two contrasting units, both are high on confidence after inspired shows in the semi-final games and it will all boil down to who manages to hold the nerves better in the summit clash.

New Zealand squad: Kane Williamson (c), Todd Astle, Trent Boult, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Martin Guptill, Kyle Jamieson, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Mitchell Santner, Tim Seifert, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee, Adam Milne.

Australia squad: Aaron Finch (c), Pat Cummins, Ashton Agar, Josh Hazlewood, Josh Inglis, Mitchell Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Kane Richardson, Steven Smith, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Stoinis, Matthew Wade, David Warner, Adam Zampa, Mitchell Swepson. **ANI**

EXCLUSIVE EVENING

Ras Al Hamra Boat Club hosts Italian Olympic gold medallist Caterina Banti

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ras Al Hamra Boat Club (RAHBC) welcomed Caterina Banti, gold medallist at Tokyo 2020 in the Nacra 17 class to Oman for an exclusive evening with the Italian and sailing communities in Oman.

The event was held under the patronage of Federica Favi, Ambassador of Italy to the Sultanate of Oman, and Dana Sarhani, RAHBC Commodore, and in partnership with the Italian Sailing Federation, Oman Sail, Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) and the Italian Embassy in Muscat at Sohar Gardens. Guest speakers included Dr Francesco Ettore, President of the Italian Sailing Federation, and Dr Khamis Al Jabri, CEO of Oman Sail.

The guests were warmly welcomed by Adel Foory, President of RAHRC and his team who manage the club and its 45 sections that are run primarily by volunteers since 1961.

Adel commented "We are proud of our sailing community who have navigated their way through the last few months and have kept their passion for sailing alive despite restrictions with courses and activities. They were the last



community to host an event in 2020 and the first community to host their RAHBC annual regatta when things reopened."

Dana Sarhani, RAHBC Commodore, said, "It is a great honour to welcome Caterina Banti to Oman and provide an opportunity for her to share her sailing experiences and achievements with Club members. We are equally honoured that Dr Ettore and Dr Al Jabri can share stories from their extensive maritime careers. Oman and Italy both have a deep affinity with the sea and sailing,

and we were able to hear firsthand their visions on the future of this sport and gather the views of those best placed in Oman to make these plans a reality."

Caterina Banti is the one of the most successful sailors in Italian history, winning gold at the 2018 Nacra 17 World Championships, and three gold medals at the Nacra 17 European Championships between 2017 and 2020. Her gold in Japan with teammate Ruggero Tita was Italy's fourth Olympic gold medal in sailing and the first since 2000. Guests were

enthralled by the story of her rise through the sport, the determination to qualify and how she coped with the postponement of the Games. Dr Ettore shared an insight into the strategy for a more inclusive and youth-orientated sport while Dr Al Jabri gave his perspective on sailing in Oman and the potential for Oman Sail to win a medal at future Olympic Games.

Other speakers included champion sailor Musab Al Hadi; Ibtisam Al Salmi, one of the first female sailors in the country; Oman Sail's Head of Performance Hashim Al Rashdi; and manager of Sail Free, the first para sailing programme in the region, Khamis Al Anbouri.

Each panellist answered questions on the future of the sport, with a particular focus on how sailors can use their position to encourage more women and young people to take to the water whilst also highlighting the values of hard work, dedication and teamwork.

The evening concluded with a reception and the commitment by stakeholders to further explore joint ways of working together to benefit the sport of sailing both in Oman and Italy.

WTC

Bangladesh to tour New Zealand for two Tests in January



DHAKA: Bangladesh will play New Zealand in a two-match Test series in January 2022 which will be a part of the 2021-2023 cycle of the ICC World Test Championship (WTC). Bangladesh will depart for New Zealand in December for the Test series. "The Bangladesh team will leave for New Zealand in the later part of December for the series with the Tests scheduled in Tauranga and Christchurch," the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) said in a statement.

The first Test will be played from January 1, 2022 while the second game will be staged from January 9 in Christchurch.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan T20 squad will arrive in Dhaka on Sat-

urday for the T20I series starting from November 19.

The teams also face off in a two-Test series of the 2021-2023 ICC World Test Championship. The first Test starts at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium (ZACS) in Chattogram on November 26 while the second Test commences at the SBNSC on December 4.

Pakistan T20 Squad: Babar Azam (captain), Shadab Khan, Asif Ali, Fakhar Zaman, Haider Ali, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Iftikhar Ahmed, Imad Wasim, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Sarfaraz Ahmed, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shahnawaz Dahani, Shoaib Malik, Usman Qadir. **ANI**

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AD PORTS REPORTS GROWTH

AD Ports Group announced its financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2021, reporting revenue growth of 22 per cent year-on-year to \$760 million compared with \$625 million in the same period last year, driven by volume growth, business diversification and new partnerships.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2021



INDIAN BUSINESSES IN OMAN

Embassy of India, Muscat organised "Ambassador's CEO Round-table: Indian Businesses in Oman – A promising future". The event was attended by CEOs and Heads of prominent Indian business houses and Indian public sector undertakings in Oman.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT Q3 2021



OUR VALUES: SAFETY | SERVICE | INTEGRITY | EFFICIENCY | CARING



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I present the unaudited accounts for Renaissance Services SAOG, for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2021.

Suppression of the COVID-19 virus, vaccination roll-out and improving oil price all contribute to slow but steady improvement in economic activity.

The nature of the services and solutions we provide and the diversity of critical sectors in which we operate provided a platform for our effective response to the market disruption and social change of the pandemic.

We have felt the impact in lower revenues and higher costs, but we have remained in profit throughout. As operational activity increases, we anticipate further performance improvement.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

RS Consolidated	Rial Million		USD Million	
	Q3 2021	Q3 2020	Q3 2021	Q3 2020
Revenue	81.0	80.0	210.4	207.8
EBITDA	17.6	16.2	45.7	42.1
Operating profit	11.9	10.5	30.9	27.3
Net profit after tax	8.3	7.1	21.6	18.4
Net profit after non-controlling interest	6.5	5.5	16.9	14.3

CYCLONE SHAHEEN

We thank and salute all citizens and authorities who have come to the aid of our brothers and sisters affected by cyclone Shaheen. Beyond whatever support we may offer as a company, we want to thank colleagues throughout the organisation, both at work and as volunteers, who put their backs into assisting with the clear up and distributing support. They represent the heart and soul of Renaissance.

We are pleased to report the cyclone has had no major impact on company assets or any material impact on performance.

Q3

Retail cafeterias have re-opened across our operating estate. Numbers are returning to projects in the oil & gas fields, although have not yet reached pre-pandemic levels. Schools and colleges are re-opening.

We have secured a 1-year extension of Ministry of Health (MOH) contracts as the health sector returns to more normalised services.

The company is having success in retaining cyclical contracts re-contested this year, with contracts re-priced and re-calibrated to reflect current realities and all that has changed in recent times.

Our JV, Renaissance Sager Environmental Solutions LLC, has mobilised the dump site clearance phase of our waste services project for be'ah in the PDO concession area. The waste collection phase shall mobilise in the new year, for which we are mentoring and partnering with local community service providers and SMEs.

We won the prestigious high-profile assignment to provide catering services to the Oman phase of the ICC T-20 World Cup.

The company has carried out a country-wide programme to ensure all 8,800 employees and their sponsored dependents are offered the vaccine free of cost. Over 96% are fully vaccinated.

MEDC CONTRACT AWARD

MEDC has awarded a new 3-year contract to our 100% subsidiary, Tawoos Industrial Services Company SAOC (TISCO). The scope includes rollout of > 400,000 smart meters across all three zones of the Muscat Governorate, at a project value of Rial 9.3 million (US\$ 24.2 million).

This project speaks directly to the Renaissance strategy for the future.

- It delivers innovation with resultant automation, efficiency, speed and accuracy.
- It involves international technological expertise and knowledge transfer with our major multinational technical partner Tata Power.
- It will employ 134 Omanis who will deliver the entire project, and in the course be trained and upskilled.
- It cements an important relationship with our valued client partner MEDC.

Other important relationships like these are on the anvil as the company drives both its own and Oman's technological future in IFM services.

RENAISSANCE VILLAGE DUGM (RSVD)

Occupancy at RSVD remains a little below 12,000 (64%), due in part to delayed mobilisation of additional workforce, put on hold because of counter-productive hiking of air travel cost.

The outlook for the final quarter of 2021 is primarily dependent on how soon contractors can mobilise the > 6,000 additional workers required for projects. We may not see major movement until 2022.

The most serious reason for lower occupancy levels remains the failure to enforce the clear SEZAD and OQ8 minimum worker welfare regulations and standards. Some employers continue to house their blue-collar workforce in sub-standard poor conditions, ignoring the regulations with impunity.

This suppresses the peak numbers that should have been expected at RSVD for which Renaissance, Royal Court Affairs, Ministry of Defence Pension Fund and Al Khonji Group invested in good faith at the request of government.

Renaissance and its partners were mandated by SEZAD to build accommodation to meet the minimum SEZAD, OQ8, IFC and ILO worker welfare standards. These are the minimum standards required to enable foreign direct investment (FDI) and secure international financing.

The Rial 100 million private sector Domestic Direct Investment in RSVD is a key enabler for the entire Duqm special economic zone project.

While RSVD has a 10-year exclusivity in recognition of its first mover risk, contractors are allowed to build accommodation camps for their own direct employees. This accommodation must match the full SEZAD, OQ8, IFC and ILO minimum standards; and the temporary facility must be removed upon project completion.

In reality, camps have been approved that do not meet the published standards, are not being removed at the end of project life and have started to sublet. Other contractors are housing workers outside the zone in the Crusher camp and other non-compliant accommodations in violation of the required standards.

Authorities and major project clients continue to express support to stamp out sub-standard accommodation. Meanwhile poor accommodation and worker welfare malpractice prevail.

New mobilisations by EPC contractors have suggested a minimum of 3,000 new residents for RSVD over the coming months as the economy reopens post the pandemic. Between these new arrivals and efforts by the authorities to eradicate malpractice, we expect to see a resolution to the current RSVD occupancy challenges.

RSVD is playing an important role in support of the joint Omani-British military exercise, Khanjar Oman.

RENAISSANCE VILLAGES PDO OIL AND GAS FIELDS (PAC)

PDO PAC occupancy has risen from 81% to 86% during Q3.

RENAISSANCE 2.0

In our last quarter statement, I explained we are working to create what we call 'Renaissance 2.0'. This sets the template for the next generation of the company. The initiative includes improving bench-strength of our senior cadre of Omani leaders for growth and succession. It includes broadening capabilities to turbo-charge strategy implementation, modernisation and exponential growth.

It also includes focus on climate change and the use of alternatives that will be key drivers in all we will do in the future. The simple truth is that whatever we have strived to do in the past will not be good enough for the future and the company is going to double down on its efforts, weaving this into its DNA. We undertake to report on Renaissance 2.0 in every statement hereinafter including published OKRs (Objectives and Key Results) measured against performance in our sustainability agenda.

Operational excellence delivers profit today. Innovation excellence delivers profit tomorrow. And not just profit: A modernising, green, digital, innovative culture has a positive impact on customer experience, client efficiency, employee satisfaction, shareholder value and industry leadership. This is Renaissance 2.0.

We are appointing a new Chief People Officer (CPO) and Chief Facility Management Officer (CFMO). Formal announcements shall follow through our communications channels.

Eleven Omani graduates have joined the company through the Renaissance Accelerated Learning Initiative (RALI) – an 8-month internship programme designed to induct new young talent into leadership positions throughout the organisation. The 11 successful RALI alumni emerged through a rigorous screening process of more than 1,000 candidates.



We welcome this fresh intake to our growing team as Renaissance 2.0 seeks to lead from the future.

OUTLOOK

People are coming to terms with what the new normal might look like in a post-pandemic world. Global supply chain disruption, soaring shipping costs, food and energy cost inflation are all current issues with longer term implications. Climate change requires all of us to play a meaningful part in the drive for net zero carbon footprint.

The Oman government is committed to its medium-term fiscal plan (MTFP) which is transparent on the need for government to spend smarter and raise effectively. The MTFP provides the fiscal platform to drive on to the longer-term people and society, economy and development, governance and institutional goals of Vision 2040.

For these reasons, the cost of doing business in Oman has risen over recent years. We are in a phase where these costs are working their way into re-bidding and re-negotiating terms of existing contracts.

Cost savings and efficiencies shall come for government as it moves to greater private sector outsourcing on a long-term Integrated Facilities Management (IFM) basis. This allows time and incentive for investment in technology, innovation and automation; and setting OKRs that deliver increased In-Country Value (ICV), including more jobs for Omanis and opportunities for SMEs. Efficiency and private capital shall also come into the mix as the government presses ahead with its Public Private Partnership (PPP) and privatisation programmes.

There is opportunity for Renaissance to compete and participate in all these areas. We have been driving continuous improvement in our Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) focus for years. This makes Renaissance a partner of choice for government and all our valued client organisations. Renaissance brings our ESG ethos to everything we do. For Renaissance, sustainability is the driver and impact investment the key.

TRIBUTE

We express our thanks and support for His Majesty Sultan Haitham. We take this opportunity to send His Majesty and all the people of Oman our best wishes and congratulations as together we celebrate the 51st National Day.

His Majesty's leadership in implementing necessary measures to drive economic and structural reform, provides a platform for local and international investment in Oman's future, backed by the confidence and optimism of Vision 2040.



Samir J. Fancy
Chairman

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2021

	2021 Rial '000	2020 Rial '000
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	144,772	132,637
Intangible assets	1,959	1,974
Investments	5,231	2,444
	<u>151,962</u>	<u>137,055</u>
Current assets	68,036	69,417
Current liabilities	47,257	46,446
Non-current liabilities		
Term loans excluding current maturities	77,219	71,902
Non current payables and advance	10,428	9,910
	<u>87,647</u>	<u>81,812</u>
Net assets	85,094	78,214
Equity		
Share capital	23,641	23,641
Treasury shares	(6,853)	(6,853)
Share premium	26,936	26,936
Legal reserve	8,574	8,347
Subordinated loan reserve	2,250	3,000
Other reserves	552	217
Retained earnings	9,225	4,270
	<u>64,325</u>	<u>59,558</u>
Non controlling interest	20,769	18,656
Total equity	85,094	78,214

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2021

	2021 Rial '000	2020 Rial '000
Revenue	81,023	80,023
Operating expenses	(69,141)	(69,495)
Profit from operations	11,882	10,528
Net finance costs	(3,556)	(3,450)
Profit before tax	8,326	7,078
Tax	(21)	(13)
Profit for the period	8,305	7,065
Net profit attributable to :-		
Shareholders of the Parent Company	6,489	5,460
Non-controlling interest	1,816	1,605
	<u>8,305</u>	<u>7,065</u>

Note:

1) The complete set of financial results can be accessed at www.renaissanceservices.com

MARKET

Round-table discusses India-Oman trade and investment opportunities

Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to Oman, mentioned that there is a huge potential for Indian companies in Oman in the post-COVID period and this is the right time to tap the Omani market

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Embassy of India, Muscat organised a round-table on November 9 that was attended by CEOs and heads of prominent Indian business houses and Indian public sector undertakings in Oman.

At the 'Ambassador's CEO Round-table: Indian Businesses in Oman – A promising future' event, Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, spoke about the significance of India-Oman trade and investment relations and the contribution of Indian Diaspora and Indian companies based in Oman to further enhance these relations.

He mentioned that there is a

huge potential for Indian companies in Oman in the post-COVID period and this is the right time to tap the Omani market. He underlined the importance of aligning with Oman Vision 2040 and working together with the Sultanate of Oman to achieve the objectives of Oman Vision 2040. This would be beneficial for the growth of Indian companies in Oman.

Crucial role

The ambassador highlighted that Indian companies in Oman can play a crucial role in connecting and guiding Indian companies and their counterparts in Oman based on their experience and knowledge about Oman.



Narang also encouraged participants and all Indian companies in Oman to explore possibilities to bring Omani investment to India to realise the Government of India's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. Indian companies in Oman should try to import more products made in India. He assured full support and assistance of the embassy to any Indian company or investor in Oman.

Participants shared their experiences, challenges and business



opportunities available in Oman. Participants were unanimously positive about the Omani economic growth and investment opportunity in the post-pandemic period. To this end, they shared their constructive ideas and views for stronger cooperation between India and Oman.

There was unanimity among the participants that Oman Vision 2040 presents new opportunities for further growth of Indian busi-



ness in Oman and is committed to better aligning their respective strategies to Vision 2040 of Oman.

It was agreed that potential major sectors for Indian companies in Oman are IT including digital services & education, agriculture and food products, pharmaceuticals, mining, new energy, transportation and tourism.

Need for more visits of business delegations from India to Oman and vice-versa, organising sector-



specific buyer-seller meets, investment-related seminars and GAP analysis to assess the potentials of Indian companies in Oman in different sectors were discussed.

The round-table is expected to contribute to the drawing up of a cogent roadmap for stronger trade and investment collaboration between India and Oman and will help the embassy in better assisting and partnering with Indian businesses in Oman.

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Asian shares open higher after modest gains on Wall Street

BEIJING: Shares were mostly higher in Asia on Friday after Wall Street benchmarks managed to close mostly higher. Stocks advanced in most major markets in early trading, reports a media.

Although the Chinese economy has been slowing after bouncing back from a pandemic downturn,

the record \$139.1 billion spent by Chinese shoppers during this year's annual November 11 Singles Day shopping extravaganza suggested the potential for resilient retail demand.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index gained 1 per cent to 25,484.50 while the Shanghai Composite

index edged 0.1 per cent higher, to 3,537.30. In Tokyo, the Nikkei 225 jumped 1.2 per cent to 29,631.86, while the Kospi in South Korea added 1 per cent to 2,954.57. In Sydney, the S&P/ASX 200 also gained 1 per cent to 7,454.50. The benchmark S&P 500 is on track for its first weekly loss in six weeks. -BNA

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AD Ports Group records strong revenue of \$760 million

ABU DHABI: AD Ports Group announced its financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2021, reporting revenue growth of 22 per cent year-on-year to \$760 million) compared with \$625 million in the same period last year, driven by volume growth, business diversification and new partnerships. EBITDA rose 7 per cent year-on-year to \$316 million during this period, up from \$295 million during the same period in 2020, with growth across most of the business clusters.

General cargo volumes rose to 37 million metric tonnes in year-to-date September 2021, up from 22 million metric tonnes in the same period in 2020 while industrial zones leased about 2.7 million sq. metres of land in this period, reflecting the wider global recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, although some supply chain issues remain.

Container throughput grew to 2.47 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) in the first nine months of 2021, up from 2.42 million TEUs in the same period in 2020, despite the ongoing supply constraints faced in the global shipping and container market. -WAM

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Drivers for Light / SUV personal cars required. 2-3 years of experience. Interested candidates can email: deosil03@gmail.com or Call/WhatsApp: 92569177

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

A reputed Trading & Contracting Co. located in Muscat, Urgently required a **Civil / Mechanical Foreman** with 3-4 years' experience. Priority for experience in paint division.Candidate must have Oman D/L & NOC.
Send your CV to: jobvacancy007788@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

ACCA affiliate with 2 years experience. Currently in Muscat, having NOC and D/L. Contact 96595067.
Email: farleymartyres19@gmail.com

Indian 24 yrs BBA (finance) and diploma in Indian and Foreign accounting, 2 yrs experience in accounting field, looking for a suitable position, now available in Oman.. Contact 98459828 Email: mohammedrabeebriyaz@gmail.com

28yr old male Accountant currently in Oman with 4 yrs work experience looking for job related to Accounting/ Finance. Contact 94038082

Accountant with more than 6 years experience seeks suitable placement. 2 yrs valid visa available. # 94031834

Corporate Banking and Wealth Management professional with 4 years experience in premiere Indian Banks. Seeking opportunities in Finance & Consulting. Education: PGDM Finance and B.Tech. Contact: 9430 9593

Indian Male 33 MBA looking for Senior Accountant,Having 8yrs experience including 5 yrs in Oman. Presently in Oman with NOC. Contact 78275075 or Email: smumair4u@gmail.com

Indian male Senior Accountant having 11 years experience in Accounts, Audit & Taxation looking for immediate placement. NOC available. Contact 95075222

Indian,13 years Accounts experience in Oman seeks suitable position. Contact 96496435

DRIVER

Bangladeshi driver (with car) with 12 yrs experience seeks job. Arabic, Hindi & English speaker. Contact 95951769, 99557495

Bangladeshi driver with 5 yrs experience seeks job. Contact 95160208

Bangladeshi driver with 8 yrs experience seeks job. Contact 96317701

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Interior designer with 13 yrs experience in position of project manager, coordination,quantity surveyor,quality control, looking suitable job. Contact 96146432. Email samsuint@gmail.com

Diploma Civil engineer having 10yrs Oman experience mainly in architectural/structural drafting. looking for a suitable position. Contact 79112971.

Freelancer 2D /3D Autocad Revit drafting MEP, Arch, B.Tech. 99506977

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SALES/MARKETING

Looking urgently for a well experienced building material sales man with computer knowledge. Contact 92525406

Need experience **Sales Executive** for Gas field industry. Dood sales and communication Oman D/L needed. send cv on: osgfinance@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Required one **Electrician/Plumber** holding Omani D/L (Indian) 5years experience and Indian male cook. Interested persons may Contact: 99273774/99202278 Email: reachkvknair@gmail.com

ADMIN/HR

Indian male having 21 years HR & admin experience in Oman seeks suitable job. Contact 79329696

Indian Male, MBA,BCOM having 7 yr Oman & 4 yr India experience in HR / Administration & Purchaser looking for suitable placement. Contact 97914340. Email: sampathrajkv@gmail.com

Indian male graduate Executive Secretary with Stenography/Oman D/L & 20years experience in Muscat available with NOC for immediate joining. CTC 79256679

Indian male, smart, excellent English, Masters, Arabic speaker, 18years Oman experience. Immediate. Contact 99283938.

Omani Male 35 years old looking for PRO Job with 15 years of experience of same. # 92049106, 95422144

ENGINEER

Civil Diploma Engineer, Indian 12+years experience (Building, Roads & Dam) with D/L, Available in Oman till 20th Nov. Seeking Placement. 99107906, 97882917, +91-9747519961

Project Engineer (HVAC) Mechanical engineer graduate, Indian male, having 3 years of experience in MEP projects. Seeks suitable placement. Currently in Muscat. # 78347383 Email: tomvarghese1911@gmail.com

Sudanese Petroleum Engineer, MSc Mechanical Engineering: Renewable Energy, Seven Years O&G Experience. Contact 79006704

Indian male (24) Mechanical engineering 2 years (Oman) experience in oil and gas field with OQ approved permit authority with D/L. Currently available in Oman looking for suitable placement. Contact 72050244 Email: kssanju97@gmail.com

B.E civil engineer having 13 yrs Oman experience mainly in building construction looking for suitable position. Contact 72132426

Indian, 6 yrs experience as Production Engineer (Steel fabrication /stores supervising and site installation,holding Omani License . Contact 99334770

B.E civil Engineer, 8 years of Oman experience in building construction. Looking for suitable position, NOC & D/L Available. Contact 79083823

Draftsman cum site engineer. 10 years Oman experience. NOC & D/L. Contact 92752215

Electrical Engineer, 9 years experience (7 years KSA and 2 years Oman). Experienced in HV substations and transmission lines, on Engineer Visa which expired on 19 Oct 2021. Ready to join immediately. # 94161509 Email: mubashirmiazi@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

Executive Camp Boss/Logistics/Store/Procurement
Graduate with 10 years experience in Oman as camp administration-in-charge with Oman D/L & 15 yrs experience in Logistics/store/inventory control/ procurement exp in oil and gas field is looking for suitable position. Fully vaccinated, valid Oman gamca medical and ready to join immediately.
Whatsapp 0091 9656724161
Email - rajeshm117821@gmail.com

Senior Project Manager / Project Director
Indian National,18 Yrs. of work experience, Graduate Civil Engineer, Master's in Construction Project Management; Construction Law & Dispute Resolution from UK. Having expertise in Project, Contract & Claims Management. Experienced in Handling High End Hospitality, Residential & Commercial Projects from initiation till completion. Seeks Placement as Clients or Consultants representative in Oman.
Call / WhatsApp +971543499629

FINANCE MANAGER
Finance Professional CA/CIMA/ MBA, with 18 years of GCC experience, open to Immediate Managerial Vacancies
Contact Number # 78556829

FINANCE
Indian Male, Manager Accounts, M.Com with over 20 years of experience in Oman and India, in Accounts, Finance and Software implementation is looking for an immediate opening in senior level post. NOC available.
GSM: 92334161

SALES/MARKETING
10 year Oman Experience in Sales Marketing and Customer relation, looking for any type of suitable Job. Release Letter/NOC and driving Licence available.
Contact 95034204

Inventory Coordinator
Indian male 31: Having 8 years experience handling Retail F&B Operations, inventory, purchase, Sales & Accounting with various other skills, NOC available.
Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS ADMIN
Accountant with 10 yrs experience in Trading & Contracting, Oil & Gas, Building Materials, Manufacturing, Constructions & IT sectors. Expertise in Accounting, Finalization, Auditing, Budgeting, Costing, Payroll & VAT. NOC / Local release & Driving licence available.
Contact: 91183601
E-mail: suneel.suneel@gmail.com

PURCHASE
Inventory, Purchase, Sales: Indian male 30, having 8 years experience in Retail F&B Operations, Accounting and various other skills, NOC available
Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

FINANCE
Senior Accountant, Indian Male MBA (Finance) with 9 + years of experience of which 6 years of experience in KSA in Financial Accounting including VAT. Currently in Oman.
Contact: 78370670
Email: abid.khan.a@gmail.com

PROJECT ENGINEER
Indian male, having 7years of experience in Construction with Masters from England, Currently working as PROJECT ENGINEER in Muscat (family status). D/L available.
Contact 91731694

SALES / BDM / ADMIN
Indian Male, B.Sc. (Mathematics), PGD in Business Management. 16 Yrs. of Oman Experience, Worked with the leading Companies in Oman (MCT, SLL & Nizwa). Sales, Admin & Oilfield Services Companies & Key Accounts Handling. Good in MS Word, Excel, letter drafting. Fluency in Arabic, English, Hindi & Malayalam. Valid Oman D/L.
Contact: +968 9527 8838, anup2p4p@yahoo.com

B.E Mechanical
Indian,30, (B.E Mechanical) with 6 years Oman experience in design & supervision of HVAC & Mechanical systems for Comm./Resi. buildings, hotels, hospitals & hypermarkets looking for suitable openings. Valid D/L & NOC available.
Contact 95434381
email: shuhaibusman313@gmail.com

ENGINEER (IT)
Indian, Female, B.Tech, with 2+ years of experience in Oman as Coordinator and Marketing with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.
GSM : +968 71198240
Email: jc.clarrinda@gmail.com

HR / Finance
Indian, Male, Masters degree in HR and Finance with 5+ years of experience in Oman as HR Asst with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.
GSM : +968 93835905
Email : chris_alwin@yahoo.com

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5. MBA (Int. Marketing) with Omani DL with NOC.
+968 79645179, bdomanconstruction@gmail.com

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER
MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of Trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas, Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.
Contact 93270023 rajugtime101@yahoo.com

Chemical Engineer (Omani)
Fresh graduate, bachelor degree from The University of New Mexico (USA)
Contact +96896444740
Email: msr15@live.com

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS
Indian Female(MBA Finance) having more than 15 years of experience in Oman in Finance and Accounts seeks suitable senior positions. NOC Available.
Contact # 94953826 / 92824146

HR & Administration
HR & Administration professional, with Executive Assistant exposure, well experienced with Oman labour law, well versed in office management, new office induction & administration, Indian male, with Valid Oman D/L, NOC available, seeks suitable placements.
Contact 94948676

OMANI HR/PRO
Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.
Contact 97264447

PROJECT ENGINEER
Indian male, having 7years of experience in Construction with Masters from England, Currently working as PROJECT ENGINEER in Muscat (family status). D/L available.
Contact 79170769

JOB WANTED

EDUCATION

Indian Female, B.Ed, MSc Maths - with Distinction, 6 yr's exp seeking teaching jobs. Contact 92106767

MANAGER

Indian male graduate with D/L, have 15 years experience in Oman seeks mid-management job in Sales, Marketing, procurement, admin. Contact 95454929

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Diploma Mechanical Engineer & CNC VMC operator exp 3 yrs currently in Oman. NOC available. Contact 94227542. Email dinithdas@gmail.com

LOGISTIC

Indian with 2 year experience in Store and Inventory Controller in Kuwait, and also 5 year in sales, looking for a suitable job. Contact 79803464, 98465045

MISCELLANEOUS

Indian, 18 yrs experience in driving, sales, stores, aluminium fabricator holding Omani D/L # 99743709

PURCHASE

Indian male (37), B.com 11+years of purchase & procurement experience in Oman with valid D/L & NOC looking for a suitable position. Contact 94038075

SALES/MARKETING

Indian Male having 20+ years' experience in UAE seek suitable jobs in Sales & Management preferably in pharmaceutical industries. GCC Driving License available. Contact 94289301, 95217432

Looking for Sales & Marketing operations job, 5 years experience with FMCG company in GCC.
Contact +968 78050760
Email: Jazmir.musawa@gmail.com

Indian male, BBA, 26 years, having 3 and half year experience in Sales and Marketing, D/L, looking for suitable placement. Contact 96550844 Email: arshaqrajan000@gmail.com

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Fresh Indian NIT Chemical Engineer on resident visa with Oman D/L seeks placement in reputed companies: 96087321/93972362

Indian Male, MBA, BCOM having 7 yr Oman & 4 yr India experience in HR / Administration & Purchaser looking for suitable placement. Contact 97914340. Email: sampathrajkv@gmail.com

Salesman & electrification, 6 years' experience in The Sultan center, Oman. Contact 94438968

Marketing & Business development Manager 32 yrs with good market knowledge & experience of 12 yrs.Gcc D/L, Can Join immediately,, Fluency in English, Hindi, Malayalam & basic Arabic. Contact +968 79975463 nadeemshaikh198925@gmail.com



Times of Oman

VOL II, NO. 37 MUSCAT, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1985 — RABI AL AWWAL I, 1406 PRICE BAISAS 200



His Majesty presents the Sultan Qaboos Soccer Cup to Mumtaz al Kharusi, captain of the winning team Fanja. More pictures and match report on pages 39 and 43.



The Founder and staff of the "Times of Oman" wish all prosperity to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, members of the Royal Family and the people of Oman on the occasion of the 15th National Day.

Optimism on Five Year Plan

The Financial Affairs Council held a meeting on Tuesday to discuss the Third Five Year Plan under the chairmanship of Qais bin Abdul Munim al Zawawi, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs and Deputy Chairman of the Financial Affairs Council.

Attending the meeting were Council members Sayyid Thuwainy bin Shihab, Personal Representative of His Majesty; Mohammed al Zubair, Special Adviser to His Majesty for Economic and Planning Affairs; Said bin Ahmed bin Said al Shanfari, Minister of Petroleum and Minerals, Col. Salem bin Abdullah al Ghazali, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Dr Omar Abdul Munim al Zawawi, His Majesty's Adviser; Dr Sherif Lutfi, His Majesty's Advisor and the Secretary-General of the Development Council, and Mohammed bin Mousa, Under-Secretary for Financial Affairs.

Also present was Sayyid bin Hamad Hamoud, Minister of Royal Diwan Affairs.

The Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs,

Qais Abdul Munim al Zawawi said on Tuesday the Government is optimistic that the new Five Year Plan will be similar to the previous one and that it would be implemented by the beginning of next year.

The plan, he said, represents a continuation of the development process started by the First Five Year Plan in 1976. He said the Third Five Year Plan would be based on the expansion of education and health services, power and water resources, as well as that of the petroleum sector, gas exploration, and telecommunications.

In addition, the private sector will be encouraged and the plan would aim to increase the amount of land under cultivation and extend the industrialisation process.

VIPs coming to celebrations

As the countdown for the 15th National Day Celebrations begins, the Sultanate is preparing to welcome its VIP guests to the celebrations—Heads of State and Government, Crown Princes, a former US President, a member of Britain's Royal Family, and Cabinet Ministers.

The Pakistan Embassy said that President General Mohammed Zia ul-Haq will be coming.

Diplomatic sources said Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, would be present for the 15th National Day celebrations. Other embassy sources indicated that President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt was likely to arrive.

The Embassies of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait said the Crown

Princes of their two countries would be arriving. They are Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait's Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad al Abdallah Salem al-Sa'.

The Moroccan Embassy confirmed that King Hassan II's son, Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed would be representing his father. He will be accompanied by an "important delegation" including ministers and officials.

Qatar's Embassy said the State would be represented by Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad al-Thani, Minister of Education.

Mr. Gerald R. Ford, the 38th President of the United States, will be the personal representative of President Ronald Reagan during the celebrations and will be accompanied by his wife Elizabeth. President Ford suc-

Continued on page 2

LATEST

Major General Hassan bin Ehsan Naseeb, Defence Under-Secretary, on Tuesday presented special medals to a number of senior civilians working at several directorates attached to the Under-Secretary's office. The medals were presented at an officers' club at Al Murtafat camp.

The Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al Thani on Tuesday started a four-day official visit to the United Kingdom.

In London he was received offi-

cially by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. During his visit the Emir will hold talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and a number of British officials.

The United Arab Emirates and Turkey will finalise plans for a 100 million dollar joint investment company during the four-day visit of Turkish President Kenan Evren, who arrived in Abu Dhabi on Monday.

During the visit, his first to the UAE, Evren will also sign agree-

ments on economic and cultural cooperation with his host, President Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan.

UAE and Turkish officials are already holding meetings on boosting economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Evren is accompanied by a 40-member delegation, including the Minister of mines and energy, high-ranking economic officials and businessmen.

A suicide bomber killed four people and wounded 33 in an attack on Tuesday on a militia headquarters in Beirut. A man in a pick-up packed with about 400 kgs of explosives tried to ram a monastery where the Right Wing Christian Lebanese Front was holding its weekly meeting.

Lebanese Army guards opened fire when the pickup ignored orders to halt and the truck exploded in a ball of fire a few metres from its target. The blast killed two soldiers and wounded four other soldiers. Apart from the driver a woman was killed and 19 other people wounded.

Troops loyal to Liberian leader Samuel Doe were fighting back on Tuesday after an exiled former armed forces chief of staff said he had seized power in the West African country.



SPECIAL

The 15th National Day is marked by a very special issue of the "Times of Oman" which is now available.

This 132-page souvenir commemorates the historic landmark with pictures and articles on the incredible development of the Sultanate with a look-back at events since the 14th National Day.

Oman's 'wonder park' at Rumais — pages 24 and 25



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ROUND-UP

MG Service Centre is now closer to you

The MG Motor customers can now book their car service simply over a phone call. They can also send their detailed feedbacks and requirements through an email

MUSCAT: MG Motor vehicles are renowned the world over for their quality and reliability. Getting behind the wheel of one of these exceptional models brings with it a level of peace of mind that you are investing in a vehicle that is durable and sturdy. Hence, it will only be reasonable that your MG car is maintained in its best condition through quality servicing by an official distributor.

Keeping this in mind, MG Motor

has taken some new initiatives to cater to their customers and to ensure their utmost comfort and peace of mind. The MG Motor customers can now book their car service simply over a phone call. They can also send their detailed feedbacks and requirements through an email to mg.customer.service@mhd.co.om. The MG customer service team will get back to the customer as soon as possible and identify any areas of concern and detail any work that is

required in their cars. This way the customer will be able to identify and resolve any issue with much convenience and little fuss.

Apart from this, MG Motor service is known for its value for money. Whether customers choose to take a service package to ensure that the costs of servicing remains affordable or simply choose to pay on a service-by-service basis, they can be rest assured that value for their money is guaranteed. After all, MG, as a brand understands and cares about the needs of the cars owners and nothing, is more important than their satisfaction.

A senior spokesperson of MHD ACERE, the sole distributor of MG Motor in Oman comments: "We are very confident of the quality of MG cars and that's why we recommend servicing your MG vehicle every 10,000km or 6 months, whichever comes sooner. We also recommend getting the cars ser-

viced from an authorized service centre as MG Motor has an experienced team of technicians that will carefully analyze and resolve vehicle performance according to a rigorous checklist."

"While regular servicing is critical to the continued performance and enjoyment of your MG vehicle, there are several additional benefits of having your services completed by your local MG distributor. For example, not only do we have a highly skilled team of technicians on hand, but our facilities are some of the finest available. Featuring state-of-art equipment, industry-leading diagnostic technology and all authentic MG repair tools necessary for any job, you can be certain we will be able to find and resolve any issues. In addition, regular servicing ensures you are getting the best fuel economy from your MG," the spokesperson added.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Bank Muscat supports visually-impaired students at Sohar University

MUSCAT: In line with its efforts in the field of social responsibility, and its commitment to deliver long-term benefits to the community and the nation, Bank Muscat has extended strong support to students with special needs studying in different educational institutions in Oman.

The bank provided Braille Sense devices and laptops to a number of visually impaired students at Sohar University to support and motivate them. The devices were given away in the presence of Dr Hamdan Sulaiman Al Fazari, Acting President, Sohar University, and Yousuf Khalfan Al Nadabi, Regional Manager North Al Batinah, Bank Muscat. These devices will help the students both in their studies and also in their day-to-day lives by enhancing their skills and capabilities and their potential to contribute to society.

On this occasion, Talib Saif Al Makhmari, Manager, Community & Media Relations, Bank Mus-



cat, said: "We are happy with our constant partnership with Sohar University in extending support to students. Continuing our strong partnership with higher education institutions is one of the topmost priorities at Bank Muscat. Such initiatives are of great importance

because they are designed to contribute to enhancing the day-to-day life of visually-impaired students and extend a helping hand to improving their success rate in higher education and help them get suitable job opportunities in the future. This is a key part of

Bank Muscat's efforts in social responsibility in different fields."

Talib Al Makhmari added: "We are proud to partner with higher education institutions and we will continue supporting our students and offer them the best possible opportunities in their

journey. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Sohar University for their cooperation and partnership in making this initiative a success."

The students expressed their happiness to receive these specialised devices which will help them have an easier learning experience. Huriya Khalfan Al Subhi, an Arabic language and literature student at Sohar University, said: "I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Bank Muscat for this thoughtful initiative. It was a pleasant surprise for us, as we were hoping to get Braille Sense devices and the bank made our dreams come true. These devices will offer us a helping hand and will help us in terms of taking notes and browsing the Internet quickly. We also hope that it will help us later in our jobs in the future."

Nasser Hamood Al Sawafi, who is also studying Arabic language and literature at Sohar University, said: "I am very thrilled to get a

Braille Sense device. This is a great initiative from a leading institution like Bank Muscat. I was waiting to get this device since it can positively help me in both my personal life and in my studies. This device is well known for helping visually impaired students follow up on their classes since they offer various supporting features. It will for sure open new horizons for us in the future."

As a forward-looking financial institution, Bank Muscat has always tried to set an example for the corporate sector to develop social responsibility as part of its corporate culture. The bank runs over 10 long term projects aimed at supporting different segments of society. The bank has previously supported many Non-Governmental Organisations working for the welfare of disabled people in Oman including the Oman Association for the Disabled and the Al Noor Association for the Blind.

In unprecedented times, the exceptional thrive.

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T

ROUND-UP

Toyota focuses on a carbon-neutral society with mobility plans for all

Last month, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain announced a series of initiatives and investment plans to address the climate issue and to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by mid-century. These endeavours align with Toyota's own sustainability goals and plan to reduce CO2 emissions throughout its operations

MUSCAT: In recent years, it has become abundantly clear that climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing the future of mankind. A recently issued United Nations report warned that our world is on a path to exceed the target set by world leaders as part of 2015's historic Paris Agreement to hold temperature increases to well below 2.0°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. So, what can we as a species do to avoid this calamity? One of the most important answers to the climate conundrum lies with carbon neutrality.

When it comes to global warming, there is greater public awareness than ever before. Yet, perhaps fewer people are familiar with the concept – and huge potential impact – of achieving carbon neutrality. The vast majority of scientists agree that climate change is a result of increased greenhouse gas emissions since the dawn of the industrial revolution. Of these gasses, one of the most harmful to the environment is carbon dioxide (CO2).

Essentially, becoming car-

bon neutral means reducing the amount of CO² emissions put into the atmosphere to the same level as the volume of CO² removed from the atmosphere, which occurs through a number of processes as part of the delicate balance of nature. Globally, transportation is thought to be responsible for around one-fifth of CO² emissions, with road travel accounting for three-quarters of this total. With this in mind, much energy has been focused on developing new technologies and innovations to power cleaner, greener mobility solutions.

As world leaders gather in Glasgow for the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), it is clear that action on climate change is no longer a choice, but a necessity. The scale of action required calls for a united effort and cooperation across the globe. Here in the Middle East, encouraging steps are being taken by governments to usher in a new era of sustainability.

Last month, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain announced a series of initiatives



and investment plans to address the climate issue and to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by mid-century. These endeavours align with Toyota's own sustainability goals and plan to reduce CO2 emissions throughout its operations.

Toyota's vision is to create mobility for all. In a diverse and uncertain world, we strive to raise the quality and availability of mobility and ensure that no one is left behind.

We wish to create new possibilities for all humankind and support a sustainable relationship with our planet. This is why we have made it our mission to minimise our environmental impact by achieving

carbon neutrality not only in terms of vehicle emissions but throughout our entire operations.

This is not a new direction adopted to align with the mood of the times. Toyota has been committed to developing diverse eco-friendly vehicles since 1997 when we introduced the Prius – the world's first mass-produced Hybrid Electric Vehicle (HEV). Since then, Toyota has sold over 17 million electrified vehicles globally, contributing to a 20% reduction in CO² and helping safeguard the wellbeing of the earth and its inhabitants.

While we are proud of these achievements, our journey to car-

bon neutrality is far from over. More still needs to be done, which is why Toyota is targeting combined sales of 10 million units globally for its expanding electrified vehicle range by 2030. We are also developing hydrogen-fuelled combustion engine technology through our participation in motorsports and exploring the opportunities presented by E-fuel. Manufactured using hydrogen from renewable energy, this synthetic fuel has strong potential to be used as a "Carbon Neutral" fuel for gasoline and diesel combustion engine vehicles, including the ones that are already on the road. At Toyota, we believe there are many paths to

reach the goal of carbon neutrality. Just as the mobility landscapes are different from country to country, so too are the pathways to achieving sustainability.

As innovation continues to shape the global mobility sector, we must embrace the latest breakthroughs to create products and services that offer people more ways to move safely, responsibly, and in harmony with the environment. By doing so, we can overcome the single greatest challenge facing humanity and unlock a world of sustainable mobility for all – a goal that must be achieved to protect the future of our planet for generations to come.

FILMS
EVENTS
MARKETING
AL SAEEDY

A portrait of actress Rahma Riad. She has long, dark, wavy hair and is wearing a red sequined top. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile, her hand near her chin. The background is dark with large, overlapping red circles.

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ROUND-UP

Ahli Islamic holds 2021 Qitaf 3rd quarterly draw with grand prize

The live-streamed virtual event also announced the lucky winner of its OMR20,000 October draw and presented winners of its weekly prize scheme: children's draw of OMR50 - for three winners, and OMR250 - for two winners, from each branch, respectively

MUSCAT: Pursuant to its commitment to help customers achieve their dreams through cash prize draws, Ahli Islamic held its 2021 Qitaf third quarter draw, which saw the top winner walk away with a whopping OMR100,000.

The live-streamed virtual event also announced the lucky winner of its OMR20,000 October draw and presented winners of its weekly prize scheme: children's draw of OMR50 - for three winners, and OMR250 - for two winners, from each branch, respectively.

Reiterating Ahli Islamic's pledge to fulfil its customers' dreams by creating opportunities that help financially stabilise their future, Yousuf bin Salim Al Rawahi, Deputy General Manager and Head of the Ahli Islamic, said, "On behalf of Ahli Islamic, it gives me great pleasure to felicitate (Ahmed Mohammed), the winner of Qitaf third quarter draws from Ghubra branch. We hope that the prize money will help him achieve his dreams.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to call on our customers



to continue saving and improve their prospect of winning through our Qitaf prize scheme. At Ahli Islamic, we believe in growth that is attained by delivering a portfolio of innovative products and services, which not only meets the customers' needs but also enables them to benefit in far-reaching ways. This is in addition to our unstinted support in helping our customers maintain their financial stability, secure their future, and fulfil their aspirations."

Drawing attention to the virtues of Qitaf, he added: "Qitaf reflects our efforts to provide unique savings opportunities that are in line with the needs of customers. Our larger objective is to instil a culture of prudent savings among them and reward them for their commitment through quarterly, monthly and weekly and children weekly prize draws, in addition to special event draws.

"In our new 2021 Qitaf prize scheme, we have added new cat-

egories to increase our customers' chances of winning. As has been established, Ahli Islamic continues to offer innovative and attractive schemes to reward customers, while encouraging them to adopt productive financial habits to achieve their long-term goals."

The basic premise behind Qitaf is to not only promote a culture of savings among Omani people but also to provide opportunities to invest in profitable assets that are in accordance with the bank's standards and are based on the principle of Sharia-compliant speculation. As for this year's Qitaf draws scheme, the bank seeks to reward more than 4,200 customers from all its branches, with prizes totalling more than OMR1,250,000 all through the year.

All Qitaf account holders automatically qualify and are entitled to participate in monthly and weekly draws and special event prizes, if they maintain a minimum average balance of OMR100. However, for the quarterly draw, the minimum average quarterly balance required is OMR1,000.

As mentioned earlier, the bank also conducts weekly draws for children, awarding prize money of OMR50 for three winning children from each branch. Additionally, weekly draws are made for all customers, wherein the bank awards two winners from each branch a cash prize of OMR250 per week.

On the occasion of the 51st National Day, Ahli Islamic further invites customers to continue saving to win prizes totalling over OMR100,000, which will be awarded to 51 lucky winners to celebrate the glorious occasion.

Launched at the end of 2019, Qitaf reflects Ahli Islamic's vision to provide innovative and Sharia-compliant banking solutions to its customers across the Sultanate. The scheme has been widely accepted since its launch, reflected in increased customer and deposit rates in the account. These are considered as positive indicators that confirm that Ahli Islamic is on track to achieve its customers' aspirations and change their lives for the better.

PRANCING HORSE'S ONE-OFF SERIES

Ferrari BR20: Maranello's latest One-Off revealed

MARANELLO: The Ferrari BR20, the latest addition to the Prancing Horse's One-Off series, was unveiled and joins the most exclusive group in Maranello's range: unique, absolutely bespoke cars crafted to the specifications of a client and designed as a clear expression of their unique requirements.

The BR20 is a two-seater V12 coupé developed on the GTC4Lusso platform, which in terms of its philosophy and styling approach, cleverly references the magnificent Ferrari coupés of the 1950s and 60s, without the slightest hint of nostalgia. Instead, it pulls off the challenging feat of marrying timeless elegance with muscular sportiness, effortlessly incorporating styling themes typical of some of the most iconic 12-cylinders in Ferrari history, including the 410 SA and 500 Superfast.

The GTC4Lusso's two rear seats have been removed to add extra dynamism to the BR20's ultra-sleek fastback line. The new car is three inches longer than the original, thanks to a specific rear overhang treatment designed to create a silhouette that beautifully emphasises its proportions.

One of the cornerstones of the design process for this one-off was the radical modification made to the cabin volume. This in turn



gave the design team led by Flavio Manzoni the freedom to conceive the innovative proportions that ultimately produced a powerful yet stylistically coherent exterior design theme.

The new cabin design solution creates the impression of a pair of arches running lengthwise from A-pillar to rear spoiler. The rear volume of the arch has been hollowed out to create an aerodynamic channel with the air outlet concealed by the black rear fascia under the spoiler. This modern take on Ferrari's "flying buttress" theme firmly connects the car to signature Prancing Horse styling cues not just from Ferrari's GT tradition but also sports cars of

the likes of the 599 GTB Fiorano. To visually lighten the cabin, the black paint of the roof visually connects the windscreen to the rear screen, which stands above the surface of the rear tailgate as if to channel the airflow.

A muscular rear bumper melds beautifully with the aggressive look of the rest of the car: twin taillights create a visual dialogue with the tailpipes, which are lower and set into a prominent aerodynamic diffuser with active flaps on the underbody. Even the BR20's twin round exhaust tips were designed especially for this bespoke model.

The BR20's many carbon-fibre details highlight the edgy dynamic characteristics and powerful per-

formance of this extraordinary four-wheel drive car. High, sinuous sills add an extra hint of dynamism to the lower section of the flanks as well as emphasising the front air vents on the wheel arches. The wide front grille sports an upper carbon-fibre element, a note of stylistic consistency with other recent Ferrari one-offs, while unusual chrome side inserts help underline the car's dynamic front stance.

The BR20's unique identity is further underscored by the front grille's striking new horizontal slats that lend a powerful sense of three-dimensionality. A virtually endless list of elements was designed specifically for the BR20, not least its modified headlights.

EXPANSION



Apparel Group launches 16 retail brands in Assima Mall, Kuwait

KUWAIT: Assima Mall, the newest shopping destination in Kuwait will open its doors on Thursday, November 4 in Kuwait City.

Apparel Group have launched 16 brands in Assima Mall, including Birkenstock, Skechers, Levi's, Aeropostale, BHPC, Rituals, Tommy Hilfiger, Aldo, Aldo Accessories, Charles & Keith, Calvin Klein Jeans, Dune London, LC Waikiki, Hema, Hush Puppies and Lakeland.

Neeraj Tekchandani, CEO of Apparel Group said, "We are proud to be partnering up with Assima Mall and further expanding into the Kuwaiti market.

"Our brands' expansion with Assima Mall is in line with our strategy of being responsive to consumer demand.

"Kuwait continues to grow as a leading destination and we are proud to be part of the country's prosperous growth."

FIRST OF ITS KIND IN OMAN

Starcare Hospital Barka launches Advanced Laser Proctology Institute

MUSCAT: Proctology is the medical speciality that focuses on diseases of the anorectal canal. Proctology problems affect 50% of the population, both male and female, at some time in their life. Starcare Laser Proctology Institute brings together all the modern technologies and techniques that are available in this field to benefit the people of Oman. Laser has dramatically changed the treatment of problems like haemorrhoids, fistula and sinus. Laser treatments are very simple and effective with much less discomfort after treatment than traditional proctologic surgery. Apart from Laser, Starcare institute in Barka is also gearing up to provide several other modern video-assisted technologies like VAAFT, LIFT, LAFT, EP-

SiT, Stapler and Botox.

The lively launch function conducted at Starcare Hospital Barka was inaugurated by Dr Nasser Al-Shekaili, Director of Ministry of Health Rustaq Hospital. "I am happy that Starcare has chosen South Batinah to launch such a unique service which is needed all over the country. A lot of people, both men and women suffer these types of problems in silence and now we have hope to get treatments in a very simple way. I am happy to meet the expert panel of surgeons who lead this service", he said while inaugurating. The function was attended by several community members apart from Directors and staff from across the Starcare group.

"Starcare in India is very popu-



lar for Laser treatment or Varicose veins and Proctology conditions. This motivated us to open such a centre in Oman. The beauty of Laser treatments for Proctology problems is that the procedure avoids cutting skin and is almost bloodless. Patients can go home on the same day after a few hours of rest.

Unlike the old type of surgeries, prolonged bed rest is not needed after Laser treatments for conditions like haemorrhoids, fissure and fistula. We are a team of two Laser surgeons and two more surgeons are joining very soon," said Dr Sukumaran Vengail, Medical Director and Consultant Surgeon at Star-

care Barka who leads the Institute.

"Treatment for many proctology issues can be as simple as the right diet and lifestyle changes or medicines to control bowel movements. Surgery or Laser are only needed when such measures alone are not adequate. Even though titled as Laser Institute, we are also bringing together many other technologies to help people in Oman. Video-assisted Laser surgeries for precision, giving better results is the modern way of handling such problems and we are developing a world-class resource centre that will be a role model that others can learn from. We hope to start training other professionals as well and there will be a free proctology seminar on every Saturday at Barka for the community awareness," said Dr

Alfred Augustine, Director of Surgical Services at Starcare Hospital, Muscat and Consultant Surgeon at both Starcare Muscat and Barka.

"Starcare has always been the at forefront of innovation in Oman and I am happy that we are able to bring these new technologies and a great expert panel of surgeons as we recover from the impact of the Covid pandemic. This service is launched in Barka first, but we will soon start offering the service in all other Starcare units across Oman so that more people can benefit. We are very careful in pricing this service so that everyone who needs it can afford Insha Allah," commented Nasser Batha, Group CEO of Starcare Oman after launching the resourceful www.muscatlaserproctology.com website.

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