

**OIA BEGINS EXIT PROCESS  
FROM OMAN CEMENT COMPANY**

Oman Investment Authority (OIA) began the exit process from Oman Cement Company, in which the authority owns a majority share, to a strategic foreign investor Huaxin Cement Company Ltd. **>A3**



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**HM CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT OF VIETNAM**

**MUSCAT:** His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Vo Van Thuong of Vietnam on being sworn in as his country's new President. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to President Vo Van Thuong in leading the people of Vietnam towards further progress and prosperity. His Majesty also wished the bilateral relations further development and growth. — **ONA**



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# HIS MAJESTY INAUGURATES OMAN ACROSS AGES MUSEUM



The first ticket of entry to the museum was issued in the name of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

**MANAH:** His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Monday patronised the official opening of Oman Across Ages Museum in the Wilayat of Manah, Governorate of A'Dakhiliyah. Upon His Majesty's arrival at Oman Across Ages Museum, he was received by Nasr Hamoud Al Kindi, Secretary General of the Royal Court Affairs, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum and Chairman of the Main Committee of the Museum's Project, members of the Main Committee and the Director General of the Museum.

Then His Majesty the Sultan headed to the museum's memorial plaque, where he switched on the light of the plaque, marking the official opening of the museum.

Then His Majesty the Sultan



viewed the exhibition of the foundation stone of Oman Across Ages Museum, passing by the vehicle that was once used by the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said when the lat-

ter laid the foundation stone of the museum.

After that, His Majesty the Sultan visited the Reception section, where the first ticket of entry to the

museum was issued in the name of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, who presented the ticket as a gift to the museum, to be added to the museum's collections.

His Majesty the Sultan passed through the Arts Corridor to the National Day screen whose dimensions, measuring 18 metres by 11 metres, symbolise the glorious

National Day (18 November).

There, His Majesty the Sultan listened to Oman Across Ages Museum's speech delivered, on behalf of the main committee of the museum project, by Eng. Al Yaqdhan Abdullah Al Harthi, Director General of the Museum. Eng. Al Yaqdhan said that the museum advocates the use of the latest technologies in its presentations, represented by a set of valuable holdings that indicate the depth and authenticity of Omani history.

In his speech, Eng. Al Yaqdhan said that the design of the museum's building was inspired by the grandeur of Al Hajar Mountains. He observed that the edifice is associated with the Omani environment through the type of materials used in its construction.

Eng. Al Yaqdhan voiced the committee's gratitude to His Majesty the Sultan for his constant support towards the accomplishment of this monument.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan watched a familiarisation film about the Oman Across Ages Museum. The informative film outlined the architectural aspects of the museum and the use of modern interactive technologies employed in presenting ancient civilizations in a chronological sequence. It displays antiques from each era and chronicles the diverse facilities housed by the museum. **>A4 & A5**

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE DATA

## Oman reports budget surplus of OMR145mn

**MUSCAT:** Oman's State Budget achieved a surplus of OMR145 million at the end of January 2023, compared to a surplus of OMR18 million registered over the same period in 2022, according to the Fiscal Performance Monthly Bulletin published by the Ministry of Finance.

Public revenue at the end of January 2023 surged by 22 percent to reach OMR982mn compared to OMR804 million registered over the same period in 2022. This is mainly due to an increase in oil and gas revenues, representing 88 percent of total public revenue.

Net oil revenue amounted to OMR602 million at the end of January 2023, up by 9 percent compared to OMR554 million achieved over the same period in 2022. This is driven by higher oil prices of \$91 per barrel, as well as



an increase in oil production to 1,063,000 barrels per day. Furthermore, gas revenue rose by OMR39 million, i.e., 18 percent compared to the same period in 2022.

Current revenue at the end of January 2023 amounted to

OMR122 million, up by OMR91 million when compared to OMR31 million achieved over the same period in 2022. Public spending at the end of January 2023 amounted to OMR837 million, increasing by OMR51 million, i.e. 7 percent when compared to the same period in 2022.

Development expenditure of ministries and government units amounted to OMR1 million, representing 0.1 percent of total development spending (OMR900 million), allocated for 2023.

Total current expenditure at the end of January 2023 amounted to OMR299 million compared to OMR296 million registered over the same period in 2022.

Total contributions and other expenses at the end of January 2023 amounted to OMR37 million, constituting a rise by 19.3 percent

when compared to OMR31 million registered over the same period in 2022. Oil product subsidy amounted to OMR4 million at the end of January 2023. Additionally, an amount of OMR33 million transferred to future debt obligations budget-item.

The government repaid loans during January 2023 that amounted to OMR511 million, which primarily constituted OMR480 million maturing international bonds. This helped cut down the total government debt to OMR17.2 billion at the end of January 2023.

Moreover, the IMF expects Oman's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth to reach 4.1 percent in 2023 and 1.9 percent 2024.

The IMF also expects the current balance account will achieve a positive growth of 2.7 percent in 2023. — **ONA**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

### OMAN Expats on Oscars

**1** A historic night saw Indian expats celebrating two massive achievements at the Oscars in Hollywood. **>A2**

### WORLD US arms exports up

**2** The majority arms imports by EU countries from the United States increased by 47 percent. **>A7**

### MARKET Oryx Fund dividend

**3** Oryx Fund continues to reward its investors with a growing stream of dividend distributions. **>B1**

PRAYER  
TIMINGS

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Dhuhr.....           | 12:21pm |
| Asr.....             | 3:46pm  |
| Maghrib.....         | 6:20pm  |
| Isha.....            | 7:30pm  |
| Fajr (Tomorrow)..... | 5:01am  |

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# Indian expats celebrate Oscars’ success

The Indian community expressed delight and pride on the double success achieved by the Indian entries at the Academy Awards

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** 13 March 2023, will go down as a red-letter day for the Indian music and film industry. A historic night saw India celebrating two massive achievements at the Oscars during the 95th Annual Academy Awards at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, USA. 'Naatu Naatu', the song in movie RRR, that made millions groove to its beats, was named the winner in the original song category while 'The Elephant Whisperers' won the Oscar in the best documentary short film category on Monday morning. The Indian expatriate community in Oman joined in celebrating the double delight globally. Times of Oman spoke to a cross-section of Indians, who were delighted at the twin success at the world's most prestigious stage - Oscars.



P Chandrasekr, Group General Manager, Jawad Sultan Group, said: "It is a momentous day for India. The news of Oscar wins for two Indian entries was something of a disbelief. It took some time for me to sink in the news. I can't recollect such a humongous performance by the Indian entries at any time in the past. "It is history of sorts. Firstly, 'Naatu Naatu' song in 'RRR', the magnum opus of S S Rajamouli, who now matches in stature with that of the legendary Steven Spielberg. 'RRR' is not just a film alone. In fact, it presents a complete experience for the viewers.

Going forward, it has raised the bar for all, in times to come." Chandrasekr added: "The film 'The Elephant Whisperers', though a documentary, is very successful in capturing the emotions of pachyderms and their connection with humans. It truly is a masterpiece. These wins have brought in great moments for India on the international arena, perhaps echoing its exalted image on all fronts. As an Indian, it is a great moment of pride and joy." The song 'Naatu Naatu' is a fast-paced number that has found fans all over the world, spawned a TikTok



P Chandrasekr



Dr E B S Ramanathan



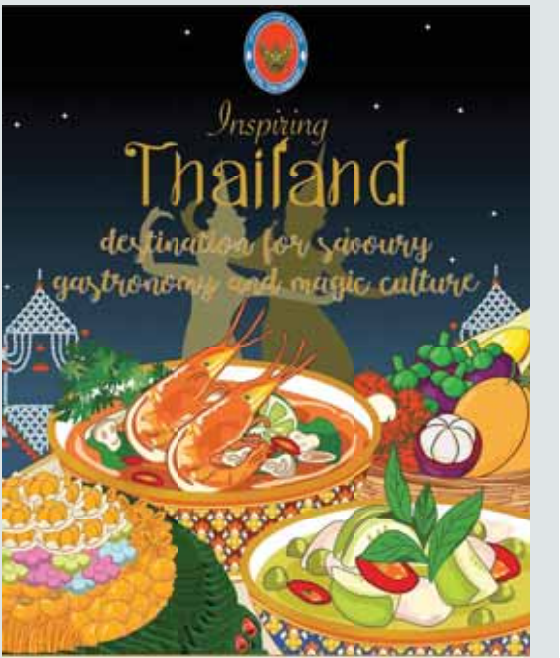
Muralidhar Reddy



Dr Sanjay Dalal

challenge and has millions of views on YouTube. The song also won the Golden Globes earlier this year. Dr. E B S Ramanathan, senior consultant, Muscat Private Hospital, who is an arts and culture aficionado, said: "No words can describe this great moment for India: Winning two big Oscars in one year. It is a sign that our Indian film industry is spread across the country and not just in Bollywood. 'Naatu Naatu' song has captured the hearts of the whole country. "However, it was 'The Elephant Whisperers' that was a silent winner. I have seen the documentary and was captivated by its simplicity and the emphasis is on family values and nature conservation. These awards announce to the world that Indian cinema and filmmaking have arrived." The short documentary film's plot revolves around a family who adopts two orphaned baby elephants in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, located in the southern Indian state Tamil Nadu. Muralidhar Reddy, Sagar Polyclinic general manager, was delighted that a song from a Telugu film won the Oscar. Hailing from the southern Indi-

an state of Andhra Pradesh, where Telugu is spoken, Reddy said: "It is a proud moment for all Indians. Winning an Oscar was long awaited. I feel so happy as the song 'Naatu Naatu' is from 'RRR', a Telugu film. It's been a mega box office hit. The twin success at Oscars means a lot. All credit to SS Rajamouli the director of 'RRR', and the stars who performed the dance. The music director, MM Keeravani, and lyricist Chandrabose deserve a big round of applause. With two Oscars, the Indian film industry has set a new benchmark now." Dr Sanjay Dalal, founder of Talent Hunters Oman, who has been credited to provide platforms for young Omani and expat singers for the past many years, said: "This is absolutely a stunning achievement and I along with Indians from across the world are over the moon. The song 'Naatu Naatu' is fast-paced and brilliantly composed. Kudos to the lyricist and the music composer. "The short documentary, 'The Elephant Whisperers' gives us a strong message on how to be close to nature and love all its creations. The message is to stay in harmony with nature and the bonding exemplified in the documentary is exceptional. It is a touching movie and, in fact, it brought tears to my eyes. Unfortunately, humans have exploited and abused the nature a lot but this movie highlights the special bond between elephants and humans."



# INSPIRING THAILAND

The Royal Thai Embassy together with Tourism authority of Thailand is joining hands to organise the mesmerised food and the cultural event entitled "Inspiring Thailand: destination for savoury gastronomy and magic culture" on 9 March 2023 at Crowne Plaza Hotel Muscat. The event aims to promote the Thai gastronomy and to launch the Thai food campaign starting from 10 - 18 March 2023, participated by the authentic Thai restaurants namely

Thai Corner, Mai Thai, Pad Thai and Tiptara. During the food week, the participating Thai restaurants altogether will offer promotions specially designed for the foodies and Thai food lovers. The "Inspiring Thailand" allow the guests to discover Thailand "the destination of magic culture" and see different perspectives of Thai tradition through the degustation of various Thai cuisine and delicacies, cultural performances and many more. The event also highlights the close con-

nection between the Sultanate and Thailand via the new travel routes. With the support from Salam Air and Fly Dubai, travelling directly from Muscat to Bangkok, Phuket, Krabi and Pattaya and vice versa is just at the fingertips. Given Thailand is various award winning destination for travel and tourism as well as her reputation for medical and wellness excellence and long term vision towards sustainability, our food and culture campaign

goes in pair with Thailand's campaign for the Expo 2028 - Phuket under the theme "Future of Life: Living in Harmony, Sharing Prosperity". The chosen theme is in line with the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) agenda and Thailand's development strategy to strengthen its positioning as a medical hub and become a top medical tourism destination as well as to address the current global challenges on health, reflecting Thailand's firm commitment to the realisation of the SDGs.



OMAN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY



OIA begins exit process from Oman Cement Co.

**MUSCAT:** Oman Investment Authority (OIA) began the exit process from Oman Cement Company, in which the authority owns a majority share, to a strategic foreign investor Huaxin Cement Company Ltd. Ibrahim Said Al Eisri, Direc-

tor of Private Equity at OIA said that OIA's exit from Oman Cement Company comes within the framework of the authority's plan to achieve several goals, namely attracting foreign investments to the Sultanate of Oman.

— OMA

THREE-DAY EVENT



Forum focuses on boosting response to respiratory diseases

**MUSCAT:** Sessions of the 6th Meeting of the Eastern Mediterranean Acute Respiratory Infection Surveillance (EMARIS) Network and the 3rd Scientific Conference on Acute Respiratory Infection kicked off in Muscat on Monday.

The three-day event, hosted by the Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Health, are organised in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Experts and researchers from more than 20 countries are taking part in the EMARIS meeting. They review the most prominent projects, research and practices in the field of combating acute respiratory infection in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

On its first day, the programme included visual presentations on genomic monitoring the spread of SARS epidemic strains in France during 6 waves of the pandemic, assessment of rates of recovery from influenza-related infections using accurate surveillance data and evaluation of the direct medical cost of establishing influenza hospitals in Oman.

The meeting and conference will address several topics, including ways of enhancing preparedness, detection and re-

sponse to respiratory diseases from one country to a region and to the world (lessons learned from the Corona pandemic) and impacts of the Corona pandemic.

The two events explore means of eliminating the epidemic and preparing for the next pandemic of respiratory infections in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, as well as challenges and opportunities to improve control and prevention.

The conferees also looked into seasonal and pandemic influenza systems and other respiratory viruses that develop into epidemics and pandemics in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, bearing in mind the lessons learned from COVID-19.

The meeting and conference provide an opportunity to share data and study the best practices in the region about using SARI-related surveillance data to assess severity, besides detecting outbreaks during the seasons of normal influenza and other epidemics. The events seek to document scientific achievements and utilise new operational research results from countries to prevent, detect and respond to seasonal, novel and other emerging respiratory viruses, notably COVID-19. — OMA

MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE



Jordanian delegation visits Oman's MSC

**MUSCAT:** A delegation from Prince Faisal Technical College in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan visited the Maritime Security Centre (MSC) at Al Murtafaa Garrison here on Monday.

Upon their arrival at the MSC, members of the delegation were received by Commodore Adil

Hamoud Al Busaidi, Head of the MSC.

The visiting delegation toured the centre's facilities and viewed its latest equipment and technologies. It was also briefed on the roles and tasks carried out by the centre within its national duties. — OMA

98TH REGULAR SESSION

Oman takes part in meeting of standing committee for Arab media in Kuwait

**KUWAIT:** The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Information took part in deliberations of the 98th regular session of the Standing Committee for Arab Media, being hosted by the State of Kuwait.

Oman's delegation to the session was led by Mohammed Said Al Balushi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information.

During the meeting, Oman, represented by the Ministry of Information, has put forward its visions on the item of media movement plan abroad, as it presented the vision on the observatory and the integrated electronic platform. Oman has stressed the importance of supporting digital content and adopting national initiatives capable of providing the Arab community with competitive content that carries deep implications. Oman also has expressed the desire to involve Arab countries with its experience in the "Ayn" platform.

During the meeting, several issues were discussed, most notably the Palestinian cause, including the issue of Jerusalem, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islamic and Christian sanctities, and the need to continue providing media support in this regard.

The meeting called on the Arab media to highlight efforts that support the Palestinian cause, in addition to devising a unified Arab plan to deal with developments in Jerusalem, and to confront attempts that aim to distort its features, as well as raising awareness of the public towards the gravity of the situation in Jerusalem.

The meeting seeks to approve a day for Arab media and an award for Arab media excellence, as well as adding the subject of media education in school curricula for all stages. The meeting also discussed celebrating the capital of Arab media every year, in addition to the establishment of the Arab institute for peace journalism. — OMA



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OMAN ACROSS AGES MUSEUM

# Library contains more than 46,000 titles in various areas of knowledge



**<FROM A1** After that, His Majesty the Sultan toured the corridors of the museum. He listened to a summary of the most prominent pavilions in the “Gallery of History”, the “Gallery of the Blessed Renaissance” and the “Gallery of the Future”. The latter exhibits projects that won awards at the second round of the Bilal bin Haitham Award for Architectural Design.

His Majesty Sultan also visited the lecture hall and the “Ideas and Innovation Labs” at the Knowledge Centre. There, he listened to briefings about a number of innovations and student projects from the schools of the A’Dakhiliyah Governorate.

At the conclusion of the opening ceremony, His Majesty the Sultan received a commemorative gift from Oman Across Ages Museum.

The gift, a model of Oman Across Ages Museum, was presented to His Majesty the Sultan by Nasr Hamoud Al Kindi, Secretary General of the Royal Court Affairs.

In a symbolic gesture, His Majesty the Sultan offered his own personal cane as a gift to the museum, to be added to the monument’s holdings.

Before leaving the premises of the museum, His Majesty was briefed about an ancient limestone rock from Wadi Lahjaj in the Governorate of Dhofar that figured among the collections. The rock bears a set of primitive drawings.

The official opening ceremony was attended by some Royal Family members, the Chairmen of the State Council and the Shura Council, Ministers, heads of security and military units and other officials and dignitaries.

Oman Across Ages Museum was set up in implementation of the Royal orders of the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who laid the foundation stone for the project on 14 July 2015.

Given the project’s significance to the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, the museum was located near Hishn Al Shomoukh. The Wilayat of Manah has a strategic location in the heart of Al Dakhiliyah Governorate. This lends the museum an ideal position in the proximity of many other tourist attractions in the Wilayat of Manah and Al Dakhiliyah Governorate.

The project also constitutes a cornerstone for other tourism, cultural and economic projects in the governorate.

Oman Across Ages Museum is envisioned to be a world-class destination that will contribute to spreading awareness and consolidate the attachment of Omani youths with their country’s cultural heritage, encouraging them to interact and contribute effec-

tively to building their homeland and shaping its features.

The museum also aims to highlight the unique character of the Sultanate of Oman and to portray its advantages, its ancient history and its renaissance, which keeps gaining grounds locally and internationally.

The idea of the museum’s design was derived from the shape of the Omani rocks and Al Harjar Mountains range. The edifice picks up from the ground and extends to the top in a unique design that reflects the Omani environment. The project also merges into the Omani environment through the stones used in its construction and its trees.

The museum halls take the visitor around on a narrative journey through time, starting from the late prehistoric eras until the present day. The permanent exhibition wings are divided into two: The History Gallery and the Renaissance Gallery.

The History Gallery deals with several epochs and historical eras, namely, the geological formation of the Land of Oman, the Stone Age, represented by the wing of the Early settlers, the Bronze Age, represented by the wing of the Civilization of Magan, the Iron Age, represented by the wing of the Kingdom of Oman, in addition to pavilions titled “Embracing Islam”, the “Al Ya’ariba Dynasty” and the “Al Busaidi Dynasty”.

The presentations in the History Gallery are based on digital media to create multi-dimensional virtual environments that enable the visitors to experience events of each era. It also documents evidence and maps to provide a state of realism.

The pavilions house a number of antiques and presentations on various topics and archaeological sites such as settlements of Ras Al Hamra and Ras Al Jinz and aspects of life at that time, including seasonal migrations, maritime communication, copper trade and the construction of the Aflaj water system.

They also contain a highly accurate virtual environment that documents Omani people’s contribution to Islam, as well as aspects of intellectual, political, social, and economic life related to those interactions. The pavilions document the contribution of Omani scholars.

The Renaissance Gallery was designed in the form of an open space with gigantic columns in the centre which form an interactive space for the presentation of the high-resolution audio-visual display system that deals with the first five years of the blessed renaissance. This offers a panoramic view of the hall and consummates the visitor’s experience as it explores various aspects of social,



economic, industrial, and political transformation experienced by Oman, while at the same time preserving its authentic identity and ancient cultural traditions.

The gallery contains interactive digital museum tools that display the speeches of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and the speeches of the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said. It also comprises pillars of the Blessed Renaissance, including education, healthcare, infrastructure, foreign relations, tourism and economy.

Knowledge Centre is divided into three floors targeting all segments of society. It occupies a total area of 8000 sqm.

The ground floor comprises two laboratories and a large lecture hall, as well as a classroom fitted with appropriate tools and books dedicated to children. The Innovation Laboratory and the Ideas Laboratory are designed for children aged 3 to 14 years.

While the first and second floors include the Library of Hishn Al Shomoukh, which was transferred from Hishn Al Shomoukh to Oman Across Ages Museum. The library contains more than 46,000 titles in various areas of knowledge and it is equipped with devices that allow researchers to access their desired titles and reference books in hard copy and digital copy.

The museum also contains facilities that serve visitors and provide them with the means of comfort. The museum provides special rooms as a free service for visitors who can leave their bags and belongings there before starting their tour. The service is available during the museum’s working hours from nine in the morning until nine in the evening.

The museum includes a lecture hall that can accommodate 319 people. The hall gains spectacular view to an outdoor garden surrounding the museum building and is equipped with illumination, acoustic equipment and internet, in addition to places designated

for translation.

The museum includes an Innovation Laboratory dedicated to educational programmes, including those implemented by the Oman Across Ages Museum, or programmes of community institutions that participate in achieving educational benefits for various segments of society. The lab, which is located at the ground floor, occupies an area of 149 sqm and it can accommodate 62 people.

The museum allocates special places for children. It includes an Ideas Lab for Children aged 3 to 14 years old. The lab is equipped with advanced educational equipment and it is designed to host and hold workshops and educational programmes for children of different ages. The lab is located on the ground floor. It occupies an area of 143 sqm and it can accommodate 56 people.

The museum also includes a multi-purpose hall equipped with the latest technological equipment. The hall is used for hosting lectures, conferences or workshops. It occupies a total area of 1,200 sqm and it can accommodate about 600 people.

Oman Across Ages Museum constitutes an appropriate welcoming place for all segments of society. It provides all facilities for its visitors, including people with disabilities, with paintings and texts written in Braille, tactile models similar to the museum’s original possessions, electronic audio devices, wheelchairs and golf carts for transportation.

While the museum store offers a number of museum-specific products as gifts to visitors. It also provides Omani products such as pottery, palm leaves and various handicraft products. A contract was signed with a small and medium enterprise to provide these products from various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman.

Meanwhile, the First Aid Centre provides necessary medical services in case any visitor suffers any injury or any emergency circumstance. The centre is equipped with all necessary medical tools and equipment, in addition to an ambulance and a medical staff qualified to provide primary medical care.

The museum has a café that provides visitors with delicious traditional and international food and drinks. The cafeteria is located next to the Reception Desk and close to the Multi-Purpose Hall. It has an area of 305 sqm. In addition, there is a place called “Sabla Café” near the lake and it provides coffee drinks, sweets and snacks. It is set up on an area of 144 sqm. Self-service machines for some drinks and snacks are also available at the Knowledge Centre. —





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NOTICE AND INVETATION TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of BARKA WATER AND POWER COMPANY SAOG ( the "Company") has the pleasure to invite the shareholders to attend the Annual General Meeting , which will be held on Wednesday at 03:00 PM on 29/03/2023, via the electronic platform which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository Company (www.mcd.gov.om) . If the quorum requirement for holding the Annual General Meeting is not fulfilled, a second Annual General Meeting shall be held on Wednesday at 03:00 PM on 05/04/2023, via the electronic platform which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository Company (www.mcd.gov.om) to discuss the following agenda:

**Annual Ordinary General Meeting Agendas :**

- To consider and approve the Board of Director's Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2022
- To consider and approve the Corporate Governance Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.
- To consider the Auditor's Report and to approve the audited Financial Statements of the Company for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.
- To approve the sitting fees of board of directors and sub-committees payable to the Board of Directors for the previous financial year and to determine and approve the sitting fees for the next financial year.
- To disclose the transactions that the Company entered into with related parties during the financial year ended 31 December 2022.
- To consider the amounts allocated and spent for the company's social responsibilities for the year ended on 31/12/2022.
- To consider and approve a budget of RO 10,000 for the year ending 31 December 2023 towards Corporate Social Responsibility activities.
- To elect a new Board of Directors: Any person who wishes to be nominated shall complete the director's nomination form and submit it to the Company at least five days prior to the date of the meeting. Nomination forms received after 5pm on Friday, 24th of March 2023 shall not be accepted.
- To appoint the auditors for the financial year ending 31 December 2023 and agree on their fees.

According to the Company's Articles of Association and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology issued by the capital market authority , we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- Legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCDC.
- Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the General Meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meeting. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be canceled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the General Meeting.

For further information please contact on telephone No 92084869 or email: Ahussain@acwapower.com

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LA PEROUSE

Navies of UK, Japan, US, France, India, Australia to participate in exercise

**NEW DELHI:** Personnel, ships and integral helicopters of the Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Indian Navy, Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force, Royal Navy and the United States Navy will participate in Exercise La Perouse. The third edition of the multilateral exercise La Perouse will be conducted in the Indian Ocean Region from March 13-14.

The biennial exercise La Perouse is conducted by the French Navy and aims to enhance maritime domain awareness and optimise maritime coordination amongst the participating navies in the Indo-Pacific region, the Ministry of Defence said in a press release.

The two-day exercise provides an opportunity for like-minded navies to develop closer links in planning, coordination and information sharing for seamless maritime operations, according to the press release. Exercise La Perouse will include complex and advanced naval operations, including surface warfare, anti-air warfare, air defence exercises, cross-deck landings and tactical manoeuvres.

Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate INS Sahyadri and fleet tanker INS Jyoti will participate in the third edition of the multilateral exercise, according to the press release. -ANI



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DISASTER MANAGEMENT MINISTRY

## Natural disasters in Afghanistan leave 1,000 dead

**KABUL:** Natural disasters in Afghanistan have left over 1,000 people dead, and over 2,000 others injured, according to a Taliban led Disaster Management Ministry official, Khaama Press reported.

According to the World Bank report, natural disasters such as flooding, earthquakes, avalanches, landslides, and droughts are exacerbating vulnerability and poverty in Afghanistan. Disasters caused by natural hazards have since 1980 affected nine million people and caused over 20,000 fatalities in the country, the report stated, Khaama Press reported.

"Natural disasters have left over 1,000 people dead, and over 2,000 others injured across Afghanistan during the current solar year (1401), according to a Disaster Management Ministry

official," Khaama Press reported.

According to the Taliban, at least 70 people died due to cold weather in January this year. More than 70,000 cattle are reported to have perished in the Baghlan, Sare-ePul, Frayab, Takhar, Kandahar, Nimroz and Badghis provinces.

More than 180 people were killed in flooding in the country during August 2022, the report stated.

In June 2022, an earthquake killed at least 1,000 people and injured 1,500 in eastern Afghanistan, according to the document.

Natural disasters have left substantial financial losses to the people suffering in the country. Afghanistan is a natural hazard-prone country, including earthquakes, flooding, landslide, and freezing winters, according to Khaama Press. - ANI

41<sup>st</sup>

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Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender committee of Ministry of Social Development hereby announces the following tender :-

| Tender No. | Tender Subject                           | Grade                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Last date for obtainment of tender document | Last date for tender submission | Tender Document Price (non-refundable) |
|------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 75/2023    | Renewal of licenses for firewall devices | Companies specialized in the field of design, installation and maintenance of software and information systems and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board with the grade of excellent, first, second, third or fourth. | Thursday 6-4-2023 02:00 PM                  | Sunday 30-4-2023 10:00 AM       | R.O. 25/=                              |

❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Tuesday 14/3/2023

❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.

❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website ([reg@tenderboard.gov.om](mailto:reg@tenderboard.gov.om)) tel. ( 24402200)

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

[www.mosd.gov.om](http://www.mosd.gov.om)



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# WORLD GLAUCOMA WEEK

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AT LEAST 60 KILLED

# Cyclone Freddy lashes Mozambique and Malawi

**QUELIMANE:** Cyclone Freddy lashed Malawi early on Monday morning after making landfall for a second time in a month in Mozambique on Sunday, killing at least 60 people in both countries.

Freddy made landfall with sustained winds of nearly 150 kilometres per hour (93 miles per hour), causing “severe damage and cutting off children and families from critical services,” UNICEF, which provides rapid response to disaster-struck areas, said in a statement.

After passing the port town of Quelimane in Mozambique Sunday, the storm continued inland towards the southern tip of neighboring Malawi, satellite data showed.

Destructive winds and heavy rainfall brought down trees and damaged rooftops in both countries, with Malawi having borne the brunt of the inexhaustible storm.

Several killed in Malawi, damage survey underway

Malawian police officials said on Monday at least 51 people died in the country, while the Malawi Red Cross Society said at least 66 had been killed in the storm.

At least 36 people died in Chilobwe in the financial hub of Blantyre in the center of the country.

At least five people have died in Mozambique since Saturday, local authorities said. An assessment of the damage was underway, officials added.

Communications and electricity supply in Mozambique were cut over the weekend so the extent of damage was not immediately clear. But electricity has been restored in most areas as of Monday afternoon, the national power company said. — DW



ARMS TRADE

# US arms exports skyrocket

**WASHINGTON:** While the rest of the world is slowly disarming, Europe is quickly doing the opposite, according to the latest report from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The institute examines and compares the global arms trade in four-year periods, to better reflect overall trends rather than looking at the weapons business over only 12 months.

Among the two most important trends in the latest report, SIPRI researcher Pieter Wezeman told DW, are that arms transfers to European states have significantly increased” and that “the role of the US as an arms supplier in the world has increased significantly, too.”

In the most recent period, 2018-22, the international arms trade declined by just over 5 percent compared to 2013-17.

By contrast, arms imports by European countries — the vast majority of which came from the United States — increased by 47 percent, and those by European NATO countries by as much as 65 percent. The reason behind that is, unsurprisingly, the Russian invasion of Ukraine. US ups exports to Ukraine, Saudi Arabia and Japan

In the past, Ukraine was not a major player in the international arms trade. It made much of its defense equipment domestically, and the rest was left over from the Soviet era. In SIPRI’s latest report, however, the country ranks 14th on the list of worldwide weapons importers. Considering 2022 alone, Ukraine comes in third.

SIPRI usually refers to “arms transfers” in its report, meaning both the arms trade and free military assistance, the latter of which is Ukraine’s main supply of weapons. This kind of military aid usually consists of older equipment or surplus stock from donor nations.

The report shows how, because of this, what has been delivered to Ukraine pales in a value comparison to new weapons sales. For example, despite massive US arms deliveries to Ukraine last year, Washington still sent goods worth greater value to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Japan.

Those four countries, in particular, bought new and sophisticated equipment such as fighter jets, something Ukraine has been urgently requesting from Western allies. — DW



INDIGO FLIGHT

# Doha-bound flight makes emergency landing as man dies

**NEW DELHI:** A Doha-bound IndiGo flight from Delhi on Monday was diverted to the Jinnah International Airport in Pakistan’s Karachi after a man died mid-flight

“Unfortunately, on arrival, the passenger was declared dead by the airport medical team,” a statement by IndiGo said. The flight 6E-1736 decided to make an emergency landing after the passenger fell ill, however, he died before the aircraft could land.

The deceased has been identified as Abdullah, 60, a native of Nigeria. The doctors of the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and National Institute of Health, Islamabad (NIH) issued the passengers’ death certificate, according to a report in Pakistan based ARY News.

“We are deeply saddened by the news and our prayers and wishes are with his family and loved ones. We’re currently making arrangements for transferring the other passengers of the flight, in coordination with the relevant authorities,” IndiGo said in a statement.

Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) spokesperson was cited by ARY News as saying that due to medical emergency, the pilot of the Indian airlines was granted emergency landing permission by the Air Traffic Controller at Karachi airport. — ANI





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# GLAUCOMA



DR. PRIYA RANGARAJAN DNB, MRCSED

Dr. Priya Rangarajan DNB, MRCSED Ophthalmology, Specialist Ophthalmologist of Al Hayat International Hospital explains this condition for the lay person.

GLAUCOMA is the second leading cause of blindness in the world. It is diagnosed by raised intraocular pressure, characteristic optic disc features on slit lamp examination and characteristic findings on examination of the angle of the anterior chamber of the eye by a procedure called gonioscopy.

Glaucoma is known as the “silent thief of sight” as most of the patients are detected on routine ophthalmic examination in the clinic.

Unless the intraocular pressure is very high as in acute angle closure glaucoma where the patient has headache, eye pain, nausea and vomiting associated with blurring of vision, most cases are of the open angle type and have no symptoms until advanced stages.

Besides regular checking of intraocular pressure after the age of 40 years, the patient may be asked to undergo a visual field test also called perimetry depending upon the optic disc changes

Depending upon the cause and mechanism of glaucoma treatment modalities may include regular use of antiglaucoma eye medications, lasers such as laser iridotomy, or in advanced stages of glaucoma surgery i.e. trabeculectomy may be required.

Early diagnosis remains the cornerstone of glaucoma management as the damage caused by raised intraocular pressure is permanent and irreversible and can preclude driving.



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## Sultanate of Oman

# Ministry of Health

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Directorate General of Khoula Hospital invites specialized companies to participate in the following Tenders: -

| Tender Ref          | Description                                                           | Last date for Collection of tender Document | Closing Time/ Day/ Date        | Eligibility                                        | Tender Fee (Non-Refundable) |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 920/2023/ MOH/AMH-1 | Maintenance & Modification Works in Child Ward at Al Masarra Hospital | 2023/03/23                                  | Before 10 AM Monday 2023/04/17 | Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board | R.O 25/= Per set            |

Notes:-

- Tenders should be submitted on line on <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> enclose Electronic Bank Guarantee issued by a Local bank for not less Than One percent (1%) for the Tender value validity for (90) days from the Tender Submission date, addressed to The Chairman of the Tender Committee.
- Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender.
- For any Clarification, you may contact via Telephone: 24402200 , Email id [etenderhd@ita.gov.om](mailto:etenderhd@ita.gov.om)

SPORTS



India retain series after final Test ends in a draw

India also secured their place in the World Test Championship final against Australia after Sri Lanka's earlier final-ball defeat by NZ

**AHMEDABAD:** Half-centuries from Travis Head and Marnus Labuschagne helped Australia draw the fourth and final Test of the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy against India at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Monday.

The draw helped India secure the four-match Test series 2-1 to retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The tourists batted throughout day five and declared on 175-2 with a lead of 84 before the teams shook hands.

India secured their place in the World Test Championship (WTC) final after Sri Lanka's earlier final-ball defeat by New Zealand. India will play Australia for the Test title at The Oval on 7-11 June.



Australia resumed the final day's proceedings trailing by 91 runs in the first innings after India amassed 571, with Virat Kohli scoring a majestic 186.

But Australia's batters defied India on a flat wicket as Labuschagne finished unbeaten with a gritty 63 from 213 balls. Opener Travis Head made 90 from 163 balls in a partnership of 139 for the second wicket with Labuschagne.

Nightwatchman Matthew Kuhnemann was the first wicket to fall for six to Ravichandran Ashwin, with spinners bowling the majority of the overs in batter-friendly conditions.

It was India's 16th consecutive series win at home, and will be their second appearance in the World Test Championship final after they lost to New Zealand in the previous final in 2021.

Australia's place was confirmed after their victory over India in the third Test in Indore, but India were still battling with Sri Lanka for the second spot. With India avoiding defeat, it means Sri Lanka can no longer qualify even if they beat New Zealand in the second Test of their series, which starts on Friday.

Kohli was adjudged as the 'Man of the Match' while Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja, India's star spin all-rounder duo were given the 'Men of the Series' award for their heroics throughout the series. Ashwin ended as the top wicket-taker in the series with 25 wickets, with the best bowling figures of 6/91.

Jadeja also emerged as the second-highest wicket-taker in the series, with a total of 22 scalps and best figures of 7/42.

India will next face Australia in three one-day internationals, with the first on Friday.

**Brief scores:** India 571 (Virat Kohli 186, Shubman Gill 128; Todd Murphy 3/113) vs Australia 480 and 175/2 (Travis Head 90, Marnus Labuschagne 63\*; Axar Patel 1/36). - ANI

KEY PLAYERS RESTED

Pakistan name new captain for T20I series vs Afghanistan

**LAHORE:** All-rounder Shadab Khan will captain Pakistan for the three-match T20I series against Afghanistan, which is set to commence in Sharjah, UAE, on 24 March.

Pakistan have rested key players and named a new-look side filled with fresh talent, with the onus on managing the workloads as well preparation for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024.

Regular captain Babar Azam, opener Fakhar Zaman, the pacers Haris Rauf and Shaheen Afridi, as well as Mohammad Rizwan, the wicketkeeper-batter, have all been rested.

In addition, all of Asif Ali, Haider Ali, Mohammad Hasnain and Khushdil Shah failed to find a spot in the squad.

These players had formed the crux of Pakistan's squad for the T20 World Cup in Australia.

In their place, four uncapped players - Ihsanullah, Saim Ayub, Tayyab Tahir and Zaman Khan - have been named in the 15-man squad. Abdullah Shafique, Azam Khan, Faheem Ashraf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Ihsanullah, Imad Wasim, Mohammad Haris, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Naseem Shah, Zaman Khan, Tayyab Tahir, Shan Masood, Saim Ayub.

**Pakistan squad:** Shadab Khan (c), Abdullah Shafique, Azam Khan, Faheem Ashraf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Ihsanullah, Imad Wasim, Mohammad Haris, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Naseem Shah, Zaman Khan, Tayyab Tahir, Shan Masood, Saim Ayub.

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## OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by May 2023 reaching \$82.46, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by \$2.17 from the price of Friday, which was \$80.29. - OMA

# MARKET

## BUSINESS & FINANCE



## MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,894.01 points, up by 31.7 points or 0.65 per cent on Monday's trading session. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.23 per cent at 488.78 points. Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, Oman Flour Mills, down 9.94 per cent, was the top loser.

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# Oryx Fund proposes highest ever dividend

Bank Muscat Oryx Fund has proposed a dividend distribution of 68 baisas per unit to be paid to the unitholders for FY 2022

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Bank Muscat Oryx Fund continues to reward its investors with a growing stream of dividend distributions and capital growth.

The fund management body of Oryx Fund has proposed a dividend distribution of 68 baisas per unit to be paid to the unitholders for FY 2022, subject to requisite approvals from the unitholders



and other competent authorities. Accordingly, the fund has maintained its track record of consistently growing dividend distributions despite a challenging market environment.

In addition to the regular income distributions through dividends, the fund has also been rewarding its investors with attractive capital appreciation since its inception in 1994.

The Oryx Fund delivered an average return of 12.7 per cent per annum to investors over the last 10 years which translates into an aggregate return of 230.5 per cent over this period, or in other words,

an amount of OMR10,000 invested in Oryx Fund has grown to approximately OMR33,050 over the last 10 years, consisting of the original investment of OMR10,000 and investment gain (returns) of OMR23,050. The return delivered by Oryx Fund over the last 10 years is significantly higher than average returns offered by alternatives over the same period like the MSX 30 Index 3.4 per cent per annum, S&P GCC Index 3.9 per cent per annum, MSCI Emerging Markets index 1.8 per cent per annum, gold negative 1.9 per cent per annum, Barclays Global Aggregate Bond index -0.4 per cent per annum and

term deposits with commercial banks in Oman generally offering varied average interest rates up to 4 per cent to 5 per cent per annum. As such, the Oryx Fund stands out as an attractive investment choice for prospective investors with a medium to long-term view.

Furthermore, the Oryx Fund has delivered a positive performance of 5.8 per cent for the one year ended December 31, 2022, against a negative return of 7.1 per cent in its benchmark i.e. S&P GCC index. Backed by this strong performance, Oryx Fund has once again been recognised as the best-performing Mena equity fund by the reputed Citywire rankings for the year 2022. These rankings are based on the returns generated by the fund for its investors against approximately 20 other funds focusing on the Mena region during 2022.

The Oryx Fund represents an attractive investment proposition for long-term investors. The fund's strategy to follow a bottom-up approach focused on the selection of quality stocks has been proven over various market cycles and time periods.

## CAPITAL MARKET AUTHORITY



## Workshop organised to introduce standards for Sharia governance

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** The Capital Market Authority (CMA), in partnership with the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB), conducted a workshop to introduce the standards for Sharia governance issued by the board related to the Islamic financial markets, Islamic financing, Takaful insurance and Takaful reinsurance.

The workshop was attended by representatives of Takaful insurance companies, Sharia-compliant joint stock companies, investment funds, insurance companies and the Oman Insurance Association. It was presented by specialists from IFSB and CMA yesterday.

The importance of this workshop stems from the importance of the Islamic financial market in Oman; as it is considered one of the main sectors that have recently seen development in the national market; particularly since the establishment of the first two Islamic banks and six Islamic windows 10 years ago.

This was followed by the launching of a Sharia index for 23 Sharia-compliant companies in the Muscat Stock Exchange, the establishment of three Islamic investment funds and 15 issued Sukuk in different Sharia structures, listing two Islamic real-estate investment funds in the MSX and licensing international Islamic crowdfunding platform to operate inside Oman.

# DATAMOUNT IS CLOSE TO LAUNCHING AL BANDAR CENTER, ONE OF THE LARGEST DATA CENTERS IN THE SULTANATE



During this year, Datamount, the company that specializes in data centers and cloud services owned by several government pension funds and other investors is preparing to launch the Al-Bandar data center, which is the third and the largest data center for the company after the Muscat and the Al Jabal Akhdar Data Center.

On this occasion, Dr. Tahir Al Kindi, Chairman of the Board of Directors, said, "in line with the future vision of the digital transformation of the Sultanate, we are getting close to inaugurating one of the largest data centers in the Sultanate, which represents a qualitative step that reflects the global position of the Sultanate in this field. The center will contribute to advancing digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and cloud

- Al Bander, the third data center with more than 700 racks in an area of 8400 square meters, with a future expansion plan.
- A great addition to the data centers and cloud sector in the Sultanate and the Middle East region.

services in the government and private sector in the Sultanate of Oman to keep abreast of the fourth industrial revolution's developments and ensure the digital economy's continuity and growth. The center was designed with international specifications and the latest technologies, where our customers can obtain greater flexibility in managing their data operations with high protection from any potential dangers that may arise from cyber threats. In addition, our various services and products and our experience in managing data centers will ensure the integration of digital solutions for our customers and simplify their business operations under one umbrella smoothly and at competitive prices. The locations of Datamount's three data centers were chosen with high accuracy. In distinct locations, the sites were comprehensively studied regarding the availability of safety, closeness to customers, and essential services such as electricity, water, and fiber net. The future expansion plans for all centers were also considered in terms of land area availability.

In a statement, Abdulmonem Al

Futaisi, CEO, said, "The technologies of the digital age require that Datamount provide high-level services to its customers and provide the necessary environment according to the latest technologies, with a high level of efficiency and information security. We are approaching the operation of the third and largest data centers of the company, which is a great addition to the data centers and cloud services sector in the Sultanate and the Middle East; the center is built at Tier 3 level with the latest international specifications on the area of 8400 square meters with a total building area of 5400 square meters. The center



will provide services with the latest technologies of the Internet of Things, cyber security, digital twin technology, artificial intelligence, and managed services while maintaining the highest levels of security, and a highly qualified specialized team will manage it. Data Mount is an accredited Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology provider to provide cloud services, video conferencing, and meeting systems. It holds a certificate from the American Uptime Institute that evaluates global data centers. It is granted to centers that provide electronic systems and infrastructure components with high quality, safety, and reliability. The company has obtained all the ISO certificates that are granted to data center companies, such as Information Technology Service Management, Business Continuity Management, Information Security Management, and Quality Management. Our services and competitive prices will ensure that customers achieve integration in digital solutions smoothly."

Eng. Said Al Hosni, project manager, said: "Datamount is about to inaugurate

one of the largest data centers in the Sultanate of Oman, designed according to the latest specifications. Upon completion of its three phases, the Al Bandar data center will accommodate more than 700 racks; Suitable location has been chosen for the center nearby all services and customers, and the standard specifications required to meet the requirements of Tier 3 (Uptime Tier 3) and (TIA 942 Rated 3) were taken into account. The data center is fully equipped with double electric lines, double backup generators, double data transmission lines, and double electrical rooms and cooling systems with iced water in cooperation with Tabreed Oman. The center has also provided an internal cooling device with iced water (Chiller) as an additional supplement.

Al Bandar data center provides the latest security and monitoring systems, such as advanced surveillance cameras, access control systems, and internal environment monitoring systems. It's also equipped with safety systems such as firefighting systems that operate on environmentally friendly gas (Novec 1230). The company has also given great attention to the security of customer data, whether physical security or logical security, as accessing servers goes through strict procedures with multiple security levels by providing the system with network firewalls, access control, and data encryption."

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, Oman Flour Mills, down 9.94 per cent, was the top loser

**MUSCAT:** : Oman's benchmark Muscat Stock Exchange index closed at 4,894.01 points, up by 31.7 points or 0.65 per cent on Monday's trading session.

The Sharia Index ended down by 0.23 per cent at 488.78 points. Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, Oman Flour Mills, down 9.94 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of HSBC Bank Oman were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Shell Oman Marketing were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 300 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR4.54 million, with more than 14.47 million shares changing hands. Out of 46 traded securities, 16 advanced, 16 declined, and 14 remained unchanged.

Financial Index closed at 7,881.47 points, up 0.94 per cent. Prices of HSBC Bank Oman, Ominvest, Sohar International Bank, United Finance and Al Sharqia Investment were up by 5.77 per cent, 2.04 per cent, 1.96 per cent, 1.61 per cent and 1.24 per cent respectively. Prices of Takaful Oman, Al Anwar Investment, Al Batinah Development Company, Global Financial Investments and National Bank Oman were up by 4.76 per cent, 3.90 per cent, 3.33 per cent, 3.28 per cent and 0.36 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,119.29 points, down 0.87 per cent. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals, Gulf Mushroom Products, Oman Cement,



National Aluminium and Ray-sut Cement were up by 9.09 per cent, 3.73 per cent, 3.05 per cent, 1.64 per cent and 0.72 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman Flour Mills, Dhofar Cattle Feed, Jazeera Steel Products, Voltamp Energy and Galfar Engineering were up by 9.94 per cent, 7.14 per cent, 2.03 per cent, 0.84 per cent and 0.48 per cent respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.04 per cent before closing at 1,729.76 points. Prices of Al Suwadi Power, Sembcorp Salalah, Renaissance Services and Shell Oman Marketing were up by 3.23 per cent, 2.60 per cent, 0.96 per cent and 0.44 per cent respectively. Prices of Dhofar Generating, Majan College, Oman Telecom, Muscat Desalination and SMN Power Holding were up by 7.94 per cent, 6.67 per cent, 1.46 per cent, 0.99 per cent and 0.97 per cent respectively. - United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDECIES

| Index             | High     | Low      | Value    | Prev. Value | Diff.  | Diff% |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|--------|-------|
| MSX 30 INDEX      | 4,898.75 | 4,862.32 | 4,894.01 | 4,862.32    | 31.69  | 0.65  |
| FINANCIAL INDEX   | 7,891.77 | 7,808.13 | 7,881.47 | 7,808.13    | 73.34  | 0.94  |
| Industry Index    | 6,191.64 | 6,101.95 | 6,119.29 | 6,172.86    | -53.57 | -0.87 |
| Services Index    | 1,733.76 | 1,725.49 | 1,729.76 | 1,730.44    | -0.68  | -0.04 |
| MSX Shariah Index | 490.66   | 488.32   | 488.78   | 489.93      | -1.15  | -0.23 |
| MSX TR INDEX      | 6,185.50 | 6,139.50 | 6,179.51 | 6,139.50    | 40.01  | 0.65  |
| FINANCIAL TR IDX  | 8,257.85 | 8,170.33 | 8,247.08 | 8,170.33    | 76.74  | 0.94  |
| SERVICES TR IDX   | 1,850.33 | 1,841.51 | 1,846.06 | 1,846.78    | -0.72  | -0.04 |
| INDUSTRIAL TR IDX | 6,446.27 | 6,352.89 | 6,370.94 | 6,426.71    | -55.77 | -0.87 |

Trading Summary

| Volume     | Turnover  | Trades | Market Cap     | Up | Down | Equal | Sec. Traded |
|------------|-----------|--------|----------------|----|------|-------|-------------|
| 14,475,161 | 4,540,751 | 300    | 23,801,290,373 | 16 | 16   | 14    | 46          |

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, MARCH 13

| SECURITY NAME                         | VOLUME    | TURNOVER  | TRADES | OPEN PRICE | HIGH  | LOW   | CLOSE PR | PREV. CLOSE | DIFF. (RD) | DIFF % | LAST PD | LAST BD | LAST OFFER | PIA VALUE | MARKET CAP    |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|------------|-------|-------|----------|-------------|------------|--------|---------|---------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| REGULAR MARKET                        |           |           |        |            |       |       |          |             |            |        |         |         |            |           |               |
| OM0000001749..... OMAN CEMENT         | 654,217   | 198,649   | 22     | 0.300      | 0.304 | 0.300 | 0.304    | 0.295       | 0.009      | 3.061  | 0.304   | 0.304   | 0.308      | 0.100     | 100,585,304   |
| OM0000001538..... OMINVEST            | 206,482   | 103,247   | 8      | 0.060      | 0.060 | 0.060 | 0.060    | 0.060       | 0.000      | 2.941  | 0.060   | 0.060   | 0.064      | 0.100     | 334,182,713   |
| OM0000003398..... SOHAR INT. BANK     | 105,000   | 10,920    | 2      | 0.104      | 0.104 | 0.104 | 0.104    | 0.102       | 0.002      | 1.961  | 0.104   | 0.104   | 0.105      | 0.100     | 477,366,478   |
| OM0000002440..... AL SHARQIA INV.     | 100,000   | 8,106     | 5      | 0.081      | 0.082 | 0.081 | 0.082    | 0.081       | 0.001      | 1.235  | 0.082   | 0.080   | 0.082      | 0.100     | 7,380,000     |
| OM0000003224..... RENAISSANCE SER     | 205,000   | 86,100    | 6      | 0.420      | 0.420 | 0.420 | 0.416    | 0.004       | 0.962      | 0.420  | 0.412   | 0.420   | 0.420      | 0.100     | 99,292,200    |
| OM0000002200..... AHLI BANK           | 10,000    | 1,720     | 1      | 0.172      | 0.172 | 0.172 | 0.172    | 0.171       | 0.001      | 0.868  | 0.172   | 0.172   | 0.175      | 0.100     | 335,341,084   |
| OM0000002796..... BANK MUSCAT         | 2,732,000 | 791,908   | 31     | 0.288      | 0.290 | 0.288 | 0.289    | 0.288       | 0.001      | 0.347  | 0.289   | 0.284   | 0.290      | 0.100     | 2,169,348,751 |
| OM0000001087..... OMAN UNITED INSUR.  | 405,886   | 125,825   | 28     | 0.310      | 0.310 | 0.310 | 0.310    | 0.310       | 0.000      | 0.000  | 0.310   | 0.310   | 0.318      | 0.100     | 31,000,000    |
| OM0000001152..... OMAN NAT. ENG.      | 140,000   | 16,570    | 11     | 0.119      | 0.119 | 0.118 | 0.119    | 0.119       | 0.000      | 0.000  | 0.119   | 0.118   | 0.119      | 0.100     | 16,660,000    |
| OM0000003968..... OOREDOO             | 243,000   | 108,429   | 9      | 0.446      | 0.450 | 0.446 | 0.450    | 0.450       | 0.000      | 0.000  | 0.450   | 0.446   | 0.450      | 0.100     | 292,924,904   |
| OM0000001483..... NATIONAL BANK OMAN  | 1,680,400 | 462,140   | 16     | 0.276      | 0.276 | 0.275 | 0.275    | 0.276       | -0.001     | -0.362 | 0.275   | 0.272   | 0.275      | 0.100     | 447,138,248   |
| OM0000001525..... OMAN INVST& FIN.    | 23,500    | 2,844     | 3      | 0.122      | 0.122 | 0.121 | 0.121    | 0.122       | -0.001     | -0.820 | 0.121   | 0.121   | 0.121      | 0.100     | 28,677,000    |
| OM0000003026..... OMAN TELECOM        | 651,200   | 660,968   | 12     | 1.015      | 1.015 | 1.015 | 1.030    | -0.015      | -1.456     | 1.015  | 1.015   | 1.015   | 1.015      | 0.100     | 761,250,000   |
| OM0000002176..... JAZEERA STEEL PROD. | 247,825   | 71,919    | 3      | 0.291      | 0.291 | 0.290 | 0.290    | 0.296       | -0.006     | -2.027 | 0.290   | 0.290   | 0.294      | 0.100     | 98,220,408    |
| OM0000003125..... GLOBAL INV. H.      | 85,000    | 5,095     | 3      | 0.060      | 0.060 | 0.059 | 0.059    | 0.061       | -0.002     | -3.273 | 0.059   | 0.059   | 0.061      | 0.100     | 11,800,000    |
| OM0000007407..... DHOFAR GENERATING   | 1,030     | 60        | 2      | 0.058      | 0.058 | 0.058 | 0.063    | -0.005      | -7.837     | 0.058  | 0.058   | 0.062   | 0.062      | 0.100     | 12,889,920    |
| OM0000001400..... OMAN FLOUR MILLS    | 450       | 261       | 1      | 0.580      | 0.580 | 0.580 | 0.580    | 0.644       | -0.064     | -9.938 | 0.580   | 0.580   | 0.000      | 0.100     | 91,350,000    |
| Total                                 | 7,491,001 | 2,654,760 | 163    |            |       |       |          |             |            |        |         |         |            |           |               |

Parallel Market

|                                               |           |           |     |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |       |       |       |       |             |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| OM0000002028..... GULF INT. CHEMI.            | 100       | 8         | 1   | 0.084 | 0.084 | 0.084 | 0.084 | 0.077 | 0.007  | 9.091  | 0.084 | 0.077 | 0.084 | 0.100 | 1,764,000   |
| OM0000001517..... HSBC BANK OMAN              | 2,897,818 | 478,107   | 16  | 0.165 | 0.165 | 0.165 | 0.165 | 0.156 | 0.009  | 5.769  | 0.165 | 0.165 | 0.165 | 0.100 | 330,051,610 |
| OM0000002267..... GULF MUSHROOM P.            | 21,966    | 5,492     | 4   | 0.250 | 0.250 | 0.250 | 0.250 | 0.241 | 0.009  | 3.734  | 0.250 | 0.242 | 0.248 | 0.100 | 10,401,318  |
| OM0000004933..... AL SUWADI POWER             | 99,000    | 3,114     | 4   | 0.031 | 0.032 | 0.031 | 0.032 | 0.031 | 0.001  | 3.226  | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.100 | 22,861,003  |
| OM0000004735..... SEMBOP SALALAH              | 12,500    | 976       | 3   | 0.078 | 0.079 | 0.078 | 0.079 | 0.077 | 0.002  | 2.397  | 0.079 | 0.076 | 0.079 | 0.100 | 75,411,184  |
| OM0000001319..... ALUMINIUM PROD.             | 33,000    | 2,046     | 2   | 0.062 | 0.062 | 0.062 | 0.062 | 0.061 | 0.001  | 1.839  | 0.062 | 0.062 | 0.064 | 0.100 | 2,981,430   |
| OM0000002374..... UNITED FINANCE              | 110,000   | 6,930     | 5   | 0.063 | 0.063 | 0.063 | 0.063 | 0.062 | 0.001  | 1.613  | 0.063 | 0.062 | 0.064 | 0.100 | 21,996,098  |
| OM0000001418..... RAYSUT CEMENT               | 43,640    | 6,095     | 7   | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.139 | 0.140 | 0.139 | 0.001  | 0.719  | 0.140 | 0.139 | 0.152 | 0.100 | 28,000,000  |
| OM0000002275..... SHELL OMAN MRK              | 1,009,546 | 908,595   | 6   | 0.900 | 0.904 | 0.900 | 0.904 | 0.900 | 0.004  | 0.444  | 0.904 | 0.904 | 0.960 | 0.100 | 85,880,000  |
| OM0000001509..... DHOFAR INT.                 | 25,872    | 4,010     | 1   | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.000 | 0.100 | 63,433,179  |
| OM0000002341..... OMAN CHLORINE               | 1,398     | 797       | 1   | 0.570 | 0.570 | 0.570 | 0.570 | 0.570 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.570 | 0.514 | 0.570 | 0.100 | 38,819,086  |
| OM0000002580..... OMAN EDU. TRAINING          | 600       | 132       | 1   | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.000 | 0.100 | 15,400,000  |
| OM0000002804..... ASAFFA FOODS                | 1,000     | 210       | 1   | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.100 | 25,200,000  |
| OM0000004420..... BANK NIZWA                  | 1,413,741 | 141,238   | 18  | 0.099 | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.099 | 0.099 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.099 | 0.097 | 0.100 | 0.100 | 221,458,350 |
| OM0000004789..... MADINA TAKAFUL              | 390,207   | 35,519    | 11  | 0.092 | 0.092 | 0.091 | 0.091 | 0.091 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.091 | 0.090 | 0.091 | 0.100 | 15,923,000  |
| OM0000004925..... ALBATINAH POWER             | 54,900    | 1,758     | 4   | 0.032 | 0.033 | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.033 | 0.100 | 21,596,398  |
| OM0000005963..... PHOENIX POWER               | 5,300     | 302       | 2   | 0.058 | 0.058 | 0.057 | 0.057 | 0.057 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.057 | 0.057 | 0.058 | 0.100 | 83,368,283  |
| OM0000007910..... AMAN REAL ESTATE            | 100       | 10        | 1   | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.098 | 0.095 | 0.098 | 0.100 | 19,600,000  |
| OM0000003521..... GALFAR ENGINEER             | 20,150    | 4,161     | 3   | 0.204 | 0.207 | 0.204 | 0.207 | 0.208 | -0.001 | -0.481 | 0.207 | 0.204 | 0.207 | 0.100 | 42,018,194  |
| OM0000003661..... VOLTAMP ENERGY              | 53,467    | 6,309     | 5   | 0.118 | 0.118 | 0.118 | 0.118 | 0.119 | -0.001 | -0.840 | 0.118 | 0.118 | 0.118 | 0.100 | 9,605,525   |
| OM0000004248..... SMN POWER HOLDING           | 200,750   | 20,622    | 14  | 0.103 | 0.103 | 0.102 | 0.102 | 0.103 | -0.001 | -0.971 | 0.102 | 0.099 | 0.102 | 0.100 | 20,362,831  |
| OM0000007084..... MCT DESALINATE              | 55,000    | 5,490     | 8   | 0.099 | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.100 | 0.101 | -0.001 | -0.990 | 0.100 | 0.098 | 0.100 | 0.100 | 15,555,040  |
| OM0000002366..... AL BATINAH DEV.             | 39,000    | 2,900     | 3   | 0.068 | 0.068 | 0.068 | 0.068 | 0.060 | -0.002 | -3.333 | 0.068 | 0.068 | 0.060 | 0.100 | 1,740,000   |
| OM0000001772..... ALANWAR INVESTMENT          | 193,103   | 10,304    | 5   | 0.075 | 0.075 | 0.074 | 0.074 | 0.077 | -0.003 | -3.886 | 0.074 | 0.073 | 0.084 | 0.100 | 14,800,000  |
| OM0000004776..... TAKAFUL OMAN                | 2,500     | 100       | 1   | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.042 | -0.002 | -4.762 | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.000 | 0.100 | 10,000,000  |
| OM0000001897..... MAJAN COLLEGE               | 10,000    | 1,400     | 2   | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.150 | -0.010 | -6.667 | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.140 | 0.100 | 12,600,000  |
| OM0000001301..... DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT | 9,977     | 649       | 1   | 0.065 | 0.065 | 0.065 | 0.065 | 0.070 | -0.005 | -7.143 | 0.065 | 0.063 | 0.065 | 0.100 | 5,255,250   |
| Total                                         | 6,661,435 | 1,647,261 | 130 |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |       |       |       |       |             |

TRADING

ADNOC Gas lists on ADX

**ABU DHABI:** ADNOC Gas on Monday listed and commenced the trading of its shares on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) following the successful completion of the largest-ever initial public offering (IPO) on the ADX and the largest IPO globally to date this year. -WAM

HIGHLIGHTS GROWTH

Meeting highlights competitive advantages of Mazunah Free Zone

Times News Service

**MUSCAT:** Dr Saleh bin Said Masan, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion for Commerce and Industry, and Chairman of Madayn's Board of Directors held a meeting with Major General Khalifa bin Ali Al Siyabi, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs for Administrative and Financial Affairs, at Al Mazunah Free Zone.

The meeting underscored the growth witnessed by Al Mazunah Free Zone, which is being operated by Madayn, as well as discussed efforts towards streamlining procedures, enhancing competitiveness and attracting investments to Al Mazunah Free Zone.

During the meeting, Eng. Ali bin Salim Al Maashani, Director General of Al Mazunah Free Zone, highlighted the digital processes available to investors through



Madayn's digital platforms (Edad and Masar Platforms), which incorporate a variety of services such as requesting, evaluating and localising investments, approval procedures for investment activities, and the related financial and administrative aspects.

Al Maashani also highlighted how the free zone's Eddah System helps streamline entry and exit processes for goods and vehicles, with annual and temporary permits being issued for individuals, equip-

ment, and machinery in coordination with the Royal Oman Police. He added that the free zone aims for simplifying its procedures to achieve increased competitiveness through joint coordination with the Royal Oman Police, including those related to the passage of vehicles and goods to Al Mazunah Dry Port.

On the sidelines of the meeting, a field visit was made to explore the infrastructure development phases of the free zone and the current and future projects.

SILICON VALLEY BANK

Dollar slides on likely rate pause in wake of SVB collapse

**SINGAPORE:** The Dollar fell sharply on heightened expectations the Federal Reserve will take a less aggressive monetary path as authorities stepped in to limit the fallout from the sudden collapse of Silicon Valley Bank (SVB).

The US government announced several measures early during the Asian trading day, saying all SVB customers will have access to their deposits starting on Monday.

The authorities also said depositors of New York's Signature Bank, which was closed Sunday by the New York state financial regulator, would be made whole at no loss to the taxpayer.

The Fed announced it would make additional funding available through a new Bank Term Funding Program, which would offer loans up to one year to depository institutions, backed by Treasuries and other assets these institutions hold.

The market turmoil from the SVB collapse led investors to speculate the Federal Reserve will no longer raise interest rates by a super-sized 50 basis points this month.

Investor focus will now be on Tuesday's inflation data to gauge how hawkish the Fed is likely to be. -BNA



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### Invitation to attend the Annual Ordinary General Meeting

The Board of Directors of Voltamp Energy Company SAOG is pleased to invite the honorable shareholders to attend the annual ordinary general meeting to be held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday 29th March 2023 in the hall **DIWAN C of the NOVOTEL Muscat Airport**, Airport Heights, or through the electronic platform for holding the General Meeting, which can be accessed through the Mus

# THE BEST AND THE BOLDEST FASHION OF OSCARS 2023

The Oscars 2023 had many surprising and glorious wins. Though the carpet this year changed colour the glamour was the same as ever. Here are some of the stunning fashion looks this year.

While Emily Blunt flaunted her figure-hugging Valentino design, Michelle Williams' strapless Chanel Couture dress mesmerised all.

Hollywood star Dwayne Johnson, who was also a presenter at the prestigious Oscars 2023, looked dapper on the Academy Awards red carpet. The 'Jumanji' actor opted for a metallic pink blazer over a white shirt and black pants. He completed his look with a black bow tie. The actor was seen posing with his 'Jungle Cruise' co-star Emily Blunt.

Johnson's appearance at the award event was much anticipated since the former wrestler had already been revealed as one of the night's presenters. The list

also included Deepika Padukone, Michael B. Jordan, Riz Ahmed, Emily Blunt, Glenn Close, Troy Kotsur, Dwayne Johnson, Jennifer Connelly, Samuel L. Jackson, Melissa McCarthy, Zoe Saldana, Donnie Yen, Jonathan Majors and Questlove.

Rihanna arrived in style at the Academy Awards red carpet amid loud cheer. She stunned the red carpet in a black leather-like Alaia gown with a trail. The beautiful gown also had a cutout around her stomach, which Rihanna covered with a stylish mesh of the same colour. For makeup, Rihanna kept it bold with red lips and for hair, she went for a high-top messy bun. As far as accessories are concerned, Rihanna wore two big diamond rings and diamond drop earrings.

Singer Lady Gaga made heads turn on Oscars 2023 red carpet with her glamorous look. She arrived at the Dolby Theatre wearing a black gown with a sheer corset bodice and a drop-waist silhouette. Gaga accessorised the luxe dress with a sparkling diamond necklace, a diamond bracelet, and stud diamond earrings.

Actor Michelle Yeoh, raised the glam quotient on the Academy Awards red carpet. Yeoh won the 'Best Actress' award for her film 'Everything, Everywhere All at Once'. She is the first actress of Asian descent to achieve this feat.

Jennifer Connelly wore a black gown from Louis Vuitton that had a panel of fabric covered in sparkles at the top and off-the-shoulder sleeves that flowed down her arms.

Kate Hudson arrived in a silver Louis Vuitton gown that was completely covered in sparkles. It also had off-the-shoulder sleeves, as well as a delicate train.



## OSCARS 2023 LIST OF WINNERS

### Best picture

Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Best actor

Brendan Fraser, The Whale

### Best actress

Michelle Yeoh, Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Best director

Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert, Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Best supporting actor

Ke Huy Quan, Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Best supporting actress

Jamie Lee Curtis, Everything Everywhere All at Once

### International film

All Quiet on the Western Front

### Best animated feature

Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio

### Original screenplay

Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Adapted screenplay

Women Talking

### Visual effects

Avatar: The Way of Water

### Original score

Volker Bertelmann, All Quiet on the Western Front

### Original song

Naatu Naatu from RRR

### Documentary feature

Navalny

### Documentary short subject

The Elephant Whisperers

### Cinematography

James Friend, All Quiet on the Western Front

### Costume design

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever

### Animated short

The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse

### Live action short

An Irish Goodbye

### Film editing

Everything Everywhere All at Once

### Sound

Top Gun: Maverick

### Production design

All Quiet on the Western Front

### Makeup and hairstyling

The Whale



SPORTS

OMAN CRICKET JUNIOR LEAGUES



ISM, MCCC Yellow emerge champions

**MUSCAT:** Indian School Muscat (ISM) and Muscat Cricket Coaching Centre (MCCC) Yellow were crowned champions of the 2022-23 Oman Cricket U16 and U13 leagues respectively recently.

In the U16 final, ISM defeated Sri Lankan School Muscat (SLSM) by 37 runs while in the U13 title clash, MCCC Yellow routed Boshier Sports Centre (BSC) 'E' by nine wickets.

ISM managed to put up a challenging score of 153 in 28 overs, courtesy a solid 71 by Devansh Loya, who later put up a fine bowling display.

Devansh's knock came off just 49 balls and included nine boundaries. Omindu PM picked 5/16 along while Mohammed Rushdaan and Senuka VN claimed two wickets too. SLSM batters faltered in their chase as wickets fell at regular intervals. Omindu (38, 27balls, 6x4) top-scored for the team as they were bundled out for 116 in 25.2 overs.

Devansh bagged three wickets for 20 runs, and was later adjudged the player of the match.

In the U13 finals, BSC 'E' scored 105/8 in 20 overs. Aditya Chaudhari (26, 3x4) and Vihaan Apte (27, 4x4) were the main run-getters. Arav Pillai, Karnik Mehta and Pranav NS took two wickets each.

Kriv Patel led the chase with a quickfire 64 of 33 balls (9x4) and was given good support by Sid-deshwaran S (29, 4x4) as MCCC Yellow chased down the target in 10.1 overs. Kriv Patel was named the player of the match.

Later, the prize distribution ceremony was held in the presence of Kiran Asher, OC board member, and Duleep Mendis, OC's chief development officer.

**Individual awards:** **U16 league:** Best batter: Kriv Patel, best bowler: Omindu PM, best all-rounder: Jayapranesh Ayyapan, consolation prize (batting): Aneek Chakraborty.

**U13 league:** Best batter: Kriv Patel, best all-rounder: Kriv, best bowler: Shravan Sharat Kurup.



Williamson, Mitchell star in a Test thriller

The hosts secured a final-ball victory, edging Sri Lanka by two wickets, in the first Test at Hagley Oval



**CHRISTCHURCH:** Kane Williamson hit a crucial unbeaten century to lead New Zealand to a thrilling two-wicket win over Sri Lanka off the final ball of the first Test at Hagley Oval on Monday.

Williamson's 121 not out saw the Black Caps chase down 285 on a rain-shortened fifth day in Christchurch.

The hosts needed eight off the final over and scrambled a bye from the last ball to seal a dramatic win.

The defeat ended Sri Lanka's hopes of reaching the World Test Championship (WTC) final in June. Sri Lanka needed to sweep New Zealand 2-0 in this series to

qualify, so India will now face Australia in the final at The Oval.

The fourth and final Test between the two sides in Ahmedabad finished in a draw, ensuring India won the series 2-1. The Black Caps started the final day on 28-1, requiring 257 more runs for victory.

After the first two sessions were washed out, the umpires ruled there would be a maximum of 52 overs bowled in an extended final session, meaning New Zealand had to score at nearly five runs per over.

They slipped to 90-3 before Williamson combined with Daryl Mitchell for a 142-run stand off 157 balls, with Sri Lanka left to rue wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwella dropping Williamson on 33.

New Zealand wobbled after Mitchell was bowled for 81 by Asitha Fernando, who then also removed Tom Blundell and Michael Bracewell. It left the hosts on 266-6, needing a further 19 runs with 16 balls remaining.

Captain Tim Southee also fell, but Williamson managed to take the match to the final over.

Matt Henry was run out attempting a second run off the third ball, bringing an injured Neil Wagner to the crease. The fast bowler has a bulging disc in his back and a torn right hamstring and has been ruled out of the second Test.

Williamson sliced the next delivery through point for four to level the scores before Fernando bowled a bouncer that was close to being called wide on height but was ruled a dot ball.

With one needed from the last ball, New Zealand ran a bye through to the keeper after Williamson's missed pull shot and he just managed to slide his bat down in time despite a direct hit at the non-striker's end.

It is New Zealand's second thrilling Test win in a row, following their stunning one-run victory over England last month. The second Test at the Basin Reserve in Wellington starts on Friday.

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

Speedo Mixers clinch volleyball crown

**MUSCAT:** Speedo Mixers claimed the second edition of the Joyalukkas Exchange & Instant Cash Women's Volleyball Tournament, which was held at the Bausher Club recently. The championship is held annually to celebrate the International Women's Day.

In the final, Speedo Mixers beat Mixers 2-0 for the title. Muscat Blazers completed the podium with a third place finish.

A total of 20 teams participated and players from ten different



nationalities, including Omanis, were in action.

In the semifinals, the Mixers beat Slasher and Speedo Mixers defeated Muscat Blazers.

Baslin was named the Most Valuable player while Mara was adjudged the best setter. Lara was

declared the best spiker, Joice was named the best blocker and Maryam won the best server of the tournament.

Sariyah Al Hadiyah, Member of the State Council, was the chief guest and handed over the prizes.

Earlier, Nixon Baby, Joyalukkas Exchange general manager, welcomed the guests at the inaugural ceremony that was attended by Mary Antony Jos, Joyalukkas Group director, and Anjali Menon, chief business officer.

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ROUND-UP

# All-new Lexus RX luxury SUV launched in Sultanate of Oman

The all-new Lexus RX is built on Lexus' Global Architecture K (GA-K) platform and delivers excellent body rigidity and a low centre of gravity, guaranteeing a more rewarding driving experience

**MUSCAT:** At an exclusive function recently held at Saud Bahwan Automotive showroom, Wattayah, the all-new RX SUV was unveiled in Oman. Attending the occasion were dignitaries from the public and private sectors.

Speaking at the occasion, a representative from Saud Bahwan Automotive said, "This evening we are celebrating the launch of the all-new Lexus RX, an unconventional luxury SUV, which since its introduction has been rewarding owners with exceptional drives and inspiring ownership experiences. As a brand, Lexus has made a very special place in the hearts of many. "Since its launch in Oman more than two decades ago, Lexus has always offered customers much more than just luxury vehicles. And this is evident in its unique offerings that promote Japanese hospitality, luxury and craftsmanship. We take this opportunity to thank our customers for their continued patronage. We would also like to thank Toyota Motor Corporation, for their constant support and encouragement."

The fifth-generation RX has



been completely reimagined to deliver greater style, comfort, and performance than ever before and comes with a choice of three powertrains, two of which are electrified. The all-new Lexus RX is built on Lexus' Global Architecture K (GA-K) platform and delivers excellent body rigidity and a low centre of gravity, guaranteeing a more rewarding driving experience.

Complementing the all-new RX's distinctive design is a thrilling drive personality imbued by three powertrain options. A newly developed inline 4-cylinder, 2.4-litre turbocharged engine that produces 275 hp and 430 nm of torque is paired with a new 8-speed Direct-Shift automatic transmission (8AT). Meanwhile, the new hybrid-electric system combines a 2.5-litre petrol engine and electric motor to produce a total of 247 hp, which is paired with an electronically-controlled continuously variable transmission (E-CVT) to provide excellent fuel efficiencies.



A hybrid-electric system pairing a 2.4-litre turbocharged engine with an electric motor is also available, which provides a combined power of 366 hp mated to a 6-speed automatic transmission. On the exterior of the RX, the

triple LED headlights are sleeker, sharper and more horizontal, and the body and spindle grilles merge at their boundaries to create a seamless expression symbolized by the sense of a solid mass, striving toward a new identity and orig-

inality. The introduction of a new Lexus badge on the tailgate adds to the vehicle's clean and contemporary look, while single-line Lexus signature taillights at the rear underline the vehicle's iconic shape.

The 2023 RX's spacious interior offers ample luggage space and five newly designed luxury seats with excellent legroom, including an 8-way adjustable powered driver seat. Drivers can also create an oasis with nature-inspired Thematic Ambient Illumination, an optional feature that bathes the RX interior in a choice of 14 themes. Additional features include Smart-Access with a push-button start, a 21-speaker Mark Levinson Clarif-Fi 2.0 sound system, and a panoramic roof with movable outer sliding glass for the front section.

The vehicle's inviting interior provides drivers and passengers with a host of advanced features for a refined cabin experience. These include a new 14-inch touchscreen multimedia system

with Apple CarPlay® and Android Auto™ compatibility, a 7-inch colour multi-information display (MID), a colour head-up display (HUD), a wireless charging system for smartphones, six USB chargers, and one 12 Volt charger. In addition, the 2023 RX offers the Lexus Climate Concierge system with Triple Zone Independent Temperature Controls.

As with any Lexus vehicle, safety is a top priority for the all-new RX. Drivers can enjoy complete peace of mind, thanks to the Lexus Safety System+, an advanced safety and driver assistance system that includes a Pre-Collision System (PCS) together with new features such as Emergency Steering Assist, Acceleration Suppression at Low Speed and Intersection Collision Avoidance Assistance. The system also includes all-speed range Dynamic Radar Cruise Control (DRCC) with two new features; Turn Signal Control (TSC), Curve Speed Reduction (RSR), Lane Tracing Alert (LTA), Lane Departure Alert (LDA), and Adaptive High-beam System (AHS). In another world-first, the new Safe Exit Assist (SEA) feature uses an e-latch system combined with a Blind Spot Monitor (BSM) to help prevent accidents among many others.

For those seeking to experience the ultimate in thrilling responsiveness, Lexus has introduced the first-ever turbo hybrid electric vehicle. The RX 500h F SPORT Performance's new hybrid electric system comes with a front unit that integrates a high-torque 2.4-litre turbo engine, six-speed automatic transmission, and an electric motor. The RX 500h F SPORT Performance also features the new DIRECT4 all-wheel drive force system, which effectively maximises front and rear wheel grip to deliver an invigorating and torque-filled driving experience.

The all-new Lexus RX is now on display at Saud Bahwan Automotive showrooms.



**VOLTAMP ENERGY SAOG**

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INTERIM REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

| DIRECTORS' REPORT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      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| <p><b>Dear Shareholders,</b></p> <p>On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the fifteenth Annual General Meeting of Voltamp Energy SAOG and present the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022.</p> <p><b>REVIEW OF OPERATIONS:</b></p> <p>The company had various achievements during the period which would take the company to its new heights in the future. Supply chain disruptions however, continued to impact operations of the group. The Company include the following subsidiaries:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Voltamp Transformers Oman SAOC, is a 100% subsidiary of Voltamp Energy SAOG. The company manufactures transformers ranging 100 kVA 6.6 kV to 10 MVA 33 kV. During 2022 in the increment of raw material prices along with the uncertain availability of major raw materials also impacted the performance in terms of cost. The company had breakthroughs in securing large and prestigious orders in the Oil and Gas sector as well as the renewable energy sector both in Oman and across the GCC. These include special purpose transformers for solar fields. The company expanded its base in export markets.</li><li>Voltamp Power SAOC, a subsidiary of Voltamp Energy successfully manufactured its first 400 kV 500 MVA transformer. With this milestone, the company now is the first in the GCC to have such capability for producing 220 kv 500 MVA and 400 kV 500 MVA transformers.</li><li>Voltamp Technology LLC, a 100% subsidiary of Voltamp Energy manufactures and sells low and medium voltage switchgears. During the year, the company completed the execution of a large "e house" (30 Mtr Long x 7.5 Mtr Width x 5.5 Mtr height) as an EPC contract for a reputed client in Oman. It is first of its kind in Oman.</li></ol> <p>The summary of the Company's performance (including subsidiaries) is as follows:</p> <table><tr><th>Particulars</th><th>2022</th><th>2021</th><th>% Increase (decrease)</th></tr><tr><td>Revenue</td><td>35,842,036</td><td>31,524,601</td><td>13.69</td></tr><tr><td>Other Income</td><td>315,887</td><td>279,704</td><td>12.94</td></tr><tr><td>Expenditure</td><td>(37,928,055)</td><td>(32,538,874)</td><td>16.56</td></tr><tr><td>(Loss) Before Tax</td><td>(1,770,132)</td><td>(734,569)</td><td>140.98</td></tr><tr><td>Taxation</td><td>394,411</td><td>66,762</td><td>490.77</td></tr><tr><td>(Loss) After Tax</td><td>(1,375,721)</td><td>(667,807)</td><td>106.01</td></tr><tr><td>Basic (Loss) per share</td><td>(0.015)</td><td>(0.0080)</td><td>87.5</td></tr><tr><td>Net assets per share</td><td>0.204</td><td>0.226</td><td>(9.73)</td></tr></table> <p>The company incurred a fair value loss on its "Available for Sale" investment of RO 272,128 during 2022 against a loss of RO 49,550 in 2021. Total comprehensive loss after adjusting for fair value loss in 2022 is RO 1,647,849 as against RO 717,357 in 2021.</p> <p>During the year company made a provision for identified risks on its receivables which has impacted the result of the company substantially. However, the company has not stopped its efforts to collect these receivables.</p> <p><b>MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Successfully manufactured, tested and supplied its first 400 kV 500 MVA transformer. It makes the company at par with leading transformer companies in Europe and in other parts of the world.</li><li>Plant was upgraded to manufacture such high range of transformers. African countries customers have shown confidence in the plant capability and awarded 330 kV range of transformers.</li><li>Neighbouring countries have also shown confidence in company by providing us opportunity to repair "Others" make large power transformer.</li><li>Successfully executed its biggest solar Inverter Duty Transformer order from outside Oman.</li><li>Executed the first E House (30 Mtr Long x 7.5 Mtr Width x 5.5 Mtr height) as an EPC contract.</li><li>Received its first ever order from European country. This substantiates our upscale of quality of delivery.</li><li>One of the subsidiary of the company's product got approved in Oil &amp; Gas and Transmission in neighboring country.</li><li>Received project based approval for Company's products from one of the major companies in Saudi Arabia.</li></ol> <p><b>EMPLOYEES WELFARE</b></p> <p>The health and wellbeing of our workforce is a key priority at Voltamp Energy SAOG. As such, the company provides its employees comprehensive medical insurance coverage.</p> <p>In addition, employees benefit from a Welfare Fund created by the company to support its employees and promote a healthy and collaborative work environment.</p> <p>The company has harnessed innovation as a part of its culture and encourages its workforce to take part in Process Improvement initiatives throughout the organisation.</p> <p><b>OMANISATION</b></p> <p>As part of our national commitment, it is the policy of the company to recruit and train Omanis at all levels across the organisation. The company is committed to foster the local workforce and create a sustainable</p> | Particulars  | 2022         | 2021                  | % Increase (decrease) | Revenue | 35,842,036 | 31,524,601 | 13.69 | Other Income | 315,887 | 279,704 | 12.94 | Expenditure | (37,928,055) | (32,538,874) | 16.56 | (Loss) Before Tax | (1,770,132) | (734,569) | 140.98 | Taxation | 394,411 | 66,762 | 490.77 | (Loss) After Tax | (1,375,721) | (667,807) | 106.01 | Basic (Loss) per share | (0.015) | (0.0080) | 87.5 | Net assets per share | 0.204 | 0.226 | (9.73) | <p>and effective local human asset base with substantial returns to the company. The company is proud to report Oman leadership in multiple positions. The Omanisation in the Company is 42% against the required law of 35%.</p> <p><b>CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>The company takes its social responsibility role very seriously. In this regard, the company has contributed to supporting efforts to combat the Corona Covid 19 pandemic as well as supporting relief efforts following the aftermath (Shaheen). In addition, the company continues its efforts in local value addition through the development of local vendors.</p> <p><b>HEALTH SAFETY &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>Health and Safety remains priority for the Company. It has been regularly upgrading its Health and Safety Management Systems to the international standards and also monitoring its HSE performance continuously. During the year Company organized multiple trainings and mock drills to keep the awareness and readiness on HSE requirements and has no major accidents.</p> <p>Company has implemented ISO 45001 on Occupational Health and Safety Management in all its manufacturing facilities.</p> <p>Voltamp is committed to Zero Harm at its work place and therefore Environmental Health &amp; Safety is the top priorities in all its endeavors.</p> <p>Voltamp strives to maintain a strong, focused safety culture that reinforces and strengthens the business. Comprehensive safety procedures and training are in place to ensure our people are aware of Voltamp's commitment to their well-being. This commitment has resulted in an excellent safety track record.</p> <p><b>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE:</b></p> <p>Your Company's Board and Management believe in maintaining a high level of professionalism and integrity in all its operations. The Company stands committed to fully comply with the Code of Corporate Governance. A report on Corporate Governance as well as the Management Discussion and Analysis Report have been included in the Annual Report.</p> <p>The Board has reviewed the existing system of Rules, Regulations, and internal controls so as to ensure that they properly identify authorities at various levels and to ensure that there is an effective system of checks and balances in place. Furthermore, all systems and procedures are being regularly upgraded and strengthened which will ensure efficiency and transparency.</p> <p><b>DIVIDEND</b></p> <p>In view of the loss incurred during the year, the Board of Directors do not recommend any dividend for the year ended 31st December 2022.</p> <p><b>OUTLOOK:</b></p> <p>Business scenario is showing some respite post COVID pandemic while the ongoing war in Ukraine has impact in the business outlook. The company's strategy to overcome the same is through enhancement of supplier base as well as product and market portfolio.</p> <p>The company has successfully manufactured, tested and supplied 220 kV and 400 kV transformers and established itself in this Niche product market. This is expected to help the company in showcasing its ability for all such demands in GCC and contribute towards nation's ICV vision. Also company has established itself in large E House market and advanced in growing African market.</p> <p>The Company continues to monitor market progress of implementation of various largescale projects in various sectors across GCC Countries. The company is also acquiring the trained and experienced resources for its business development for both opening new markets as well as venturing into new products which make synergy with existing product portfolio of the company.</p> <p>The company will continue to look for opportunities in selected countries in and outside GCC. The outlook for the company's sales will remain the same with a lower risk on material fluctuation which has direct impact on the business.</p> <p>The Company will continue to leverage its product mix and technology advantage to overcome the challenges of the competition and market.</p> <p>Given the current environment, the company's outlook for 2023 remains "cautiously optimistic."</p> <p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:</b></p> <p>On behalf of Voltamp Energy SOG, the Board of Directors wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and the Omani Government for providing a secure and stable economic environment focused on driving growth and continued prosperity for all.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Board of Directors conveys its sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Capital Market Authority and the Muscat Securities Market, the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates, Rusayl Industrial Area (Madiyn).</p> <p>The Board also extends appreciation to all customers and banks dealing with the company for their continuous support and to the valued shareholders for their confidence in the company and its board of directors.</p> <p>Finally, I would like to thank and recognize all the Company's employees and Management for their dedication and commitment.</p> <p><b>Aymen bin Hamad Al Busaidi</b><br/>Chairman<br/>Voltamp Energy SAOG</p> |  |  |
| Particulars                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            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                                                                          | 315,887      | 279,704      | 12.94                 |                       |         |            |            |       |              |         |         |       |             |              |              |       |                   |             |           |        |          |         |        |        |                  |             |           |        |                        |         |          |      |                      |       |       |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            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# ROUND-UP

## LG introduces new range of 2023 AC product line-up in Oman

It has the most advanced cooling system for a comfortable life which is a perfect blend of powerful cooling up to 58 degrees Celsius along with uniform cooling all around thanks to LG's dual sensing system

**MUSCAT:** LG Electronics has introduced its 2023 product line-up at the Dealer Convention Conference that took place on March 8 in Oman, highlighting how air conditioning plays a vital role in improving the quality of life, allowing people to live and work comfortably even in the hottest and most humid weather conditions that can be witnessed in some countries such as Oman, where temperatures can get extremely hot. To cater to Oman's market demand, LG Electronics introduced a new range of 2023 air condition-

ers. It has the most advanced cooling system for a comfortable life which is a perfect blend of powerful cooling up to 58 degrees Celsius along with uniform cooling all around thanks to LG's Dual Sensing system. LG's exclusive anti-corrosion Gold Fin coating forms a protective shield that ensures long lasting performance. Easy installation and easy maintenance gives peace of mind to customers. Being one of the pioneers in the inverter air conditioners segment, LG continues to dominate



the premium segment. LG's DualCool Inverter Residential Air Conditioners empower residents to experience 60% faster and more consistent cooling. **Stay cool in style** Experience the perfect blend of design and performance with LG's

stunning DualCool Inverter which has a modern and minimalist design that is perfect for any home or location, and it also features a smart display that allows users to easily monitor the status of the air conditioner. LG's consideration of health takes part in every product they

provide. LG DualCool Inverter acts as the first line of defence against bacteria and finer particles, the Dual Protection Filter is specifically engineered to capture dust particles larger than 10um in size. Ensuring a healthy living environment by leaving your space clean and dust free.

**Made for your comfort** LG DualCool is designed with a unique skew fan and BLDC fan motor to minimise unnecessary noise, while the dual rotors of the Dual Inverter Compressor™ work to reduce external noise by minimising compressor vibration. You will sense extreme air comfort as the air is adjusted to a predetermined position, directing the outflowing air away from the individuals occupying the room, thereby enhancing their comfort. LG Electronics supports sustainability and applies it to its products. The LG Dual Inverter Compressor™ minimises the compressor speed automatically to maintain the set temperature with minimal operation. LG Electronics is a complete Air Solutions provider that will continue to deliver innovative products. OTE Group is the exclusive distributor for LG Electronics in Oman offering excellent sales and after-sales service support, underpinned by a nationwide service network, that's on par with global standards.

### PROMOTING COOPERATION

## Zubair Electric, Federal Electrical Transformers sign agreements with Nama Holding Group

**MUSCAT:** Zubair Electric and Federal Electrical Transformers recently signed two respective agreements with Nama Holding Group in the presence of Hilal Bin Omar Al Siaybi, Chief Corporate Services Officer at Al Zubair Corporation, and Sulieman Bin Issa AlBalushi, General Manager of Federal Factory for Transformers and Switches and Eng. Omar Bin Khalfan Al Wahibi, Chief Executive Officer at Nama Holding Group. The signing took place on the sidelines of an event that saw the launch of four programmes by OIA to enhance in-country value (ICV). As part of the event, several companies including Nama Holding Group signed agreements to promote cooperation, development and innovation. Among the 12 contracts signed with local companies, Nama Holding Group chose Zubair Electric and Federal Electrical Transformers for the supply of cables and conductors



and low-voltage substations. Commenting on the agreement, Hilal Al Siaybi Chief Corporate Services Officer at Al Zubair Corporation said, "The Zubair Corporation is proud that two of its esteemed Group companies were chosen by Nama Holding Group as part of the OIA ICV agreements. Both companies have built a strong reputation in the fields of

Automation and Smart Electricity, enabling them to access such opportunities." Al Siaybi added, "These agreements are embedded in the government's strategy to create more public and private sectors partnerships, supporting the needs of the Sultanate, in this case for the electrical sector. We are proud to be part of this renewed effort to ensure govern-

ment purchases are localised to enhance ICV." Commenting on the new agreement, Sulieman Al Balushi, General Manager at the Federal Factory for Transformers and Switches, specified: "The agreements are within a specific framework: they do not concern products purchase directly but are rather focused on collaborating between different parties for the planning and structuring of Oman's electrical needs. For instance, our collaborations will entail planning Electricity Distribution Systems needs for electrical transformers or updating Oman's technical specifications for electrical products. Additionally, the different parties will organise periodic visits to electrical network engineers to inspect factories, supervise technical tests, identify production stages and exchange ideas on aspects of development in the Smart Electricity and Automation sectors."

### DRIVING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

## OSW kicks off with extensive engagement to foster public awareness of vital environmental issues and concepts

**MUSCAT:** The latest edition of 'Oman Sustainability Week' has been launched at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre to promote sustainability as a crucial element in supporting comprehensive development, in line with the goals of Oman's Vision 2040. The event is held under the auspices of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals and attended by several of their excellencies, ambassadors and accredited representatives to the Sultanate of Oman, as well as a large number of specialists, experts and technicians in the fields of energy, environment, and water. The event will continue until March 16 with broad local and international participation.

Oman Sustainability Week, hosted by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals as host ministry in partnership with Petroleum Development Oman as Host Organisation, is a high-profile event that seeks to raise awareness about the importance of sustainable practices and preserving the environment whilst safeguarding natural resources. The event aims to advance sustainability in the fields of energy and water, reflecting Oman's commitment to creating a more sustainable future. With extensive participation from a range of stakeholders, including officials, experts and specialists from various sectors, the event is expected to attract over 7,000 attendees, more than 150 distinguished speakers and over 80 exhibiting companies. The week-long programme features a variety of activities, including conferences, workshops, summits, interactive sessions, awards and site visits focused on promoting dialogue and collaboration around sustainability-related topics. Commenting on the launch of

Oman Sustainability Week activities, Mohsin bin Hamad bin Saif Al Hadhrami, Undersecretary - Ministry of Energy and Minerals said, "In light of the rapid developments and transformations the world is witnessing, sustainability and practices aimed at preserving the environment and resources have become increasingly important. Today, everyone, including institutions, individuals and specialists, is working to adopt the latest practices and technologies that promote and support sustainable principles. Undoubtedly, Oman Sustainability Week will create momentum around sustainability issues by raising awareness and promoting concepts related to hydrogen and renewable energy technologies, while emphasising the importance of reducing carbon emissions and preserving natural resources, water, and energy." "The OSW serves as a national platform that showcases Oman's unwavering commitment to achieving leadership in sustainability, whilst also providing an opportunity for knowledge and experience exchange. "It features the latest technologies, solutions and initiatives from around the globe, making it a model for enabling sustainability efforts through innovative strategies in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals," he added. OSW has a diverse range of activities scheduled, including the International Conference on Sustainability Resources and Technology on March 13 and 14, organised by the Oman Environmental Services Holding Company 'be'ah' and programmed by the Economist Impact, and the Gaia thought leadership conference on the industry, sustainability and future of energy, conducted by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE).

### TOP-PERFORMING COMPANIES

## be'ah awards outstanding sustainability initiatives at Oman Sustainability Week

**MUSCAT:** Omani Holding Company for Environmental Services 'be'ah, recognises exceptional sustainability efforts at the Oman Sustainability Week Awards, held in conjunction with the Oman Sustainability Week 2023 in the Sultanate of Oman. The event took place at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Center (OCEC) under the patronage of Salim bin Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, and was attended by a number of ministers, undersecretaries, CEOs of companies and stakeholders in the field of sustainability. These awards serve as a commendation to top-performing companies in implementing sustainable practices pertaining to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors, which align with Oman Vision 2040 objectives. The framework, which is based on the internationally



recognised GRI standard, was developed in collaboration with the Center for Sustainability and Excellence based in Chicago, Illinois. The Oman Sustainability Week Awards serve as the launchpad for a week-long initiative that encompasses a vast exhibition, a conference, and diverse field visits. These awards aim to raise awareness about sustainability issues and encourage companies and institu-

tions to incorporate responsible and sustainable practices into their corporate strategies. Additionally, they underscore the significance of dedicating oneself to social and environmental issues to achieve long-term economic growth. The Oman Sustainability index have been meticulously categorised into various sections, highlighting the country efforts

towards sustainable practices in environmental, social, governance and human resources domains. The assessment was based on key performance indicators such as the governance criteria, encompassing the organisation vision, anti-corruption policies, sustainability goals, stakeholder engagement and sustainability reporting. The social practices criteria focus on evaluating the organisation social impact, contribution to local communities and effective supply chain management. The environmental criteria examine the efficiency of the organisation environmental management system, energy consumption, waste management, and emission reduction. Additionally, the human resources criteria assess the organisation performance in ensuring employees' health, safety, training and education and providing job opportunities for the community.



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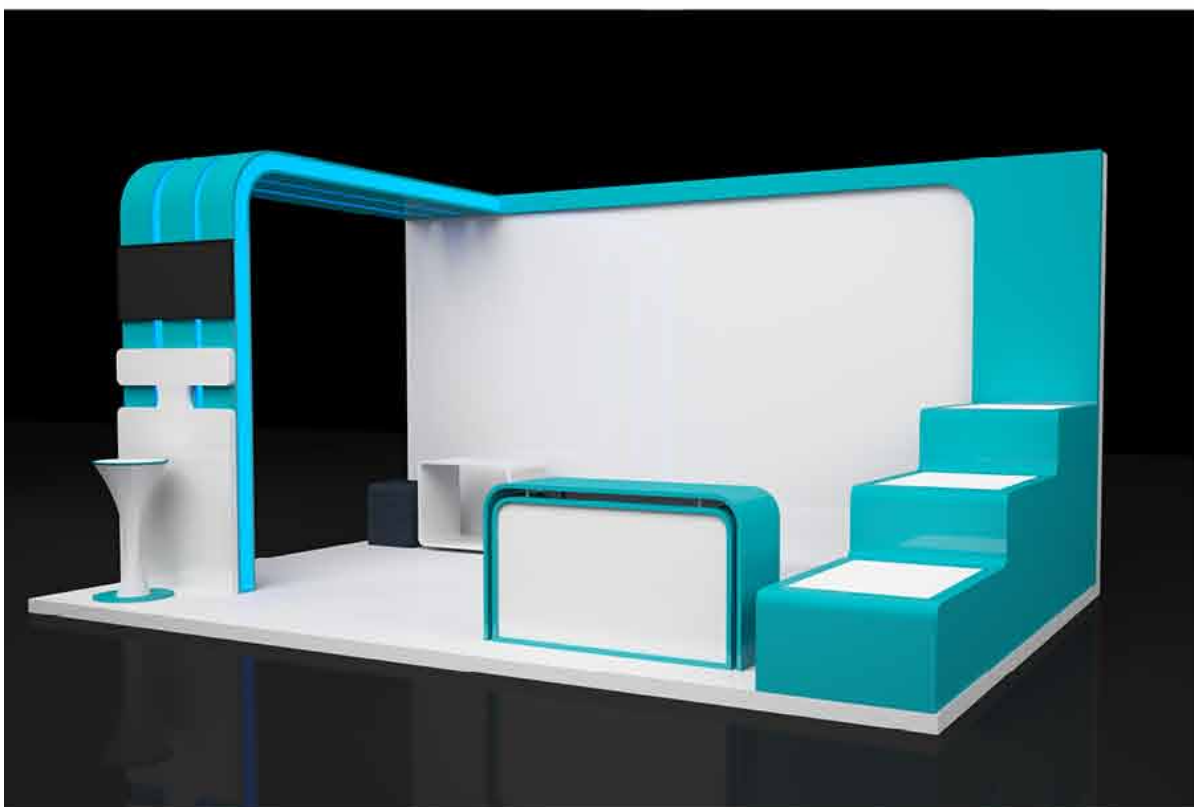
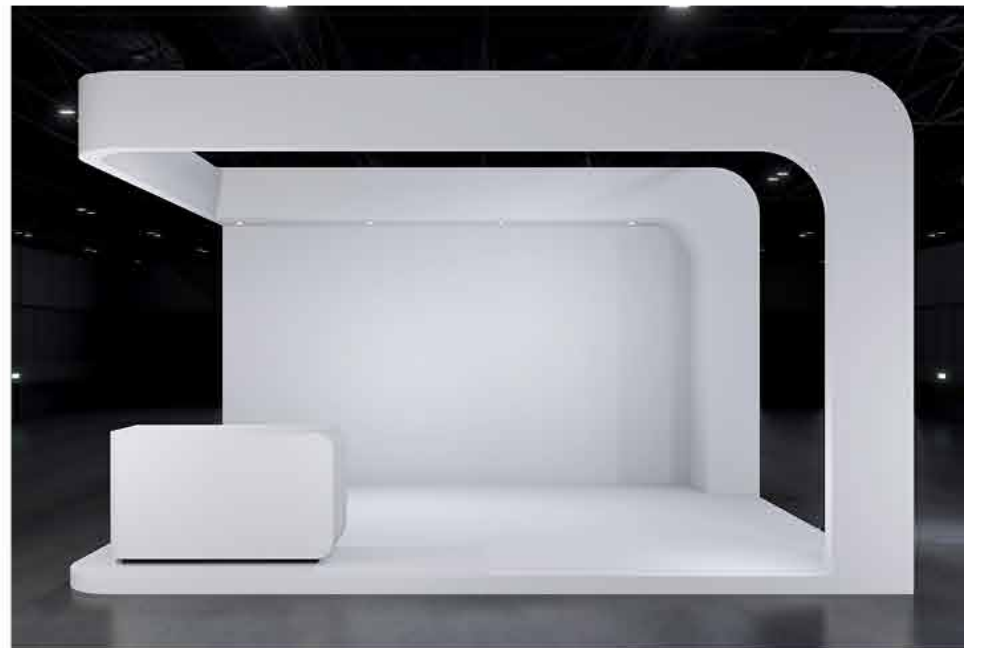
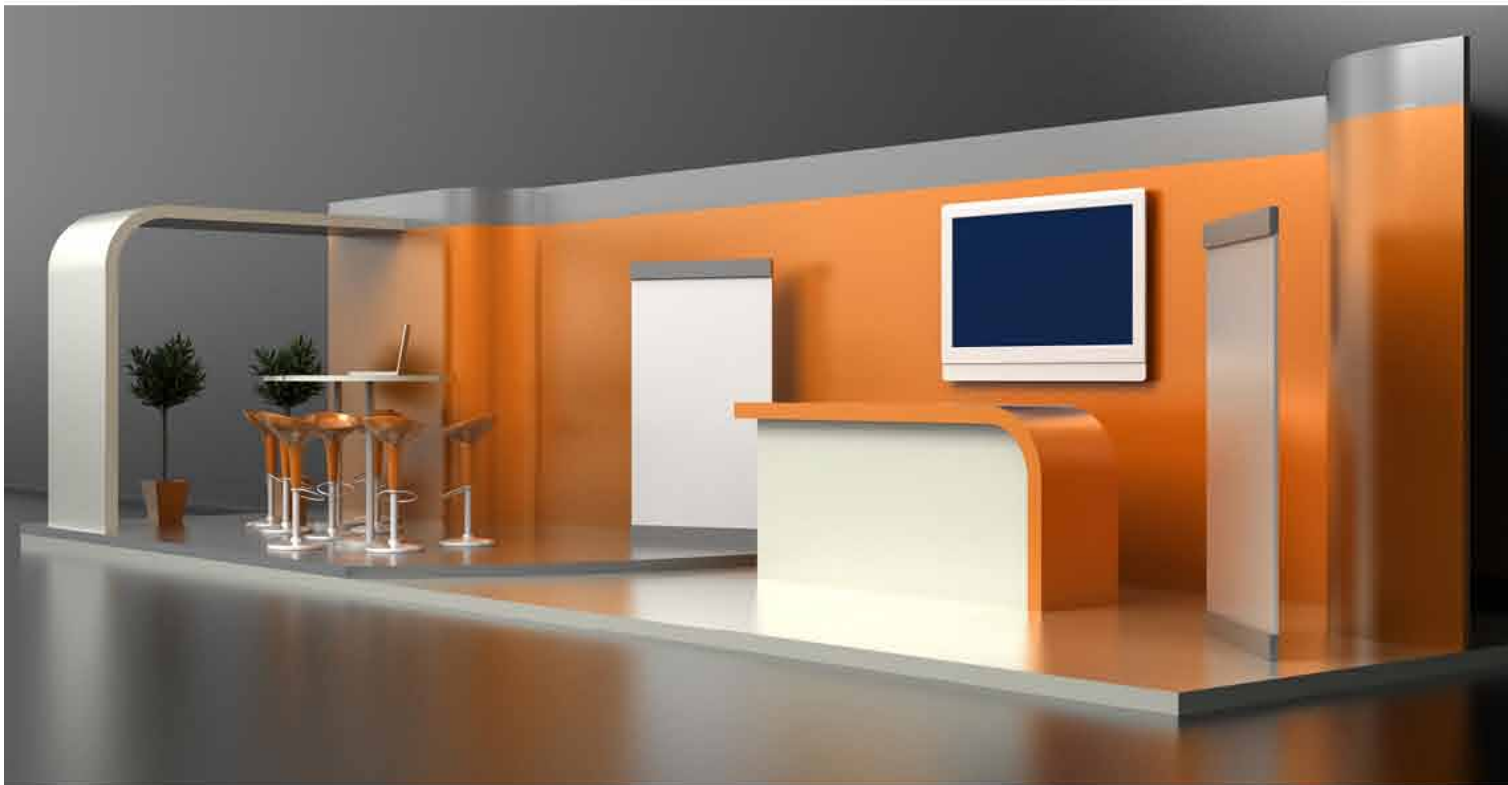
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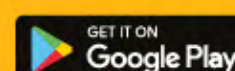
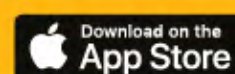
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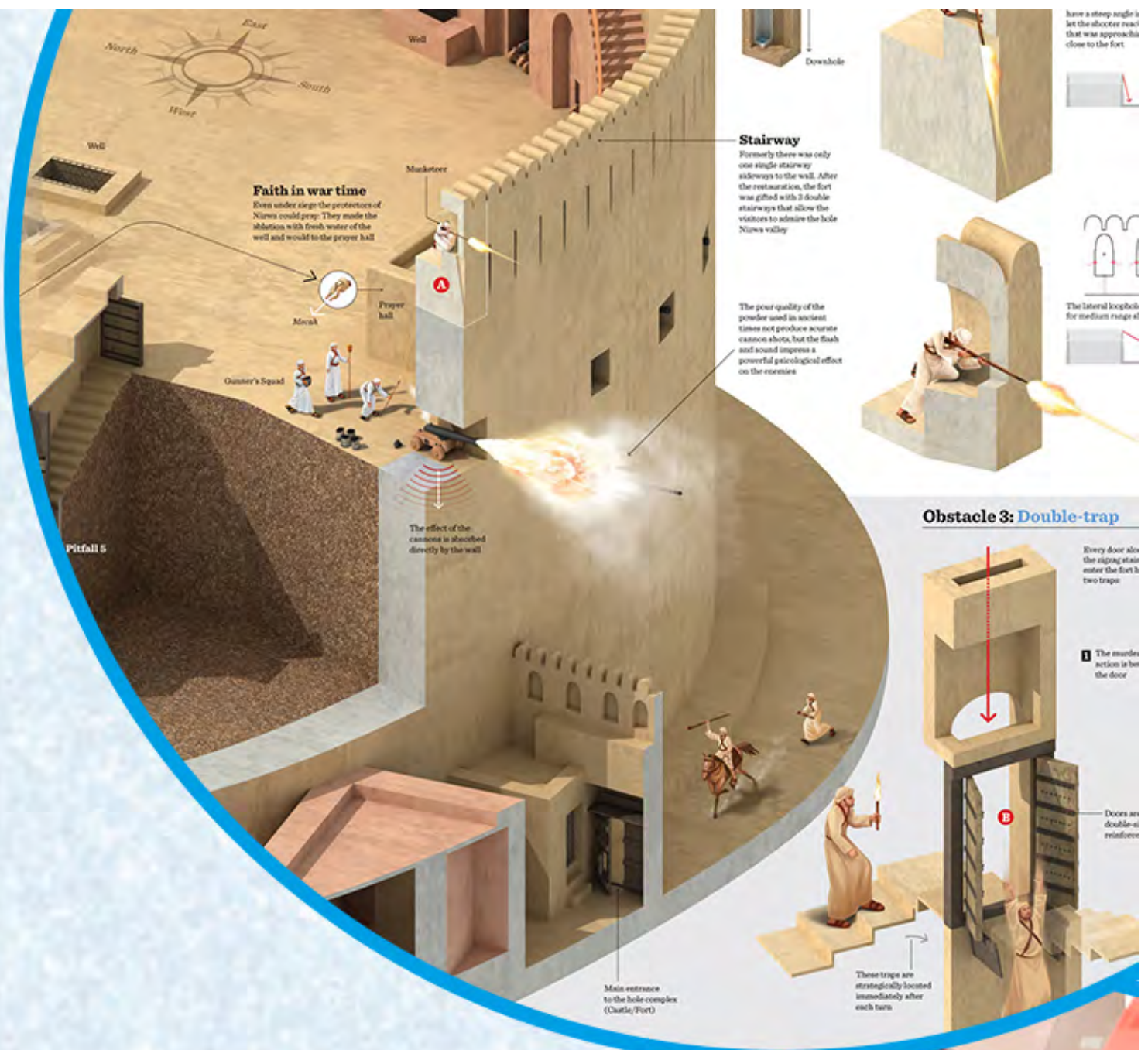


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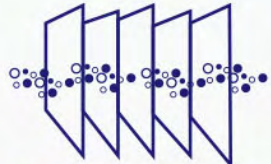
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