

#### SCOTLAND DEFEAT PNG IN GROUP B CRICKET MATCH

Richie Berrington's 70-run knock and a spirited bowling performance helped Scotland defeat PNG by 17 runs in Group B of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground. **>A7**



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#### MILITARY COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

**MUSCAT:** The Main Military Committee for Emergency Management at the Sultan's Armed Forces held a meeting, at Muskar Al Murafa'a yesterday. The meeting was chaired by Brigadier Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Mantheri, Assistant to SAF Chief of Staff for Operations and Planning and chairman of the Main Military Committee for Emergency Management, aimed at assessing the field and humanitarian work accomplished in the Governorates of North and South Al Batinah. **-OMA**



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# MORE THAN 300 HOMES TO BE BUILT

A tender has been issued to repair 24 aflaj and two dams while others will be repaired soon

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** More than 300 homes, 24 aflaj networks, and two check dams that were damaged during cyclone Shaheen will be repaired, as part of efforts to restore normalcy in the wake of the disaster.

The decision, which was taken by the Ministerial Committee tasked with assessing the damage caused by Shaheen, will see

multiple ministries take on the responsibility of carrying out the reconstruction.

"The Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning has been tasked with designing layouts for the construction of 328 houses for citizens whose houses were completely damaged during the climatic condition," said committee Chairman Sultan Salim Al Habsi, the Minister of Finance.



Speaking to Oman News Agency and Oman TV, Al Habsi added that 80 aflaj and five dams had incurred damage, with a tender issued to repair 24 aflaj and two dams. 157 homes will be built in Suwaiq, 134 in Al Khabourah, and 37 in Saham.

"The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources has been tasked with finalising the related procedures," he said. "The rest of the dams will be repaired as soon as technical procedures are finalised. The ministry has been entrusted to conduct a study for protection dams along the course taken by wadis."

While repairs are underway, Al Habsi added that "agreements have been made with the authorities concerned to draw up tempo-

rary solutions for citizen's access to their homes in stricken areas, until such time as internal road maintenance has been completed."

During the meeting, held at the police station in Suwaiq, the committee studied efforts towards the restoration of properties and electricity networks in peoples' houses, and attempts made to return families to their homes. The efforts have largely been a success, with the exception of some homes, where internal electric circuitry is yet to be repaired.

Other issues looked into were the reopening of main and arterial roads to traffic, and the removal of debris from these areas.

Updates on the current reconstruction efforts were also provided

by specialists from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning about the various impacts of the cyclone on properties in the area.

These teams also discussed with the committee their assessment of the stricken homes, while presenting a set of proposals and durable solutions set up to protect the safety of citizens.

Meanwhile, updates on the repair of internal roads were given by a team consisting of members from the Engineering Services Division of the Sultan's Armed Forces, the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, and the municipalities of North and South Al Batinah. **>A5**

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34°  
MUSCAT



Bangladesh defeat Oman by 26 runs in T20 World Cup match

A7

#### TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

##### OMAN

#### Cyclone-prone areas' study can help in future

1 A study conducted by a team from the Sultan Qaboos University on the areas in Oman most prone to cyclones can help plan for future adverse weather events. **>A3**

##### OMAN

#### Over 500 trapped in homes rescued

2 544 people trapped in their homes were rescued by the CDAA. **>A4**

##### WORLD

#### N. Korea test fires ballistic missile

3 N. Korea fired a suspected submarine-launched ballistic missile. **>A6**



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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (OWWSC) announces that it will implement improvement works in pumping stations and main water transmission lines in the wilayats of Nakhal and Wadi Al-Ma'awil in the South Al Batinah Governorate and Dakhiliyah Governorate during the period from **October 25 to 26, 2021 for a period of (48) hours.**

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# Times of Oman

VOL 9, NO. 32

MUSCAT, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1983 — MUHARRAM 13, 1404

PRICE BAIZAS 200

## Drop in some food prices

Some food prices have dropped by 10 per cent in recent months, according to the Director of Internal Trade at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Sultan Salem Rashid al Balaushi.

Items that are now cheaper include rice, milk (powder and condensed), ghee, meat, dates and some vegetables and fruit.

According to data collected by the Chief Food Inspector Mr. Mohammad Yaqoub the price of a big tin of Nido has gone down by 200 baiza fro RO 3.900. Dates are down to RO 1 per kilo from RO 1.500 to RO 2.

The price of Indian mutton has gone down by 300 baiza. It is now available at RO 1 per kilo against an earlier price of RO 1.300.

The price of some types of fruits such as apples has gone down. Those of vegetables have maintained a steady trend although onions and potatoes have shown a decrease.

by Muzaffar Mohammad

The only food item which is not affected by the declining trend is sugar where the price structure is linked with the international market.

The Department of Internal Trade has successfully taken steps to bring down the prices of foreign newspapers and magazines.

Mr. Sultan Salem said that some newspaper agents were selling papers and magazines at more than the published prices.

Acting on complaints from the public and in co-operation with the Ministry of Information the department persuaded the agents to follow the published prices.

As a result prices have come down by 100 to 150 baizas.

The Department has also acted on complaints against shopkeepers juggling discounts in reduction sales. The department now required every shopowner to submit two list of prices prior to the sale. The list should contain the original prices and those discounted for the sale.

After giving permission for reduction sales trade inspectors see that the discounted prices are



Mr. Rashid Sultan Salem al Balaushi

according to the list provided to the department.

Mr. Sultan Rashid has appealed to the public to contact the department if they have any complaints over reduction sales.

The department issued nine permits for reduction sales during the first fortnight of this month. Three were issued last month.

## Islamic scholar to visit

Dr. Irfan Shaheed, holder of the Sultanate of Oman's chair in Arabic and Islamic Literature in Georgetown University in the United States will pay a week's visit to Oman from October 28 to November 3.

During his stay Dr. Irfan will call on Mr. Yahya Mahfoodh al Mandhri, Minister of Education and Youth Affairs; Mr. Malallah Habib, Under Secretary of National Heritage and Culture and Sheikh Amer Ali Omeir of Sultan Qaboos University.

The visiting scholar will see the Sultan Qaboos University project at Al Khod and tour Salalah.

On November 2 Dr. Irfan will give a lecture "Ahmad Shoki, the Poet of Islam," at 6.30 p.m. at the Institute of Health Sciences

## 10 pilgrims from Oman died

Eight Omani and two expatriate pilgrims died in Saudi Arabia during pilgrimage last month. Three were women.

Seven people died from heat stroke, two died in traffic accident and one died in a crush of people while performing Tawaf.

The Omanis were Hassan Mubarak al Khalif (Barka); Said Ali Tamani (South); Fatma Daud (Mashah); Feroza Senghore (South); Abdalla Mohammed Salim al Waheebi (Mudaibi); Taful (South); Ali Ibrahim Shirawi (Sohar); Rashid Said Nasser (Bahla).

The expatriate pilgrims were Hilmi Bakar, an Egyptian and an unknown Sudanese.

Two pilgrims were injured in traffic accidents in Saudi Arabia—Fatma Abdalla al Balaushi (Masnah) and Ali Muslim (South). They have now returned to Muscat.



## LATEST

The Lebanese have announced that plans are going ahead for the National Council for Reconciliation today. There were fears that it might be postponed over disputes about where they should hold it, but an announcement by Beirut Radio said it would now be held at Beirut International airport this morning.

The Japanese Foreign Minister has said he is deeply concerned about the growing criticism over Japan's protective trade policies by the European Community and the United States.

On Monday the Community Foreign Ministers said that the trade balance with Japan was growing worse. Despite Japanese measures to remove trade barriers the Communities' annual deficit with Japan was estimated at about 12,000 million dollars.

The Turkish gunman who attempted to assassinate the Pope in 1981 has been taken back to Rome for a reconstruction of the crime. The gunman is serving a life sentence for the attack.

The authorities in Mozambique have allowed a group of foreign journalists into the capital Maputo to look at the damage caused in Monday's attack by the South Africans.

Reports reaching Islamabad and Delhi speak of a major anti-guerrilla operation in Afghanistan

## Royal Decrees

## Rusail Authority to be established

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos has issued two Royal Decrees. The first decree, 51/83, establishes the Rusail Industrial Area Organisation at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry with financial and administrative independence.

The objective of the organisation is to boost industrial activity

in the country by developing the industrial estate in Rusail.

The organisation will have a seven-member board of directors including the chairman, a deputy chairman and a representative from the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities. There will also be an executive director.

## Programmes for training Omanis

The second Decree, 52/83, amends Royal Decree No. 34/73. Accordingly, every establishment in the country with 20 or more employees must have a comprehensive training programme for Omanis which may consist of one or all of the following methods:

(A) Set up a training centre in the company itself and plan a training programme under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

(B) Participate with other companies of the same nature in

setting up a common training centre and training programme, also under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

(C) Provide financial funds to the vocational projects organised by the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry on the basis of the number of employees the company has. The Ministry will decide the amounts to be contributed by each company, but will not exceed six per cent of the total annual salary of its employees.

## Five professors to visit Oman

Five professors from American universities will arrive in Muscat on October 29 on a week's fact finding visit to the Sultanate.

The purpose of the visit is to see educational and training facilities and the standard of education maintained at various institutions.

During their stay the professors will be received by Mr. Yahya Mahfoodh al Mandhri, Minister of Education and Youth Affairs.

They will also discuss education and training matters with heads of various training institutions.

The professors will visit Sultan Private School in Seeb and will tour Nizwa.

## Plane death

A Pakistani passenger of a Gulf Air flight bound for Karachi died from a heart attack. Sikander (43) had just boarded the plane at Seeb International Airport when he collapsed before the plane took off.

## Photo show

Mr. Malallah Habib, Under Secretary, Ministry of National Heritage and Culture, will open a photographic exhibition at the Muscat Inter-Continental Hotel at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

One hundred and fifty pictures by three local artists — Mahmud Macki, Anwer Khamees Sonia and Mposa Siddique al Musafir — will be on sale at the show.

## New vehicles

The Central Workshop of the Capital Municipality will get new equipment worth R.O. 1.6 million at the beginning of the next year.

It will include refuse collectors, beach cleaners, tractors and tankers.

The Times of Oman will mark the 13th National Day with a special issue.

Pictures and articles on the rapid development of the Sultanate will be presented together with a look-back at events since the 12th National Day.

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SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH TEAM



# Study on cyclone-prone areas can help plan for future weather events

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** A study conducted by a team from the Sultan Qaboos University on the areas in Oman most prone to cyclones can help plan for future adverse weather events.

Published in July, the research studied the effect of cyclones in the governorates of Muscat, Al Batinah and Al Sharqiyah, which are at high to very high risk of tropical cyclones in the Arabian Peninsula. The study, titled "Geo-spatial Modelling of Tropical Cyclone Risk Along the Northeast Coast of Oman: Marine Hazard Mitigation and Management Policies," was done by Shawky Mansour, Stephen Darby, Julian Leyland and Peter M Atkinson.

The researchers said, "Globally, an increasing and more dispersed population, as well as climate change, have led to growing impacts of environmental hazards, particularly across areas prone

to extreme weather events such as tropical cyclones. Tropical cyclones frequently cause fatalities, damage to infrastructure, and disruption to economic activities."

They added, "The north and northeast regions of Oman, particularly the Oman sea coast, are prone to the storm surges, wind-storms and extreme precipitation events associated with these tropical storms. However, integrated spatial risk assessments, for the purpose of mapping cyclone risk at subnational geographic scales, have not yet been developed in this area."

They explained, "The study evaluates and maps cyclone risk using four independent components: hazard, exposure, vulnerability and mitigation capacity. An integrated risk index was calculated using a geographical information system (GIS) and an analytical hierarchical process (AHP) technique, based on a geo-database including 17 variables

(i.e., GIS data layers) and criteria, with rank and weight scores for each criterion." The resulting risk assessment reveals the spatial variation in cyclone risk across the study area and highlights how this variation is controlled by variations in physical hazard, exposure, vulnerability and emergency preparedness.

The risk maps reveal that despite their perceived adaptive capacity for disaster mitigation, the population and assets in low-lying lands situated near the coastline in the east of Muscat, as well as the South Al Batinah Governorate, are at high risk due to cyclones.

Furthermore, the coastal zones of the urban wilayats of the Muscat Governorate were also found to be at high to very high risk. This study has several policy implications and can provide effective guidelines for natural hazard preparedness and mitigation across the northern coasts of Oman.

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timesofoman.com

Volunteers urged to join plantation campaign in cyclone-hit areas | Times of Oman

the authority said in a statement.

EA urges volunteers to attend campaign to repair damaged trees

A story on call for volunteers to help replant damaged trees had 49 engagements and 3,808 impressions on Twitter.

MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

2,400 VIEWS

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# CDAA's endless efforts to bring life back to normal post Shaheen

**MUSCAT:** The Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority has dealt with more than 2300 cases since the beginning of the tropical situation Shaheen, and managed to rescue 544 people who were trapped by their homes due to floods. In a statement since the issuance of alerts from the competent authorities regarding the tropical situation Shaheen and the possibility of the northern governorates of the Sultanate being affected by extreme weather, the authority said it is ready to respond and deal with reports and implement its plan in three phases- before, during and after the situation.

*Pre-cyclone Shaheen:*

**Man power and machinery**  
Within the framework of the pre-situation preparations and through the authority's plan to deal with tropical situations, it had mobilised human capabilities, machinery and heavy equipment, including evacuation vehicles, water suction equipment, and search and rescue devices and equipment such as mobile search devices, K9 (searching dogs for missing persons) and a number of drones, rubber boats, water bikes, road-paving equipment (shovels) and water tankers of various sizes. These were then supplied to all governorates expected to be affected by the cyclone.

## Awareness

The authority, represented by the Public Relations Department, had published many awareness materials and instructions to mitigate the effects of the tropical situation in various media, especially the authority's social media. These steps included fixing volatile materials, avoiding the sea, not taking risks by crossing valleys and low areas and other related awareness aspects.

## Precautionary measures

The teams of the authority, in co-



operation with the competent authorities, searched the citizens and residents living near the beaches extending from the Governorate of Muscat to the Governorate of North Al Batinah, evacuated their homes and transported them to safe places or shelter centres announced by the National Centre for Emergency Management.

*During the cyclone:*

The civil defence and ambulance teams, with their equipment and mechanisms, were deployed in areas expected to be affected by

the tropical situation. They were distributed across various sectors through a clear work mechanism and in accordance with the approved plan to respond and quickly deal with any communication received in those areas, in coordination with the sub-committees for emergency cases management in the governorates.

The teams of the authority dealt with 416 reports during the direct effects of the tropical situation, the most prominent of which dealt with rescue of people in vehicles in the valleys and flooded homes.

*Post-cyclone Shaheen*

The authority continued its post-situation awareness efforts and redoubled efforts to deal with the effects of the tropical situation. It reinforced the North Al Batinah Governorate with other specialised teams, equipment and mechanisms to speed up the pace of work to ensure that life returned to normal.

## Assigning field operations to the National Search and Rescue Team

The CDAA continued its efforts

in responding and dealing with reports and providing support due to the increased impact in the wilayats of Suwaiq and Al Khaboura and in the Al Batinah North Governorate. The authority assigned its field operations to the National Search and Rescue Team by establishing an advanced field centre in the Wilayat of Al-Suwaig.

The field teams dealt with 1925 communications that varied between reopening and leveling internal roads in residential neighbourhoods, removing fallen trees

on roads and citizens' homes due to strong winds, providing drinking water, and suctioning stagnant water, distributing supplies to the affected people, cleaning homes, towing and taking out vehicles, in cooperation with various military, security, governmental, and private agencies, and volunteers. The authority extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who cooperated, including agencies and volunteer teams, and view this as a national duty to stand with the citizens and residents in an effort to return life to normal at the earliest.

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# Oman affirms its adherence to tolerance, respect for all people

**TEHRAN:** Both in domestic and foreign policy, the judicious leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik advocates collaboration and cooperation among all segments.

The Sultanate of Oman strives to remind all about the significance of solidarity, compassion, recognition for diversity and respect for human beings and their sanctities.

This was stated in the Sultanate's speech before the 35th International Islamic Unity Conference held here.

The 5-day conference saw the

participation of representatives of 52 countries.

The speech was delivered by Dr. Mohammed Said Al Maamari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, who headed the Sultanate's delegation at the conference.

Al Maamari pointed out that the His Majesty the Sultan's leadership underscored the principle of collaboration during His Majesty's first historic Royal speech, which affirmed the Sultanate's keenness to have Oman's "Message of Peace" roam the world, reflecting a great heritage and noble

trends of a civilization that builds rather than demolishes and creates rapprochement rather than alienation.

Al Maamari added that, based on Oman's experience, a healthy human texture operates within three main components: "knowledge, positive interaction and recognition of the other."

The conference includes lectures, dialogue seminars and symposia on enhancing scholarly and cultural communication among members of the Islamic community.



- ONA

TEAMS FORMED TO SURVEY DAMAGES

# Housing ministry mulls appropriate reimbursement to cyclone-hit areas



**MUSCAT:** Eng. Hamad Ali Al Nazwani, Housing Undersecretary affirmed that the ministry, in conjunction with the departments concerned, formed working teams to identify damages resulting from the tropical condition (Shaheen).

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA) and Oman TV, he said that the urban planning team is marking the route of wadis (stream) to set standards for the upcoming stage to prevent damages in the future.

The Housing Undersecretary added that the ministry has formed teams to survey damages incurred to properties and houses in Governorate of North Al Batinah and Gov-

ernorate of South Al Batinah, and to categorise them in terms of total or partial damages, which may pose risk on their residents. He pointed out that the ministry is exploring appropriate solutions whether by shifting the stricken people to areas far from the damages or areas not hit by the tropical condition.

He elaborated that work is underway to analyse data of cyclone-struck houses and divide such data into categories. The results of the analysis will be submitted to the Ministerial Committee tasked with assessing damages resulting from the recent tropical condition (Shaheen) to take the appropriate decisions. — ONA

RESTORING NORMALCY

## < FROM A1 Committee thankful for efforts made



Instructions were issued by the committee to speed up the repair work being done on roads.

Proposals will also be submitted to the concerned authorities regarding reconstruction of roads and culverts, so that they are able in the future to withstand the extent of the damage caused by adverse weather events such as cyclone Shaheen.

Furthermore, all citizens who

have lost their documents due to Shaheen will be exempt from the fees required when re-applying for them.

At the conclusion of its meeting, the committee expressed thanks and appreciation for the efforts exerted in different sectors to restore normalcy, in response to the Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik.

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

## Sultanate's equestrian federation holds meeting

**MUSCAT:** In its meeting held under the chair of Sayyid Munther bin Saif Al Busaidi, Chairman of the Board of Oman Equestrian Federation (OEF), the OEF Board approved development of its facilities and estates including Al Mahamid Endurance Village and the use of clean energy (solar energy).

The meeting also discussed the Sultanate's participation in the international championships in the various equestrian sports.

The board also acquainted with the developments related to initiation of the website and database of OEF. — ONA



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## 60-DAY STATE OF EMERGENCY

## Ecuador declares state of emergency over crime wave

**QUITO:** Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso announced a 60-day state of emergency on Monday amidst a rise in violent drug crime. "Starting immediately, our Armed Forces and police will be felt with force in the streets because we are decreeing a state of emergency throughout the national territory," the president said on state broadcaster EcuadorTV. The announcement came on the

eve of a visit by US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken. The two will discuss questions of security, defense and trade.

**What does the state of emergency entail?**

With the new powers, the government will be able to mobilise 3,600 soldiers and police to patrol the country's 65 prisons, as well as increasing street presence.

Authorities will have the power to restrict freedom of movement, assembly and association for two months in a bid to curb the growing number of homicides, home burglaries and robberies.

Ecuador has already registered almost 1,900 murders this year — more than the 1,400 registered in the whole of 2020.

Lasso pointed to the increasing role of Ecuador as a con-

sumer of drugs rather than just a trafficking zone.

The rise in criminality "is not only reflected in the amount of drugs consumed in our country, but in the number of crimes that today have a direct or indirect relationship with the sale of narcotics," he said. The Andean nation is also dealing with a spate of prison riots that have left almost 240 people dead this year. **bw**

## N. Korea test fires ballistic missile off east coast

The South Korean military was 'closely monitoring the situation and maintaining readiness posture in close cooperation with the US'



**SEOUL:** North Korea fired a suspected submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) off its east coast, South Korea's military confirmed on Tuesday. Both the South and Japan said that at least one ballistic missile was launched — the latest in a series of weapons tests in recent weeks.

"Our military detected one unidentified short-range ballistic missile presumed to be an SLBM fired by North Korea," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement. The South Korean military was "closely monitoring the situation and maintaining readiness posture in close cooperation with

the United States, to prepare for possible additional launches."

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said their initial analysis suggested that the North fired two ballistic missiles, and called the continued weapons tests "very regrettable."

The prime minister, who is going into a general election later this month, was pulled off the campaign trail to deal with the situation. The US Indo-Pacific Command described the move as "destabilizing" but said it did not pose an immediate threat to the United States or its allies.

"While we have assessed that

this event does not pose an immediate threat to US personnel, territory, or that of our allies, we will continue to monitor the situation," it said in a statement.

Local news sources reported that Japanese Defense Minister Kishi said that he also believes that a ballistic missile involved an irregular orbit, indicating that it could have been launched from a submarine.

**How significant is the latest missile test?**

South Korean officials said the ballistic missile was launched from Sinpo, a major naval shipyard,

where the North keeps submarines, and equipment for testing SLBMs, according to satellite photographs. It was not immediately clear whether the missile was launched from a submarine or a submerged platform, as was done in previous tests.

The missile flew 430-450 km (267-280 miles) at an altitude of 60 km, Yonhap news agency reported, citing sources.

The launch was the latest in a string of tests, which include a long-range cruise missile, a train-launched weapon, and what the North said was a hypersonic warhead. **bw**

## DETERIORATING SECURITY

## General strike comes after mass kidnapping of 17 missionaries in Haiti

**PORT-AU-PRINCE:** Port-au-Prince ground to a halt on Monday as a general strike called over the deteriorating security situation in the country left usually chaotic streets empty. The strike came just days after 17 US and Canadian missionaries were abducted after visiting an orphanage.

Thousands of workers took part in the strike led by local unions and other civil society groups. Drivers of private moto taxis and public buses stayed home while businesses, schools and government offices were shuttered.

Some streets saw tire pyres alight in Port-au-Prince and in southern Haiti, the AP news agency reported some threw rocks at the few cars there were on the street.

**Missionaries abduction highlights security threat**

US officials, including the FBI, are working with the Haitian government to free the 17 missionaries from the US and Canada kidnapped over the weekend. Their mass abduction, which includes five children, highlights the peril confronting Haitians in their own country.

Changeux Mehu, president of Haiti's Association of Owners and Drivers who supported the general strike told AFP, "The kidnapping of the Americans shows that no one is safe in the country."

The abduction of the missionaries is the largest mass kidnapping of its kind in recent years in Haiti. Gangs in Haiti have grown more brazen amid political instability, a severe and growing economic crisis and a crime wave forcing many to leave the country by any means necessary and try their luck abroad.

Kidnapping gangs in Haiti have been known to demand ransoms that can range from hundreds of dollars to more than one million. Sometimes they have murdered those they abducted if ransom efforts are unsuccessful.

Haitian police have blamed Saturday's abductions on the 400 Mawozo gang with its history of killings, kidnappings and extortion. Almost a year ago, a wanted poster was issued for Wilson Joseph, the alleged gang leader who is wanted on charges that include murder, attempted murder, kidnapping, auto theft and carjacking trucks carrying goods. **bw**

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**CRICKET  
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# Bangladesh keep T20 World Cup hopes alive



Bangladesh defeat Oman by 26 runs in a Group B match

**MUSCAT:** A spirited bowling performance helped Bangladesh defeat Oman by 26 runs in Group B of the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground (Ministry Turf 1) on Tuesday.

Chasing 154, Oman lost its opener Aqib Ilyas (6) in the second over of the innings. Jatinder Singh and Kashyap Prajapati then put on 34 runs for the second wicket, but the partnership ended in the 6th over as Mustafizur Rahman dismissed Prajapati (21), reducing Oman to 47/2.

Jatinder then rallied Oman's innings alongside skipper Zeeshan Maqsood and at the halfway mark, the score read 70/2, still needing



gain an upper hand, Bangladesh stormed right back as Mahedi Hasan dismissed Maqsood (12). Soon after, Jatinder (40) was dismissed by Shakib Al Hasan and Oman was reduced to 90/4.

Oman kept on losing wickets at regular intervals and in the end,

Bangladesh registered a victory by 26 runs to keep their hopes alive of progressing to the Super 12 stage.

Earlier, Mohammad Naim and Shakib Al Hasan played knocks of 64 and 42 respectively as Bangladesh posted a score of 153. Opting to bat first, Bangladesh did not get off to an ideal start as the side lost its opener Liton Das (6) in the third over of the innings. Bilal had Das caught right plumb in front of the wickets. Soon after, Mahedi Hasan was dismissed for a duck by Fayyaz Butt and Bangladesh was reduced to 21/2 in the 5th over.

Mohammad Naim and Shakib then got together at the crease and the duo revived the innings

for Bangladesh. The duo put on 80 runs for the third wicket, but as soon as Bangladesh started to gain an upper hand, Oman managed to dismiss Shakib (42) via a run-out. After Shakib's dismissal, Bangladesh lost the wickets of Nurul Hasan (3), Afifi Hossain (1) and Naim (64) in quick succession and Bangladesh was reduced to 122/6 in the 17th over. However, in the end, Mahmudullah (17) ensured that Bangladesh posts a total of more than the 150-run mark.

Brief Scores: Bangladesh 153 all out (Mohammad Naim 64, Shakib Al Hasan 42; Bilal Khan 3-18); Oman 127/9 (Jatinder Singh 40, Kashyap Prajapati 21, Mustafizur Rahman 4-36). -ANI

T20 WORLD CUP

## Scotland defeat PNG in Group B

GROUP B



### POINTS TABLE

| POS | TEAM       | PLD | NRR    | PTS |
|-----|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| 1   | SCOTLAND   | 2   | +0.575 | 4   |
| 2   | OMAN       | 2   | +0.613 | 2   |
| 3   | BANGLADESH | 2   | +0.500 | 2   |
| 4   | PNG        | 2   | -1.867 | 0   |

**MUSCAT:** Richie Berrington's 70-run knock and a spirited bowling performance helped Scotland defeat Papua New Guinea (PNG) by 17 runs in Group B of the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground (Ministry Turf 1) on Tuesday.

Chasing 166, PNG got off to a horror start as the side lost five wickets and was reduced to 35/5. Tony Ura (2), Lega Siaka (9), Assad Vala (18), Charles Amini (1), and Simon Atai (2) all failed to leave a mark with the bat and Scotland was firmly at the top. Sese Bau and Norman Vanua then put on 32 runs for the sixth wicket, but the required run-rate got a bit too much to handle and as a result, Bau (24) ended up losing his wicket to Chris Greaves, reducing PNG to

67/6 in the 12th over.

Norman Vanua and Kiipin Doriga then provided a real scare to Scotland as the duo put on a quickfire stand of 53 runs for the seventh wicket. Mark Watt then dismissed Doriga (18) and Scotland needed 42 runs to win from the final three overs.

Vanua (47) however perished in the 18th over, and with this PNG's hopes were dashed and Scotland registered a 17-run victory.

Earlier, Richie Berrington played a knock of 70 as Scotland posted a score of 165/9 in the allotted twenty overs. Opting to bat first, Scotland openers George Munsey and Kyle Coetzer put on 22 runs inside the first three overs, but their partnership was cut short by Kabua Morea in the third over as he dismissed Coetzer (6). -ANI



84 more runs to win from 60 balls. Both batters stitched together a 34-run stand for the third wicket, but as soon as Oman started to

T20 WORLD CUP

## Having Dhoni inside dressing room gives a sense of calmness, says KL Rahul

**NEW DELHI:** India batter KL Rahul on Tuesday said having MS Dhoni as a mentor for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup gives a sense of calmness and he is looking forward to picking the brains of the former Indian skipper on all things cricket.

India will open its campaign in the upcoming T20 World Cup against Pakistan on October 24 at the Dubai International Stadium. Virat Kohli's side will also have the services of MS Dhoni as the former India skipper will act as a mentor. Dhoni had led the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) to their fourth IPL title this year after the Chennai-based franchise defeated Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the summit clash.

"None of us are sure that IPL 2021 final was his last game. I do not think, I would love to see MS Dhoni play for a lot more years if he could. Yeah, it was great to see

how CSK played in the tournament and they were the most deserving to win it. Obviously, MS Dhoni back with the team feels amazing because we have played under him and we have looked towards him as a mentor even when he was our captain," said Rahul during a Clubhouse session organised by Red Bull on Tuesday.

"We loved having him in the dressing room when he was the captain, we loved the calmness. We have all looked up to him to help us out, to have him here is amazing. This gives us a sense of calmness, I have enjoyed spending time with him in the first two to three days and it has been a lot of fun. Looking forward to chewing his brain about cricket, captaincy and all things cricket," he added.

Talking about the fitness of MS Dhoni, Rahul said: "I think Dhoni can give any of us stiff competition, he definitely is a guy who

can hit the ball furthest, he is very strong and he is good between the wickets. He looks the fittest, it is good fun to have him."

India defeated England by seven wickets in the warm-up fixture on Monday and KL Rahul starred with the bat as he played a knock of 51 runs. Ishan Kishan was also a bright spot as he played a knock of 70 runs.

"Very excited, obviously, World Cup is a big event and every player looks forward to it and every player is training all year round to play this tournament. The World Cup was supposed to be played last year, but it was pushed and it has given a lot more time to think about the best combination and try and get everything right and make a huge impact and win the tournament. 2019 World Cup semis loss did hurt the team a lot and hopefully, we can use that to push ourselves a lot more and try and win the tournament," said Rahul. ANI



**Sultanate of Oman**  
**MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH**  
*MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH, Muscat, hereby give notice of tenders for the following projects*

| TENDR. No. | Project Category                                                     | Location                                                                                                                                                                            | Fees R.O | Grade In Tender Board Registration |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| 21/2021    | Services                                                             | Cleaning Services To Entire Campus And Facilities To Ministry's Various Buildings At Muscat Governorate For The Period Of 1st January 2022 To 31st December 2022                    | 25/-     | Excellent Grade                    |
| 22/2021    | Services                                                             | Maintenance Of Landscaping Works To Ministry's Campuses In Muscat Governorate For The Period Of 1st January 2022 To 31st December 2022                                              | 25/-     | First Grade                        |
| 23/2021    | Electromechanical and Telecommunications Contracting and Maintenance | Maintenance & Operation Of Electro-mechanical And Air-conditioning Units To Ministry's Various Buildings In Muscat Governorate For The Period St January 2022 To 31st December 2022 | 25/-     | First Grade                        |

Companies, which are registered with the Tender Board and engaged in same category with experience in and same Grade as noted above, can obtain the Tender Documents at the Tender Board E-tendering digital portal link (<http://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) until 06/11/2021.

The last date of tender submission on above E-tendering site at 10:00am 29/11/2021

A Tender Bond equivalent to 1% of the tender sum issued from a registered bank, in the prescribed form, in Sultanate of Oman and valid for 90 days should enclosed with the tender.

Any tender without the bond will be reject and the tender committee is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender received.

**INTERNAL TENDER COMMITTEE OF MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH**

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# Klopp respects Atletico Madrid boss but doesn't like his style of play

The Reds boss discussed the unique challenge of facing Diego Simeone's side

**LIVERPOOL:** Liverpool FC head coach Jurgen Klopp stated he doesn't like Diego Simeone's style of play but admitted that Atletico Madrid head coach is doing "absolutely everything right" on the field.

Liverpool FC visit the Spanish capital for their Champions League encounter with Atletico Madrid on Tuesday.

Prior to the match, the Reds boss discussed the unique challenge of facing Diego Simeone's side. "Diego Simeone is doing absolutely everything right," Klopp said at his pre-match news conference on Monday, as per Sky Sports.

"He is the current Spanish champion. Very successful at [Atletico]. He has a bunch of world-class players, keeps them on their toes, they fight with all



**CHAMPIONS LEAGUE:** The last time in 2020 when both the heavyweights met on the European stage, Atletico knocked out then holders Liverpool in the last 16 of the Champions League.

they have for their lives." "That says a lot about the quality of Diego so I couldn't respect more what they do. Do I like it? Not too much but that is normal because I prefer a different kind of football. That's me. Other coaches

prefer different styles of football. Nobody has to like it, it just has to be successful and that is what Atletico is for sure," he added.

After winning two out of two in Group B so far, the Reds next take on the reigning LaLiga title-holders

in the first meeting of a double-header. The last time in 2020 when both the heavyweights met on the European stage, Atletico knocked out then holders Liverpool in the last 16 of the Champions League. **ANI**

## INDIA VS PAKISTAN



## Don't mix sports with politics, India-Pakistan T20 World Cup match should go on: Padukone

**MUMBAI:** India badminton legend Prakash Padukone on Tuesday said that sports and politics should not be mixed with each other, and the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup match between India and Pakistan should proceed as planned.

India and Pakistan are slated to lock horns against each other in the World Cup on October 24 in Dubai. "According to me, the match between India and Pakistan should go on. Sports and politics should not be mixed together," Padukone told ANI.

Earlier on Tuesday, Aam Aadmi Party had demanded that the Indian cricket team should opt-out of its match against Pakistan in ICC T20 World Cup in Dubai.

During a press conference, Atishi, AAP MLA from Kalkaji said, "We see people being attacked in Kashmir. I'm sure that even the Prime Minister agrees with the stand of not conducting the match (IND v PAK) as when in Opposition he used to question that when

state-sponsored terrorism is taking place in India why should we play cricket with them?"

She further said, "So, I am sure that not only AAP but even BJP and its leadership along with the PM will agree that unless such attacks in India and targeted attacks on Indians stop, it will not be right to play matches like this."

People have been asking that the BCCI and the government should reconsider playing Pakistan in the ICC men's T20 World Cup as in the past few days, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a spate of targeted killings of civilians especially non-locals.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Vice President Rajeev Shukla on Monday said India will have to play arch-rivals Pakistan in the T20 World Cup as no team can refuse to play another side in a tournament organised by International Cricket Council (ICC). **ANI**

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

# Harbhajan, Srinath among 18 new honorary members of MCC

**LONDON:** Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) on Tuesday announced 18 new honorary life members. MCC awards Honorary Life Membership (HLM) of the club to some of the world's finest cricketers.

Eight of the 12 Test-playing nations are represented in this year's list, which includes some of the most recognisable names in the modern game. England's leading Test run-scorer, Sir Alastair Cook, is joined by fellow countrymen Ian Bell and Marcus Trescothick, totalling more than 39,000 international runs between them.

A fourth England star, Sarah Taylor, returned to the field this year, appearing in the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy, Charlotte Edwards Cup and The Hundred, and is recognised as one of the finest wicket-keepers of her generation.

Four South African legends



**MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB:** Eight of the 12 Test-playing nations are represented in this year's list, which includes some of the most recognisable names in the modern game.

have been awarded Honorary Life Membership, with Hashim Amla, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis and Morne Morkel all receiving the honour. Kallis's 13,289 Test runs puts him third on the all-time run-scoring list.

Alex Blackwell and Damien Martyn of Australia are also included. Allrounder Blackwell won over 250 caps for her country across all formats of the games, and batter Martyn scored almost 10,000 international runs.

Indian duo Harbhajan Singh and Javagal Srinath both enjoyed fine international careers.

Harbhajan is India's third-highest wicket-taker in Tests, with 417 dismissals in 103 Tests, while Srinath is one of the country's greatest ODI players, having taken 315 wickets and ended his career as India's second-highest wicket-taker in ODIs.

Ian Bishop, Shivnarine Chand-

erpaul and Ramnaresh Sarwan all represent West Indies.

Bishop took 161 wickets in just 43 matches, while Chanderpaul is West Indies' most capped Test player (164) and only seven players have scored more than his 11,867 runs.

Sarwan racked up 15 Test centuries, and his 291 against England in 2009 equalled the highest individual score by a West Indian.

Rangana Herath of Sri Lanka took 433 Test wickets in a career spanning almost two decades, and features in the top ten of all-time Test wicket-takers.

Guy Lavender, Chief Executive & Secretary of MCC, in an official release said: "We are absolutely thrilled to be able to welcome our newest Honorary Life Members of MCC. The cricketers announced today are among the greatest international players of their generation." **ANI**

## T20 WORLD CUP

# Whatever role given, I'm hopefully going to do well, says Moeen Ali

**ABU DHABI:** Moeen Ali might have played as a top-order batter for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in IPL 2021 but the all-rounder doesn't see himself emulating the same role for England in the on-going T20 World Cup.

MS Dhoni-led CSK beat Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the IPL final in Dubai and lifted their fourth IPL title last week. Moeen, who played a key role in CSK's title win, said he felt like an important person in the camp. "I absolutely loved it (role in CSK). Obviously, when you win a competition like the IPL it's amazing and with the role I was given, I felt like I was quite important to the team," ESPNcricinfo quoted Moeen as saying.

"I'm just grateful that I played and did pretty well for them. As a team I thought we were great -- we had great fun. I felt like I learned a lot with the experienced players that we had," he added.

Moeen, who came into bat number 6, smashed 43 runs off just 20 balls in the warm-up game against India on Monday but the all-rounder knows with so much firepower in England squad his role could change in



the T20 World Cup.

"The reality [is that] there are so many good players, if you look at the team we [England] have and the batters that we have -- it's quite scary, actually. My role could change but the good thing is I feel like I could play any type of role," said Moeen.

"If a chance does come, I can bat No. 6 or 7 [or] I can bat up the

order, so I'm just trying to get myself ready and be in a good frame of mind. Whatever role I'm given, I'm hopefully going to do well in," he added.

In the warm-up game, Ishan Kishan and KL Rahul played knocks of 70 and 51 respectively as India chased down 189 to defeat England by seven wickets on Monday. **ANI**

## OMAN TENNIS TEAM BEATS MONGOLIA

The National Tennis Team has bagged its first win in the International Davis Cup Championship, currently being held in Bahrain's capital of Manama, with the participation of thirteen national teams. Oman's national team managed to beat the national team of Mongolia 2-0. Oman was represented by players Isa Al Sulaimani and Ali Al Busaidi, which is a good result for the under-16 team. The Sultanate's national tennis team is in the second group along with the national teams of Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Iraq. **—ONA**



**FACEBOOK TO HIRE 10,000**  
Facebook said it plans to hire 10,000 workers in the European Union over the next five years to work on a new computing platform that promises to connect people virtually but could raise concerns about privacy and the social platform gaining more control over people's online lives.

# MARKET

## BUSINESS & FINANCE



**ECONOMIC GROWTH SLOWS**  
China saw its economy grow by just under 5 per cent in the third quarter of the year, official data revealed. The figure represents a slowdown in China's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, following higher rates of growth in the first and second quarters.

# Over 6,000 commercial records registered for GCC investors

The number of commercial records registered for investors from the GCC countries in Oman until the end of the second quarter of this year reached 6,571

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** More than 6,000 commercial records have been registered for investors from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries in Oman until the end of June 2021. Oman News Agency (ONA) said in a statement: "The number of commercial records registered for investors from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries in the

Sultanate of Oman until the end of the second quarter of this year reached 6,571."

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion represented by the Information, Data and Statistics Department clarified that the number of records for Emirati investors that were registered during the second quarter of this year amounted to 45, bringing the cumulative number to 3,164, and the number of



records registered for Saudi investors during the same quarter reached 15, bringing the total to 1,125. The number of registered records for Bahraini investors during the second quarter of this year

reached 12, bringing the total to 909 records.

During the second quarter of this year, three records were registered for Kuwaiti investors, bringing their cumulative number to

902, and seven records for Qatari investors, bringing their cumulative number to 471 until the end of the second quarter of this year.

The ministry affirmed that its action plan is in line with Oman

Vision 2040, which is represented in diversification and economic growth, creating job opportunities, raising the Sultanate's classification in international indicators and local added value, promoting foreign direct investment, balanced development in the governorates, and promoting exports and their diversity.

The ministry indicated that the various initiatives and plans that it presented during the last period of this year aim to facilitate procedures, contribute to the promotion of investment opportunities, attract quality investments and create the appropriate environment for the success and development of all investments. In addition to empowering the private sector and encouraging it to invest, transfer investments, develop all sectors, and enhance in-country value programmes in partnership with the private sector.

## DATA

# Oil prices fall as weaker China growth, US output stoke demand concerns

**TOKYO:** Oil prices fell on Tuesday, with Brent down a second straight day, after Chinese data showed slowing economic growth and US factory output dropped in September, raising fresh concerns about demand amid patchy recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

Brent crude was down by 43 cents, or 0.5 per cent, at \$83.90 a barrel by 0132 GMT after falling 0.6 per cent on Monday. The contract is still up nearly 7 per cent this month, a media reported.

US oil fell 33 cents, or 0.4 per cent, to \$82.11 a barrel, having risen 0.2 per cent in the previous session and nearly 10 per cent this month.

Factory output in the United States dropped the most in seven months last month as a global shortage of semiconductors slowed auto production, further evidence that supply constraints are a strain on economic growth.

In China, the world's second-biggest economy, bottlenecks also contributed to a decline in the growth rate to a one-year low as energy shortages and sporadic outbreaks of coronavirus hit the country.

China's daily crude oil processing rate fell again last month to the lowest level since May last year.

But with temperatures falling as the northern hemisphere winter



approaches, prices of oil, coal and gas are likely to remain elevated, analysts said.

"A frigid winter has the potential to send energy prices even higher," Citi Research commodities analysts said in a note, after upgrading their forecast for Brent oil for the rest of 2021 to \$85 a barrel from \$74 a barrel.

Colder weather has already started to grip China, with the temperature forecast to fall to near freezing point in areas of the north, according to AccuWeather.com.

Also helping keep a lid on prices, US oil output is rising. Production in the largest shale formation in the US is expected to gain further next month, according to an official report. -BNA

## REPORT

# Patents to tackle plastic waste on the rise

**BRUSSELS:** There are currently thousands of different types of plastic available and the lion's share of new plastic soon ends up as waste.

As mountains of the used stuff continue to pile up around the world, people are looking for new ways to reduce, reuse and recycle some of it. But getting rid of even a tiny amount of it will be a gargantuan job, especially with the popularity of hard-to-recycle products and single-use plastic.

In 2019, nearly 370 million tonnes of plastic were produced globally, according to the PlasticsEurope trade association. Most of it was synthesised from oil or natural gas. That's just another reason why many inventors are now tackling the issue in a multitude of ways like making things easier to recycle or even looking for alternatives to conventional plastics altogether.

Currently, the US and Europe are tied for the number of recycling-related and bioplastic technology patents, according to a study released by the European Patent Office (EPO). Combined they account for 60 per cent of global patents between 2010 and 2019 to make the plastic industry more circular.

This may seem like old data, but since patent applications are often filed years before products or processes actually appear for consumers, such information can be a good indicator of things to come. And what the EPO sees is growing innovation in recycling and alternative plastics.

EPO President Antonio Campinos shares this enthusiasm for



**PLASTIC PRODUCTION:** In 2019, nearly 370 million tonnes of plastic were produced globally, according to the PlasticsEurope trade association. -DW

a brighter future with less plastic pollution without resorting to outright bans.

"The good news is that innovation can help us to address this challenge by enabling the transition to a fully circular model," he said in a press release accompanying his agency's report.

In Europe in the past decade, Germany was most active in both plastic recycling and bioplastic technology patents, followed by the UK, the Netherlands and Italy. Looking closer, the authors of the EPO report see that absolute numbers are not everything, though.

"Within Europe, France, the UK, Italy, the Netherlands and Belgium stand out for their specialisation in both plastic recycling and bioplastic technologies. Although it posted the highest share of IPFs [international patent families] due to its larger economy, Germany lacked

specialisation in these fields," noted the report.

IPF is an industry term and means a single invention that has been filed at several patent offices, making it more likely to be something truly innovative and therefore worthwhile to count. Outside of Europe and the US, Japan brought in about 18 per cent of these patents, while South Korea and China are both far behind with only about 5 per cent each.

## Plain recycling is no longer plain

At its most fundamental level, the number of patents worldwide dealing with improving basic mechanical recycling has gone up for years. Indeed, it is still the simplest and most common way to turn plastic waste into something new. Since the early 1990s, the number of patents to make things easier to recycle has also increased greatly

to make that job easier.

But in the last decade, chemical and biological recycling methods have taken over patent activity. They now account for twice as many patents as traditional mechanical recycling methods. These chemical methods work by breaking the plastic into its chemical elements, which can then be reused. On the downside, these methods are often more energy-intensive.

Another option, though less explored, is biological recycling. As the name suggests, this method uses living organisms to turn plastic into compost.

The report acknowledges Europe's excellence in fundamental research in chemical and biological recycling but complained about a lack of entrepreneurial spirit to get these new ideas to the market. The continent must better exploit what it has by taking these ideas from universities and other research institutes and bringing them to the industry. Up until now, they have been well behind their successful American counterparts.

## Don't forget the easy parts

Besides investigating recycling, the report also highlights a big increase in patent applications for alternatives to fossil fuel-based plastics. Manufacturing these alternatives generates fewer carbon emissions and are either biobased or biodegradable. Here the health care, packaging, cosmetic, detergent, electronics and textile sectors were at the forefront of innovation.-nw

## BATTERY FACTORIES

# Automakers step up pace on electric vehicle battery plants

**DETROIT:** Global automakers and tech companies are stepping up the pace when it comes to building factories and prepare for what many believe will be a fast-moving transition from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles.

On Monday, Toyota, Stellantis, Foxconn, Ford and Volvo all made announcements about electric vehicle component or assembly plants, or plans to raise capital to fund the transition. The moves come on top of previous plans from Ford and General Motors to build five US battery factories in anticipation of the shift to electric power.

The moves are ahead of demand at the moment, but forecasters predict that the share of electric vehicles will rise dramatically as more battery-electric models are rolled out as governments increase requirements for zero-emissions vehicles to fight climate change. -BNA



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MARKET

# China's economic growth slows in third quarter

Troubles in the property sector, an energy crisis and shortages due to the coronavirus pandemic have contributed to weakened growth in the world's second-largest economy

**BEIJING:** China, the world's second-biggest economy, saw its economy grow by just under 5 per cent in the third quarter of the year, official data revealed.

The figure represents a slowdown in China's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, following higher rates of growth in the first



**SLOWDOWN:** The figure represents a slowdown in China's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, following higher rates of growth in the first and second quarters. -DW

and second quarters.

A spokesperson for the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), which published the data, pointed to the "current international environment uncertainties are mounting and the domestic economic recovery is still unstable and uneven."

The nominally communist country has been struggling with energy shortages and a slowdown

in the real estate market, exacerbated by the massive debt owed by property giant Evergrande.

**Why is China's economic growth slowing?**

The country's recorded GDP growth for the first quarter of the year hit a record 18.3 per cent. This fell to 7.9 per cent for the second quarter and now 4.9 per cent for

the third, leaving growth for the period between January and September at 9.8 per cent.

The initial rebound has been dampened by a series of factors. Fears over the property sector are central, but government crack-downs on tech companies, continued regional lockdowns and the goal of "zero covid" as well as electricity shortages have all played key roles.

Domestic retail sales were up 4.4 per cent, an increase over the same period last year, as restrictions have been eased.

Beijing is trying to make its economy more sustainable, with a greater focus on domestic consumption over exports, and with a tightening of financial risks.

It also put limits on energy use, forcing some factories to close their doors in September to avoid exceeding energy use goals.

**What are the possible consequences?**

Ripple effects to the rest of the world "could be significant" due to weaker Chinese demand for raw materials, Fidelity International investment firm said in a report.

"Even developed markets, including the US, would not be immune to a significant tightening in global financial conditions as a result of a negative China growth shock accompanied by financial stress," it added.

A slowdown in manufacturing has led to warnings that some goods may not be delivered on time, raising the possibility of shortages of key consumer goods ahead of the Christmas shopping season. -DW

**COMPUTING PLATFORM**

Facebook plans to hire 10,000 in Europe to build 'metaverse'

**LONDON:** Facebook said it plans to hire 10,000 workers in the European Union over the next five years to work on a new computing platform that promises to connect people virtually but could raise concerns about privacy and the social platform gaining more control over people's online lives.

The company said in a blog post-Sunday that those high-skilled workers will help build "the metaverse," a futuristic notion for connecting online that uses augmented and virtual reality.

Facebook executives have been touting the metaverse as the next big thing after the mobile internet, though their track record is spotty on predicting future trends. Expectations that CEO Mark Zuckerberg made four years ago of taking virtual vacations with faraway loved ones via a headset or using a smartphone camera to improve an apartment virtually have not materialised so far.

Facebook's recruiters are targeting Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Poland, the Netherlands and Ireland for the hiring drive. -BNA

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DUBAI AEROSPACE ENTERPRISE

DAE bolsters liquidity strength with new financing actions

**DUBAI:** Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE) Ltd, the global aviation services company, announced financing actions that further enhance the company's liquidity strength:

\$780 million of new Senior Unsecured Term Financings with a weighted average maturity of 7.7 years in two transactions, each underwritten by a leading bank in the region. \$800 million of 24-month revolving credit facility maturity extensions from 2023 to 2025.

Firoz Tarapore, CEO of

DAE, stated, "These new financing and facility extensions underscore DAE's commitment to maintaining exceptional liquidity and a strong balance sheet as we navigate challenging trends in the aviation industry."

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GLOBAL OPERATIONS

Petroplan appoints new CEO

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Specialist energy talent acquisition group, Petroplan, has appointed Christopher Honeyman Brown as Chief Executive Officer to lead the group's global operations.

A widely respected professional within the accounting, law and education space, Christopher's appointment signals a new era for Petroplan as the Group begins to move at pace, accelerating, adapting, and sharpening their service offering.

Before becoming Chief Executive, Christopher was appointed as non-executive director of Petroplan Holdings Limited in 2018. His proven leadership capability in large and complex organisations - having undertaken four major change programmes during his career - ideally positions him to deliver Petroplan's vision for growth.

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Indian Male MCA 15Yrs Exp in Oman, Seeking a job in IT, HR, Payroll, Accounts or any suitable post. NOC & D/L available.

**Contact: 95297497**

**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**

**ENGINEER**

B.Tech Mechanical Engineer with 2yrs Exp, Seeking Suitable placement. Presently in Muscat (Visit Visa)

**Contact 78375996**  
**Email: [vishnupt999@gmail.com](mailto:vishnupt999@gmail.com)**

**MEP Supervisor**

Indian male, 36years old, diploma graduate having 15+years of Oman experience in MEP supervisor role in an excellent grade construction and trading company with good practical knowledge, have MEDC, CEP, MEDC Electrician license. NOC available, is looking for suitable opening. Oman D/L.

**Contact +968 96135973**  
**Email [kddhaya2@gmail.com](mailto:kddhaya2@gmail.com)**

**Management Professional with Business Development Experience**  
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Worked in Diversified Business Conglomerate, Oil & Gas and Construction Industry. Long journey in Oman with progressive career growth. Professional experience in Sales, Administration, Business Development, Project Management and Overall Company Management. Dual Masters in Oil & Gas Management and International Business with PMP Certification. NOC with Local Transfer is available.

**GSM: +968 9943 8477 / e-mail: [harimct@gmail.com](mailto:harimct@gmail.com)**

**ACCOUNTANT**

Indian Male 39 years, B.com, having 14 years Gulf experience as Accountant. Looking for suitable placement. Having Oman driving license and NOC available.

**Contact: 97998397**  
**Email: [salafcs@yahoo.com](mailto:salafcs@yahoo.com)**

**Chemist (Quality Controller) (BSC. Chemistry)**

25 Years Exp in Testing and analysis of raw, intermediate & finished products, Calibrating lab instruments, compiling reports. Looking suitable placement. Having Oman driving licence.

**Contact No. Oman-96359802, India-+91 9400032844. Email: [mollythomas53@rediffmail.com](mailto:mollythomas53@rediffmail.com)**

## JOB WANTED

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**16 years** Oman experience in , procurement, logistics and customs with valid Oman D/L & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

**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

**Indian male** 44yrs with 20 yrs experience in Warehouse, stores & purchase seeks suitable post. NOC & D/L available. Contact 98676159. Email: [nairviju77@gmail.com](mailto:nairviju77@gmail.com)

**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**

**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: [khan Shah98@gmail.com](mailto:khan Shah98@gmail.com)**

**ACCOUNTANT**

Indian Male Accountant available for instant joining; Having B.com higher grade graduation with 6 years of acquaintance and comprehension on major accounting platforms well versed in Microsoft and profound communication skills. NOC Available.

**Contact No: +968-94649272**  
**Email: [sherin.am01@gmail.com](mailto:sherin.am01@gmail.com)**

**Graduate in B.A**

Specialized in Marketing & Advertising. Content Copywriting and Graphic Designing, excellent communication & technical skills.

Indian female with valid driving license currently on family visa. Looking for suitable placement.

**Contact 92550471/96736832**

**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 [rajugetme10@yahoo.com](mailto:rajugetme10@yahoo.com)**

**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**

**Process Engineer (Omani)**

Bachelor degree from German University of technology in Oman, 3 year experience in process and Contract engineering worked with Multiple Water and wastewater companies in Oman in different Sites and STPs.

**Contact number: 92115804**  
**Email: [Faiza112@outlook.com](mailto:Faiza112@outlook.com)**

**HSE OFFICER**

Indian HSE Officer, diploma in Mechanical Engineering & Diploma in fire and safety engineering. NEBOSH, OSHA AND QA/QC Holder. 5 years Experience in HSE seeks suitable placement.

**Contact 7974 3601**

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INDIAN MALE WITH +20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN SUPPLY CHAIN, PURCHASE, SALES & DISTRIBUTION, MIS, INVENTORY & CREDIT CONTROL SEEKS PLACEMENT.

**CONTACT 94619442, [vineeth33@yahoo.com](mailto:vineeth33@yahoo.com)**

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**GSM 92166848 / 94110108**

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Email: [sales@oceancentre.co](mailto:sales@oceancentre.co)

**PROJECT ENGINEER**

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**Contact 91731694**

**FINANCE MANAGER**

Finance Professional CA/CIMA/ MBA, with 18 years of GCC experience, open to Immediate Managerial Vacancies.

**Contact Number # 78556829**

**GROUP FINANCE MANAGER**

**with 20 yrs+ experience seeks suitable placement**

**Contact 92578435**  
**Email: [1974KSD@gmail.com](mailto:1974KSD@gmail.com)**

**FINANCE**

**M Com - Financial Professional, 17 years of Experience in Oman, Currently working as a finance Manager is looking for suitable placement, available from 10th November 2021.**

**Mob # 92301318**  
**[abdulrasheedlulu@gmail.com](mailto:abdulrasheedlulu@gmail.com)**

**Chemical Engineer (Omani)**

**Fresh graduate, bachelor degree from The University of New Mexico (USA)**

**Contact +96896444740**  
**Email: [msr15@live.com](mailto:msr15@live.com)**

**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**

**Finance Head**

CPA, CMA, CIA with 19 years' experience in Strategic finance, Banking, Financial reporting, Budget, VAT. Looking for Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

**Contact 92148608**

**ADMINISTRATION**

39-year Indian HR professional (MBA-HR) 14 yrs Exp (HR/SAP/Admin) with Oman DL & NOC. Seeking suitable openings in Human Resource & Admin jobs.

**Contact: +968-78539053**  
**Email: [rkkambat@gmail.com](mailto:rkkambat@gmail.com)**

**ADMIN / FINANCE**

Indian male, MBA (Finance), having D/L, 22 years exp in finalization in Accounts, Internal auditing, MIS and Admin in various sectors. 15 years exp in Gulf & 13 Years in Oman looking for a suitable SR position.

**GSM: 96974637**  
**Email: [goutam14b@gmail.com](mailto:goutam14b@gmail.com)**

**HSE Advisor**

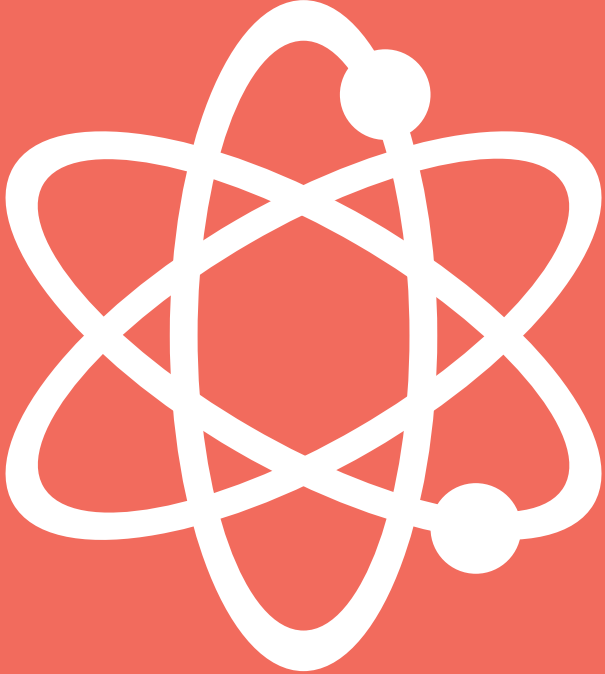
**Omani HSE Advisor, 5 yrs experience seeks placement.**

**Contact +96879990740**  
**Email: [mundhirsaidalrashdi@gmail.com](mailto:mundhirsaidalrashdi@gmail.com)**

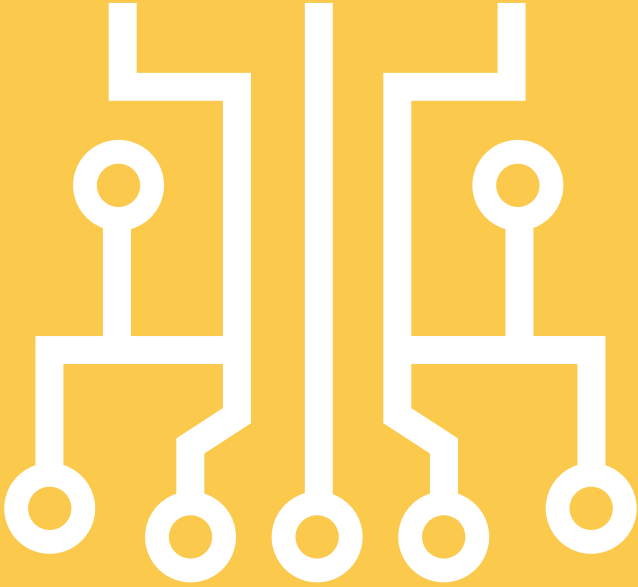
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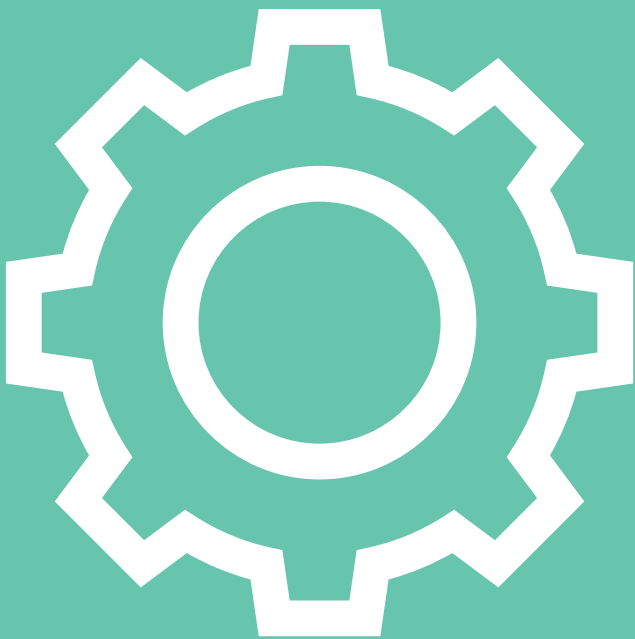


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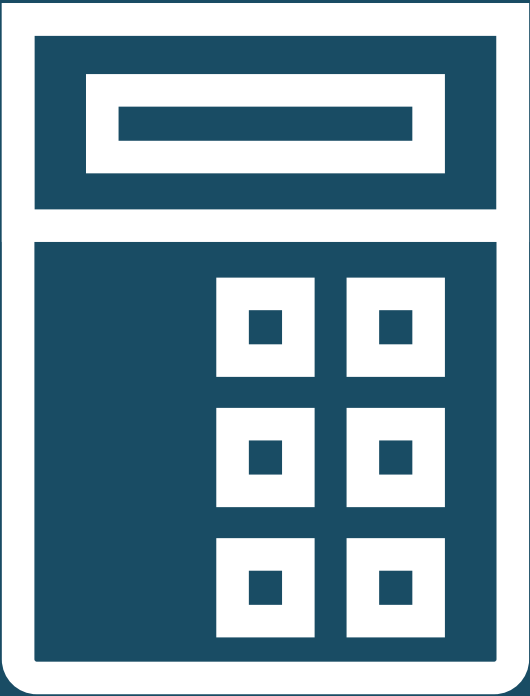


TECHNOLOGY

# STEM



ENGINEERING



MATHEMATICS

# IN YOUR KIDS' HANDS



LIFESTYLE

**STUDIES SHOW** that kids who are exposed to STEM concepts from a young age are more likely to show interest in pursuing STEM careers. With over 50 per cent of the fastest-growing jobs related to STEM, it's no wonder that competency in these areas is a strong indicator of future career success. But STEM education doesn't just help students go directly into STEM careers. Its focus on creative problem-solving, critical thinking, innovation and teamwork helps students develop the skills needed to succeed in any field.

Here are some of the simplest ways to get kids excited about everyday scientific concepts, creativity and STEM:

- Encourage kids to actively participate in STEM-related activities at school and at home. Not sure where to turn? Students and families can check out the range of free content and downloadable lesson plans.
- Expose budding scientists to high-quality learning tools. The first and only "STEM Pen," FriXion is the only writing instrument to be Authenticated by the experts at STEM.org. The unique, thermo-sensitive, erasable ink inside every FriXion pen makes it ideal for everything from taking lab notes and reviewing reference materials to demonstrating scientific principles and covalent bonding. These writing tools allow students of any age to draw, erase, highlight and revise easily and cleanly, so they can take on STEM tasks fearlessly.
- Keep content engaging for your child's age group. Whether accessing lessons online or doing a science kit together, be sure you've selected resources and programming at the right level for your child.
- Seek out cool and exciting STEM opportunities. With the right tools and resources, you can bring kids into the world of STEM, and offer them the building blocks for innovation. -Statepoint



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# ROUND-UP

## Al Mazyona to reward winners with OMR102,000 in National Day draw

Bank Muscat has announced that customers maintaining a minimum balance of OMR 1,000 in their Al Mazyona savings account will automatically be eligible to participate in the draw, which will see 51 lucky winners get OMR 2,000 each, with a total of OMR 102,000 being given away in the draw

**MUSCAT:** Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, has begun the countdown to the special Al Mazyona draw being held on the occasion of the 51st National Day

celebrations. The bank has announced that customers maintaining a minimum balance of OMR 1,000 in their Al Mazyona savings account will automatically be eligible to partici-

pate in the draw, which will see 51 lucky winners get OMR 2,000 each, with a total of OMR 102,000 being given away in the draw. Speaking on the occasion, Abdullah Tamman Al Maashani, Deputy General Manager - Institutional Sales and Product Development, Bank Muscat, said, "We are delighted to invite all our Al Mazyona customers to take part in the upcoming National Day draw by saving more and getting more chances to win prizes. Bank Muscat always participates in all national events in order to bring joy and happiness to its customers and we call upon all our customers to continue their savings habit to get more opportunities to win exciting financial prizes." It must also be noted that the special draw for National Day will be preceded in October 2021 by special draws on the occasion of Omani

Women's Day and the Omani Youth Day. The 2021 Al Mazyona Scheme will culminate with the special end-of-year draw, which will reward customers with high-value prizes worth over OMR 1.5 million. Bank Muscat encourages everyone to save for the future to create a life-changing experience for winners and improve the well-being of their families. Al Mazyona is designed to transform the lives of prudent savers. The scheme is targeted to accommodate all nationalities and segments, including ladies, youth, children, high-savings balance customers and salary account holders, thereby inculcating a strong savings habit among citizens who will be financially responsible. The bank has also invited all its customers to take maximum advantage of the opportunities and win exciting prizes by increasing the savings in their accounts.



STUNNING COLLECTION

## Celebrate this Diwali with Vedha from Kalyan Jewellers



**MUSCAT:** Gearing up for the auspicious occasion of Diwali, Kalyan Jewellers, one of the most trusted and leading jewellery brands, has launched the stunning Vedha collection - a line of handcrafted, heritage gold jewellery accentuated with opulent precious and semi-precious stones. These delicately crafted jewellery pieces exude an essence of old-world charm, with a tinge of new-age style, to create a design aesthetic that is sure to stay in vogue. Vedha is perfect for the woman of today, who even when in charge of her agency, proudly embraces traditions, preserves her cultural heritage and invests in luxurious future heirlooms. The collection combines heritage designs with contemporary-cut precious stones

like rubies, emeralds, sapphires, uncut diamonds and more. With over 100 unique designs spread across long haars, necklaces, bangles, earrings and rings, Vedha from Kalyan Jewellers will bring home prosperity, positivity and happiness, this festive season. Talking about the launch of the Vedha Collection, Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director - Kalyan Jewellers said, "We are extremely delighted to present our customers with the Vedha Collection, which is another unique brand that we are adding to our range of jewellery offerings. The timeless designs from the Vedha Collection beautifully translate India's tryst with colours through shimmering gemstones and designs that draw inspiration from

enduring jewellery traditions of our land. With this collection, we aim to offer our customers a unique way to wear and celebrate India's rich craftsmanship legacy, and we could not think of a better occasion than Diwali, the festival of lights and new beginnings, to launch Vedha." In a bid to make this festive season shine brighter for customers across Oman, Kalyan Jewellers has announced its Diwali offers, which includes up to 25% cashback on making charges of gold jewellery and up to 20% cashback offer is available on diamond, precious stone and uncut diamond jewellery. These offers are valid until November 30, across all showrooms in UAE. Customers can also avail of gold

rate protection by paying a 10% advance on their intended purchase value. The all-new Vedha will complement Kalyan Jewellers' existing collections, which include Muhurat, the bridal jewellery line curated from across India along with popular house brands such as Tejasvi (Polki jewellery), Mudhra (handcrafted antique jewellery), Nimah (Temple jewellery) and Rang (precious stones jewellery). The company's product designs also include a varied range of diamond jewellery as part of Glo (dancing diamonds), Ziah (Solitaire like diamond jewellery), Anokhi (uncut diamonds), Apoorva (diamonds for special occasions), Antara (wedding diamonds) and Hera (daily wear dia-

monds) collections. Kalyan Jewellers draws from a product portfolio of over 100,000 contemporary and traditional designs and offers selections for every day as well as bridal wear and festive occasions at 148 showrooms in India and the Middle East. Customers can also avail of the benefits of Kalyan's 4-Level Assurance Certification on gold jewellery. While jewellery retailed at Kalyan Jewellers goes through multiple purity tests, the 4-level assurance certificate promises customers payment on the value of purity mentioned in the invoice during exchange or resale. The certification also ensures free lifetime maintenance of ornaments at any Kalyan Jewellers' showroom in the country.

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FEATURE



# ‘SPORT BRINGS US TOGETHER’

## CAMPAIGN PROVIDES SUPPORT TO THOSE AFFECTED IN NORTH AL BATINAH



**MORE THAN 350** citizens and residents, including 55 women, participated in the ‘Sport brings us together’ campaign, which was organised by Oman Olympic Committee (OOC) last Friday to help those affected by the recent climatic conditions that affected Oman (Cyclone Shaheen) in North Al Batinah and to contribute to the removal of waste from neighbourhoods and streets resulted.

The volunteers participated in each of the wilayats of Suwaiq and Al Khaboura, where the campaign started at 7:00 am heading to North Al Batinah, with the participation of OOC board members represented by Sheikh Saif bin Hilal Al Hosani, Taha bin Suleiman Al Koshary, Khaled bin Ali Al

Adi, Saada Bint Salem Al Ismailia, and Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Jabri, and a number of NFs boards members, in addition to members of the sports committees and sub-committees, the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Youth, sports clubs and athletes.

Volunteers have helped and supported in the affected wilayats in cleaning beaches and homes, removing waste from roads, helping the parties involved in the rest of the work, in addition to providing a range of games and artistic and educational competitions for children. The campaign also presented a number of initiatives during its presence, including providing two trucks loaded with drinking water, and distributing

breakfast, lunch and dinner to a number of affected people.

Taha Al Kishry, OOC Secretary-General, said: “We are pleased to have a large group of athletes of all categories in this national campaign with the rest of the governmental and private institutions to support those affected by the cyclone in the North Al Batinah wilayats, and to support them and stand with them in this ordeal, and to complement the efforts made by our rational government, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq.”

Muhammad Al-Yahmadi, Director General of Sports Affairs at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, said: “Sports provide moral, voluntary and social lessons and

messages. It embodies the noble and moral values that societies carry out such as ethics, volunteerism, solidarity and interdependence, and carries with it messages for young people and youth that sports are not only physical, artistic or competitive goals, but are higher and stronger than that.”

As for the professional runner Barakat Al-Harthy, who was one of the participants in the campaign, he expressed his happiness at his presence alongside the rest of the athletes in the campaign and said: “It is a great honor for us to be present in this national epic, and it is our duty as athletes to stand with the rest of society, as they are the basis of our success in our journey.”



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