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HM SENDS CONDOLENCES

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) on the death of Prince Badr Fahd Saud Al Kabeer Al Saud. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy, praying to Allah the Almighty to rest the deceased's soul in peace in paradise and grant his family patience. — **ONA**



HM CONDOLES RULER OF DUBAI

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Ruler of Dubai on the death of his brother Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy, praying to Allah the Almighty to rest the deceased's soul in peace in paradise and grant Sheikh Mohammed and his family patience. — **ONA** **See also >A6**



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According to the Unified VAT Agreement for the Arabian Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC) States, the basic tax rate imposed is 5 per cent.

Value Added Tax (VAT) will be effective from April 16

Value Added Tax (VAT) is applied in over 160 countries

VAT

OMR1,000-20,000

In the event of recurrence, the court may double the fine, and increase the legally prescribed maximum penalty for imprisonment by more than half of this limit.

VIOLATORS OF VAT TO FACE STRICT PENALTIES

Oman has exempted some basic goods and services from VAT for the benefit of people

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman has envisioned a series of strict penalties for violators of the Value Added Tax (VAT) that will be effective from April 16 this year.

The Tax Authority has said that the minimum penalties stipulated are imprisonment for a period of

not less than two months, or a fine that is not less than OMR1,000, the maximum penalties reach imprisonment for three years and a fine that does not exceed OMR20,000, and in the event of recurrence, the court may double the fine, and increase the legally prescribed maximum penalty for imprisonment by more than half of this limit.

In the event that the tax payment is delayed, the law imposes a rate of one per cent of the value of the unpaid tax for each month of delay or part thereof, starting from the end of the specified period for payment and up to the date of payment.

The law has mentioned 17 cases in Articles 100 and 101, and it includes cases of wilful failure to implement some of its provisions, cases of providing incorrect data and documents, and cases of doing what would hinder the employees of the Tax Authority or who are required to carry out their duties.

The VAT law stipulates a package of goods and services that are subject to zero tax, mainly food

commodities, medicines and medical supplies on which a decision is issued by Head of Tax Authority; gold, silver and platinum for investment purpose; international transport services and intra-state transport of goods or passengers and the supply of associated services; supplying means of sea, air and land transport for commercial purposes; supply of goods and services associated with transport; supply of rescue and aid/relief aircraft and vessels; the supply of crude oil, oil derivatives and natural gas and the supply of goods.

Value Added Tax is an indirect tax on consumption of domestic or imported goods and services, and

it is applied in more than 160 countries around the world. According to the Unified VAT Agreement for the Arabian Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC) States, the basic tax rate imposed is five per cent.

"The fiscal balance plan and other measures that have been taken, including the VAT, are steps in the right direction, but still not sufficient enough," Murtaza Hassan Ali, a businessman, speaking exclusively to *Times of Oman*, said about the VAT.

"These measures will help to improve Oman's evaluation by the international sovereign rating agencies like Moody's, S&P, and Fitch. The government is also trying to

manage foreign debt, which has increased. The plans will enhance the confidence of global financial institutions in the government's seriousness in reducing spending and controlling huge debts."

"The exclusion of the VAT for basic goods, as well as the exemption of some goods and services from the tax at a rate of zero per cent, is also indicative of the government's interest in the importance of taking into account those subject to the VAT," Simon Karam, the owner of a contracting company, Al Sarooj Company, told *Times of Oman* while speaking exclusively about his opinion of VAT that will be applied from April 16.

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Anti-tuberculosis mission launched

1 The Sultanate represented by the Ministry of Health (MoH), has launched a national strategy to eliminate tuberculosis. **>A5**

WORLD Myanmar releases hundreds of prisoners

2 Witnesses said hundreds of people imprisoned after last month's coup in Myanmar were freed on Wednesday. **>A7**

MARKET Bank Muscat okays 35% dividend

3 Bank Muscat has approved 25 per cent cash dividend and bonus shares at the rate of 10 per cent of the issued capital. **>B1**



SAYYID THEYAZIN RECEIVES AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN

His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth received at his office yesterday Toshinori Kobayashi, Ambassador of Japan to the Sultanate. The meeting reviewed the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries. It also exchanged views on aspects of existing cooperation in the cultural and sports fields, as well as means of promoting cooperation between the two countries. — **ONA**

CONGRATULATIONS

Praise pours in as Al Habsi joins high performance panel

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Praise for Ali Al Habsi has come from footballers who have previously represented Oman and other Gulf countries, following his appointment to the Main Committee for High Performance Sports, which aims to improve the standards of professional teams representing the country.

The committee was formed by His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tarik Al Said, the Minister for Culture, Sports, and Youth. Ex-Oman striker Emad Al Hosni, a long-term teammate of goalkeeper Al Habsi for the national team, was among those who offered his congratulations.

"You deserve the confidence that the Minister, His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tarik Al Said has in you for becoming a member of the Main Committee for High Performance Sports," he said. "Because of the sporting ex-



perience its members have, they will bring positive changes to sport in the Sultanate. Congratulations."

Former Saudi Arabia defender Osama Hawsawi, who played alongside Al Habsi during his time at Riyadh-based club Al Hilal, also wished him the best in his new role.

"Congratulations to you... your efforts here will be an extension of your successes on the field," he said. **>A5**

ONLINE SHOPPING

Now, enjoy free home delivery on orders above OMR5 with Rafeeq

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Rafeeq, the largest online supermarket in Oman, is offering free home delivery on orders above OMR5 for customers in Muscat and areas surrounding the capital.

Customers who order from Rafeeq can also expect the highest safety and hygiene standards applied to their products, as well as timely and reliable deliveries.

The free delivery offer is one of many promotions Rafeeq is running at present, to mark one year of operations in the Sultanate of Oman. More offers and an expanded stock of the e-commerce shop's range of high quality products are expected soon.

"What we've seen is that there is an increasing demand for goods

from online stores these days," said Shakir Dadarkar, marketing manager for Rafeeq.

"These have particularly picked up during the coronavirus pandemic, as people are naturally concerned about going out. Online stores today have an excellent range of products that people can easily order from the comfort of their own homes.

New products

"We are constantly adding new products to match customers' expectations, as well as bringing out various promotions and discounts," he explained.

"Today, we have a wider range of products than any other online supermarket. We are grateful to our customers who have shown faith and trust in our service. "We

follow all safety protocols during every step of the order fulfilment process, and to do our bit for the environment, do not use plastic bags for any of our operations."

Rafeeq offers a huge range of products, including fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh meat and poultry, frozen meat, baked goods, groceries, personal care and hygiene products, baby products, perfumes and cosmetics, pet products, flowers and gifts, organic and gluten free products, kitchenware, gaming and gift cards, and stationery.

"Our items are constantly expanding based on the demands of customers in the market," added Samer Hakeem, the brand's operations manager.

"We have already devised plans for more products in the future, and are keen to announce this to

Free Delivery

on orders above RO 5

You Order, We Deliver!

our clients once they have been stocked. We will be increasing our portfolio of Omani products as there is a huge demand for local goods in homes these days."

Customer top priority

"I think it is fair to say that we would not have marked a year of operations in Oman without the loyalty our customers have shown us over these past 12 months," he added. "I want to thank each and every one of them for their support, and assure them that customer satisfaction and quality produce will be our number one priority."

Customers who wish to peruse Rafeeq's wares can download the app, or visit [www.rafeeq.om](#).

The app is easily available to download on iOS and the Android Play Store.

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13 RIAL .450



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6 THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND IN OMAN

Looking for ways to stay occupied and safe as well this weekend? While we all understand the importance of shifting gears on weekends, owing to the pandemic weekends are no longer how they used to be. We are mostly in our homes with limited options for entertainment and interaction. Adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols, here are some easy ways to have safe activities.

1
Go for beach exercise
People in Oman can now go to the beaches as per the orders of the Supreme Committee but are allowed to do so only when alone along while maintaining social distancing. One must remember that gatherings of two or more people are still prohibited and one can only use the beach for exercise. So if you are tired of walking on the treadmill within the four walls of your home, then visit the beach alone and exercise in the open air. After all there is nothing like exercising in fresh air. While you do so ensure that you are maintaining physical distancing with other beach goers. Ensure that you wear a mask and carry a bottle of sanitiser along.



2
'Eat in' your favourite restaurant meal
In Oman people can now collect takeaway meals and beverages from restaurants after 8pm. So drive to your favourite restaurant, collect your order, and enjoy a hearty dinner of your favourite restaurant dishes at home. So this weekend take a cooking break and also break the myth that restaurant foods are unhealthy. Restaurants in Oman are more than happy to tweak the food according to your taste and nutritional requirements. Consider these healthy options when you're ordering takeaways.



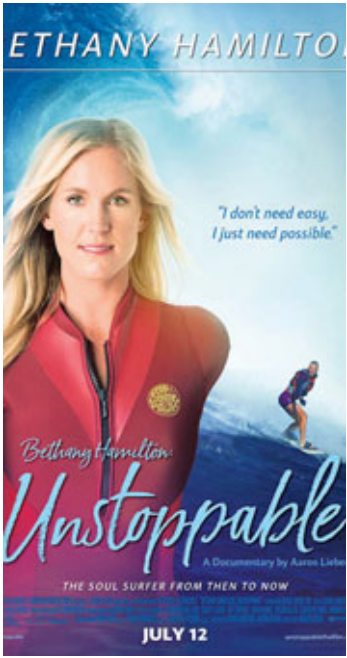
3
Enjoy a rose retreat
Moments of relaxation and tranquillity are in full bloom with the return of the rose season in Jabal Al Akhdar. Take a day trip to Jabal Al Akhdar to enjoy the rose season in the mountains. Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort is offering a special Rose Season Package for two, which includes an overnight stay in a room or villa, breakfast at Al Maisan, a 'Rose Water of Al Jabal Al Akhdar' tour and a Rose Rescue Ritual at Anantara Spa. With the 'Rose Water of Jabal Al Akhdar' tour, guests can witness the enchanting bloom and heady aroma of the Damask roses cascading down the mountain slopes. Accompanied by an expert Mountain Guru, embark on a 90-minute guided tour of the famed damask rose farms of Jabal Akhdar and one of the oldest rose distilleries to discover the ancestral technique of extracting varieties of pure rose water from the harvest petals.



4
Celebrate the festival of colours
It is that time of the year when people splash colours to celebrate the Indian festival, Holi. However, due to the pandemic while one cannot play colours with family and friends, it certainly cannot mar the spirit of the festival. And what could be more exciting than making your favourite holi sweets at home. Relish them with your family and don't forget to wish your loved ones via video conferencing. And that's not all. You can download some online Holi games and apps wherein people can be spattered with colour, something to keep your Holi spirits high.



5
Watch new film releases in theatres
This week with many new movie releases you will be spoilt for choice. Start with *Godzilla vs Kong* in which legends collide as these mythic adversaries meet in a spectacular battle for the ages, with the fate of the world hanging in the balance. Kong and his protectors undertake a perilous journey to find his true home, and with them is Jia, a young orphaned girl with whom he has formed a unique and powerful bond. But they unexpectedly find themselves in the path of an enraged Godzilla, cutting a swath of destruction across the globe. The epic clash between the two titans—instigated by unseen forces—is only the beginning of the mystery that lies deep within the core of the Earth. Other not to miss films are *Maya The Bee 3: The Golden Orb*, *Pets United, Retaliation*, *Nomadland*; and *Haathi Mere Saathi* and *Saina* in Hindi.



6
What's new in Netflix?
Netflix is here with some new additions. Watch *Bethany Hamilton: Unstoppable*, starring Alana Blanchard, Adam Dirks, Tobias Dirks and Bethany Hamilton. This documentary tells the heartbreaking and inspiring story of Bethany Hamilton. After losing her arm earlier in her life, the athlete went on to become a pro-surfer. *Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution* is one of Netflix's big documentaries of the year. It is about a summer camp that was set up for teenagers with disabilities.

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TB eradication strategy unveiled

The launch of the strategy coincides with celebrations marking the World TB Day, which falls on March 24 every year.

MUSCAT: The Sultanate, represented by the Ministry of Health (MOH), launched the National Tuberculosis (TB) Eradication Strategy, to be carried out in stages, with special emphasis on lowering the percentage of infection and mortality cases.

The launch of the strategy coincides with celebrations marking the World TB Day, which falls on March 24 every year. TB figures as the most contagious disease in the world and the Sultanate ranks among countries with the least levels of TB infection (10:100000) at a rate of 10 patients to 100,000 people.

Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Health, who was the chief guest at the Strategy's launch ceremony, said that cases of infection with TB in the Sultanate have been in decline over the past 10 years, since 2019 when marginal rise was registered



Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi. — ONA

due to the introduction of high accuracy diagnostic apparatus.

The minister pointed out that the cases registered in the Sultanate were mostly sourced from abroad and detected upon the examination of expatriates despite the tests they conduct prior to their arrival.

The Sultanate was chosen as a model country, one of very few countries in the Middle East to have gone a long way in the eradication of tuberculosis through its close cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and other parties towards the total eradication of the disease before 2035, thereby meeting the goals of

its roadmap "National TB Eradication Strategy".

Dr John Jabbour, WHO Representative in the Sultanate, said in a speech on the occasion, "The Sultanate worked hard over the past five decades of its renaissance to extend health services to all parts of the country. Towards this end, the Sultanate endorsed primary health as a gateway to different levels of healthcare."

The National TB Strategy aims, in its first stages, to lower infection to 10 per one million by 2035, with a view to attaining the pre-eradication stage by slashing infection rates by 90 per cent and mortality rates by 95 per cent, compared to the epidemiological situation in 2015.

The rate of TB infections in the Sultanate by 2020 stood at 7 to 100,000 when 314 cases were registered, of them 95 Omanis and 219 non-Omanis, in addition to 23 death cases.

The WHO and other prominent international institutions hailed the Sultanate's efforts in eradicating tuberculosis.

Recently, the WHO issued a TB Eradication Guide in Europe based on established evidence and experiences published in some countries.

In this context, the WHO flashed the example of the Sultanate as an interesting model in the Middle East, equating the Omani experience with the US and Canadian experiences, and asserting that all these countries are on their way to terminally eradicate tuberculosis. — ONA

HM sends greetings

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Katerina Sakellaropoulou of the Republic of Greece on her country's National Day. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Sakellaropoulou and the friendly people of Greece further progress and prosperity. — ONA

Pact inked for physiotherapy, rehab centre

MUSCAT: An agreement was signed recently to establish a physiotherapy and rehabilitation centre in Shinas. The pact was inked between Jusoor Foundation and the Director General of Health Services (DGHS), North Al Batinah.

Sheikh Saif bin Humiar Al-Malik Al-Shehi, Governor of North Al Batinah and Chairman of Jusoor Board of Directors (BoD), signed the agreement on behalf of Jusoor, while the DGHS in North Al Batinah North, signed the agreement on behalf of the Ministry of Health (MoH). Funded by OQ, Sohar Aluminium and Vale, and implemented by Jusoor, the project aims at enhancing the quality and efficacy of health services in Shinas Health Centre.

Appointment of Al Habsi to benefit sports in Sultanate

People from other areas of work were also confident the legendary goalkeeper would do well in his new role.

Among them was Dr Zahir Al Gheseini, the assistant dean of student affairs for guidance at Sultan Qaboos University.

"The appointment of our captain, Ali Al Habsi, as a member of the Main Committee will benefit the Omani sporting landscape," he said. "This has come in a timely manner, as sports will benefit from the expertise of members of this committee, which is reinforced by his performances as a sportsman. It is hoped the country will benefit from this in the future."

39-year-old Al Habsi became the first Arab from the GCC to play in Europe, when he joined Norwegian side Lyn Oslo in 2003, before becoming the first person from the region to also feature in the Premier League after he signed for Bolton Wanderers three years later.

During his time in England, he played for a number of clubs, including Wigan Athletic, Brighton and Hove Albion, and Reading, before joining Saudi club Al Hilal for two years, after which he returned to the UK and signed up with West Bromwich Albion.

Internationally, he represented Oman on 135 occasions, and didn't concede a goal throughout Oman's victorious 2009 Gulf Cup campaign, which was held in Muscat.

He retired from international

Internationally, he represented Oman on 135 occasions, and didn't concede a goal throughout Oman's victorious 2009 Gulf Cup campaign, which was held in Muscat. He retired from international football on January 5 last year.

"My sincere appreciation and thanks to His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham bin Tarik Al Said, for his generous confidence in honouring me as a member of the Main Committee for High Performance Sports," tweeted the goalkeeper.

"I pray to God for our success, and for myself and my fellow members of the committee, to have the levels of confidence required to serve Omani sports, so that we may become champions at the highest level," he added.



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UAE mourns passing away of Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid

ABU DHABI: The United Arab Emirates is mourning the death of Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum(76), who passed away on Wednesday.

Sheikh Hamdan witnessed all stages of the UAE's journey and tremendously contributed to the national development drive. He was one of the country's leaders and participated in its renaissance and in designing its future. He was a remarkable icon of the country's political, economic, social, cultural and sporting life.

Sheikh Hamdan was born in 1945, the second son of Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum. He was appointed the Minister of Finance during the formation of the first UAE Cabinet on December 9, 1971, and remained in this position until his death. He was known for his interest in humanitarian work and his passion for culture, literature and science.

He had chaired numerous authorities and prominent government institutions that play a vital role in supporting the economy and labour market of the entire country, especially Dubai, which are, most notably, the Dubai Municipality, the Al Maktoum Foun-



ation, the Dubai World Trade Centre, the Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC), the Dubai Natural Gas Company Limited (Dugas), Emirates Global Aluminium, the ENOC Processing Company LLC, and the OilFields Supply Centre.

In 2006, Sheikh Hamdan received three honorary certificates from the "Royal College in the UK," as well as an honorary fellowship certificate from the "British Royal

College of Internal Medicine in London," an honorary fellowship certificate from the "British Royal College from Internal Medicine in Edinburgh," and an honorary fellowship certificate from the "British Royal College of Internal Medicine and Surgery in Glasgow."

Sheikh Hamdan was known for his passion for giving and humanitarian work, most notably in poor and marginalised areas, which led the Annual Summit of the African

Union (AU), in 2009, to dedicate a session to honour him, attended by presidents of nearly 50 states who lauded his qualities, as he provided tens of thousands of poor people with health and education services.

Moreover, his charity activities were not limited to the African continent but reached out to Europe, America and Australia. Sheikh Hamdan was always keen to support new Muslims and the Muslim community, either financially or through providing holy books and publications and organising workshops and educational programmes. He also established numerous schools to teach the Islamic Sharia.

Sheikh Hamdan ordered the establishment of numerous projects in many Arab countries, including medical, health and educational services projects, as well as the construction of mosques, schools, hospitals, vocational centres and Holy Quran recital centres.

He also dispatched rescue and humanitarian campaigns for needy families, supported orphans, and organised Ramadan Iftar, Eid clothing and school material provision campaigns, among other charitable activities. -WAM



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STRONG GRIP

Landslide win for Congo President Denis Sassou

BRAZZAVILLE: Despite an ongoing economic crisis in the Republic of Congo, the country's veteran President Denis Sassou Nguesso has been reelected with more than 88 percent of the vote, official results showed on Tuesday.

"By this vote, the people in their majority responded and said that we had the capacity to bounce back, to recover our economy, and to move towards development," Sassou Nguesso said in a brief victory speech.

The landslide victory for Sassou Nguesso had been widely expected, given the 77-year-old's strong grip on state institutions.

The ballot on Sunday saw a 67.55 percent voter turnout. Voting was largely boycotted by the main opposition and took place under an internet blackout.

The election day was overshadowed by the death of Guy Brice Parfait Kolelas, the president's main rival in the race. Kolelas was initially believed to have had malaria but tested positive for COVID-19 on Friday afternoon.

He was being flown to Paris for treatment but died aboard a medical plane just hours after polling closed, his campaign director Christian Cyr Rodrigue Mayanda told a news agency. -DW



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Myanmar frees hundreds of post-coup prisoners

Many prisoners were released from Yangon's Insein Prison in a first gesture by Myanmar's military to placate protesters

NAYPYITAW: Witnesses said hundreds imprisoned after last month's coup were freed on Wednesday in what appeared to be the first gesture by Myanmar's military to placate persistent protesters.

Several full buses drove from Yangon's Insein Prison. Myanmar state television said 628 people had been released.

Most of them were students previously held at police stations and prisons, reported the news portal Myanmar Now.

A news agency said one of its journalists, photographer Thein Zaw, had told his family that he was being released.

He had been among nine media workers taken into custody during a February 27 street protest in Yangon and charged with



RELEASED: At least 2,000 people have been arrested since the coup, according to the activist group

violating public order law.

In all, about 40 journalists have been detained since the military's February 1 coup.

Thein Zaw told a news agency by phone that the judge handling his case had dropped all charges against him because he been doing his job at the time of his arrest. He had photographed police charging toward anti-coup protesters.

At least 2,000 people have been arrested since the coup, according to the activist group The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP).

Report: Five shot dead in Mandalay

On Tuesday in Mandalay, at least five people were shot dead, including a 7-year-old girl, according to Myanmar Now.

Since the coup's onset, AAPP says it has confirmed the killings of 275 people in connection with the military's post-coup crackdown.

A lawyer for ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi said her court hearing had been delayed until April 1, the second successive postponement. Suu Kyi, who was arrested

as the military seized power on February 1, faces charges that include the allegedly illegal import of six handheld radios and breaching coronavirus protocols.

EU sanctions junta associates

On Monday, EU foreign ministers approved sanctions on 11 individuals, including the Myanmar junta's chief Min Aung Hlaing.

He faces an assets freeze and visa ban for "undermining democracy and the rule of law" in Myanmar, said the EU. **dw**

North Korea tests short-range missiles, slams sanctions

MISSILES FIRED

PYONGYANG: North Korea fired at least two short-range missiles over the weekend, Seoul officials said on Wednesday, confirming earlier reports by Washington.

The launch is Pyongyang's first since US President Joe Biden took office in January. It came just days after Washington's foreign policy and defense chiefs visited the region for talks with allies.

US officials said Pyongyang fired two short-range, non-ballistic missiles that did not fall under the UN security council bans. Washington tried to downplay the launch as "common" military testing.

South Korea said they appeared to be cruise missiles fired towards China rather than Japan, a US ally.

JCS monitored

Biden responded to reporters asking about the launch, saying: "We have learned that nothing much has changed."

A US official also told reporters that Pyongyang's launch would not affect Washington's intent to restart nuclear talks with North Korea.

The US is reviewing its approach towards Pyongyang after former President Donald Trump and North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un had a tumultuous relationship that started with threats of war, moved on to summits and handshakes, and ultimately delivered little tangible progress in denuclearizing Pyongyang.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said Seoul had monitored the test in real-time.

The JCS typically reports Pyongyang's advanced weapon testing nearly in real-time, faster than it announces lower-grade missiles testing.

North Korea doubles down on sanctions

Also on Wednesday, a spokesperson for North Korea's Foreign Ministry slammed the recent European Union sanctions against Pyongyang officials, calling them a "sinister political tool" triggered by the bloc's "inveterate repugnancy coupled with a psychotic way of thinking."

The EU had announced sanctions on individuals and entities in six countries, including China, Russia and North Korea, over human rights violations on Monday.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Chinese President Xi Jinping exchanged messages earlier this week, where they spoke of the strong alliance between Pyongyang and Beijing. **dw**

DOUBLE MUTANT VARIANT

New COVID-19 variant identified in over a dozen Indian states

NEW DELHI: India's federal health ministry said on Wednesday that a new "double mutant variant" of the COVID-19 has been detected in more than a dozen states across the country, in addition to many other strains or variants of concern (VOCs) that have also been found abroad.

"Though VOCs and a new double mutant variant have been found in India, these have not been detected in numbers sufficient to either establish or direct relationship or explain the rapid increase in cases in some states. Genomic sequencing and epidemiological studies are continuing to further

analyze the situation," a statement released by the federal health ministry said.

So far, 771 VOCs have been detected in a total of 10,787 positive samples shared by the states, including the variants first detected in Britain, South Africa and Brazil respectively, said the ministry.

"Genome sequencing and analysis have been carried out on samples from arriving international travellers, contacts of those positive for VOC and community samples from most of the states," the ministry said.

Meanwhile, the ministry said analysis of samples from Maha-



rashtra state has revealed that compared to December 2020, there has been an increase in the fraction of samples with the E484Q and L452R mutations.

"Such mutations confer immune escape and increased infectivity. These mutations have been found in about 15-20 percent of samples and do not match any previously catalogued VOCs," the ministry said.

"These have been categorized as VOCs but require the same epidemiological and public health response of increased testing, comprehensive tracking of close contacts, prompt isolation of positive cases and contacts as well as

treatment as per national treatment protocol by the states."

Meanwhile, 2,032 samples from Kerala state have been sequenced.

"The N440K variant that is associated with immune escape has been found in 123 samples from 11 districts. This variant was earlier found in 33 percent of samples from Andhra Pradesh, and in 53 of 104 samples from Telangana," the ministry said.

This variant has also been reported from other countries including Britain, Denmark, Singapore, Japan and Australia, it said, adding that as of now these can be at best said to be variant under investigation. **Xinhua**

COVID LOCKDOWN

Angela Merkel backtracks on Easter lockdown after uproar

BERLIN: German Chancellor Angela Merkel and the leaders of Germany's 16 states will reverse their plan to toughen virus lockdown measures over Easter.

Merkel announced the changes after an impromptu videoconference with the 16 regional leaders in which she explained the U-turn and said the mistake was ultimately hers to answer for.



What did Merkel say?

During a press conference, Merkel said the Easter lockdown was formed "with the best of intentions."

"We must try to slow down the third wave of the pandemic. Nevertheless, it was a mistake," Merkel said, adding: "Because at the end of the day, I carry the last responsibility."

"It's now important for me to say so here. A mistake should be called a mistake and above all, it should be corrected, preferably in good time," she stressed, asking citizens for forgiveness.

Merkel said that on closer analysis, the planned shutdown risked doing more harm than good. She also said there was not enough time to adequately offset some of the problems that would come with it, such as lost earnings and working hours.

"It was well reasoned, but was not really doable in such a short time," Merkel said of the Easter measures. "Many too many questions, from missing wages through to the loss of time in factories and facilities, could not be adequately answered in time."

The chancellor then appealed for understanding that there would be "no time for questions" before quickly leaving for a Q&A session in the Bundestag.

Call for vote of confidence

Merkel began the hour in parliament by reiterating her apology, to applause from some of her conservative parliamentary group.

"We will defeat the virus together. The road is hard and rocky, [...] but the virus will lose its horror," she said.

Not everyone was as forgiving, however. Christian Lindner, party leader of the business-friendly Free Democrats (FDP), tweeted that Merkel should put a vote of confidence to the Bundestag.

"The Chancellor can no longer be sure of the unanimous support of her coalition," Lindner wrote.

"A vote of confidence in the German Bundestag would be advisable in order to check the ability of the Merkel government to act."

How the lockdown plan came about

After 12 hours of talks starting on Monday afternoon, Merkel and state premiers agreed to pull the emergency brake and reverse the easing of restrictions in areas where the 7-day incidence rate exceeds 100 cases per 100,000 people for three consecutive days.

They also announced an even

tighter lockdown over the long Easter weekend, between April 1 and April 5, when the whole country, including most grocery stores, would have to close. Contact between two households would remain permitted. Merkel described the measures as an attempt to "break the exponential growth of the third wave." They immediately met with widespread criticism. Leading epidemiologists say a five-day tighter stint over Easter would have little to no effect on combating the third wave which has swept across Germany.

Protestant and Catholic bodies, in particular, cried foul.

Armin Laschet, the conservative CDU's newly elected party leader and state premier of North Rhine-Westphalia, said he expected a "very critical discussion" about the outcome of the talks in Wednesday's impromptu session.

CDU/CSU suffering in polls

Germany's public health institute, the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), reported 15,813 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, and 248 deaths. **dw**



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Oman a very good side, says Indian football team head coach

Stamic said the two upcoming friendlies will be an opportunity for youngsters to gain experience



DUBAI: India will take on Oman in Dubai on March 25 in the first of two international friendlies, with the second match against the UAE slated for March 29.

Indian football team head coach Igor Stamic said: "I think it is going to be an interesting game. We have

seen Oman playing and they are really good side, well-organised and they are patient in their game. So, we need to find a way to match that style."

Sandesh Jhingan, the India national team player also took part in the press conference and said that playing for the country is the great-

est honour for any player.

"Really happy (to be with the national team). It is the greatest honour for any footballer or for any human being when you get a chance to represent your nation. If you ask Oman or UAE, they will also look at us as tough opponents... That

shows how far we have come. The more we play against them, the more confidence we get and they also get the confidence. So, it is a win-win for both teams to play friendlies and get ready for major tournaments," he said.

Igor Stamic said the two upcoming international friendlies will be an opportunity for youngsters to gain as much experience as they can, asserting that they are not "obsessed with the results".

The average age of the squad currently at the camp in Dubai is just over 24. There are 12 of them who are below 25, and a couple of them are barely 19. "There are many players, who are with us for the first time and are very young. Obviously, we are not going to put all of them to play at the same time, we are not going to take such a risk. We need to be very careful with them. They are our future. We need to rely on them,

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they showed in the past seasons that they can play good football... I hope they will use this chance to settle better and this will boost their confidence," Stamic said in a virtual press conference.

Stimac also stated that he was excited to watch the Indian Super League (ISL) and seeing young players playing fearless football.

"I was very excited watching the ISL last season and seeing so many young players coming through well, developing their game and

not having any fear making decisions and doing really well... To answer what we are expecting from the upcoming two games is that I expect our players to get more experience, no more than that. We are not obsessed with the results. What I want from the players is to have the freedom to express themselves on the field and not to feel any kind of pressure. Getting experience from such games is the most important thing for them at the moment," he said.

COMMENTARY

Shikhar Dhawan would like to get the record straight

AFTER GETTING JUST one chance in the T20 series, where he could not perform well, Shikhar Dhawan would like to show to the selectors and his fans why he is rated along with Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli as the top three Big Guns for India in the 50-over format.

Virat Kohli, the Indian captain, had already said in the pre-match press conference that both Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan would open the innings. He went on to say both have been amazing and have been performing consistently in the longer format of the white ball game, which is the traditional 50 overs game. Over the last three years Sharma-Dhawan opening combination has been the third most prolific with a tally of 1,479 runs.

Also Shikhar Dhawan has been scoring heavily for India in ICC tournaments. He was the player of the series in the Champions Trophy in 2017, and he was also the player of the series in the Asia Cup played in the UAE.

He had made a terrific start in the ICC World Cup in 2019 by a scoring a match winning hundred against Australia before getting injured and missing the rest of the World Cup where India missed his experience in the knockout stage. In 139 ODIs, Shikhar Dhawan has a staggering average of 45 with a healthy strike rate of 94 with 17 hundreds and 30 half centuries.

Shikhar was also the highest run getter for Delhi Capitals in last year's IPL



Anis Sajjan, Managing Director, Danube Group

but the pressure of youngsters like Ishan Kishan, Surya Kumar Yadav knocking at the doors with strike rate of above 140 plus and Virat persisting with KL Rahul cost him his place in the shorter format.

Shikhar Dhawan is also not getting any younger with age catching up (35 years) but his fitness is second best to Virat Kohli. He still has a few years of cricket left in him if he performs well and would definitely like to be a part of the Indian squad for the T20 World Cup later this October and the 50-over World Cup in 2023 both happening in India.

This series against England would be a good chance for Shikhar Dhawan to show his mettle as he can take his time to get in as the longer format gives openers time to access the wicket and then up the ante. Will Shikhar fire, only time will decide but there is no doubt that he has been indeed the 'Gabbar' of Indian Cricket in the 50 overs format for a long time.

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Easy wins for Maniz Azad, Orient Travels and OHI

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Shoaib Ismail and Adnan Ul Haq's magnificent all-round performances powered Maniz Azad International to a 46-run victory against Bank Muscat in a Senior Division Knockout Tournament game at Muscat Municipality ground 2 in Amerat on Friday.

Adnan struck 51 while Shoaib contributed a breezy 34 as Maniz Azad posted 161 for 7 in 20 overs.

Muhammed Umar picked up 3 for 29. Shoaib was unplayable with the ball, taking 5 for 19 while Usman Asghar and Adnan claimed two wickets each as Bank Muscat was dismissed for 115 in 18.5 overs. Abbas Al Balushi topscored with a fine 44.

Nadeem helps Orient to victory

In another Senior Division Knockout match, Nadeem Karamat Ali excelled with the bat and ball to steer Orient Travels/Gi-tacs to an emphatic 6-wicket win

over Khalsa United at the same venue in the afternoon.

Khalsa could not post an imposing total on the board as it was restricted to 127 for 9, largely to Nadeem's brilliant 3 for 31.

Rafique and Umar Rahman bowled well too, taking two wickets each. Sushil Kadam scored 32.

Orient chased the total down in 16.1 overs, scoring 129 for 4 with Ibrar Hussain striking an elegant 55 not out and Nadeem Karamat contributing 39.

34-run victory

Waleed Rahim's splendid 65 not out was the highlight of Douglas OHI's exciting 34-run victory against Ideal International in a Senior Division Knockout Tournament match at Muscat Municipality ground 1. Waleed topscored while Ismail Al Balushi made 32 as OHI compiled 167 for 8. Salman Khan bagged 2 for 27.

Ideal failed to bat with the same flourish and was bundled out for 133 in 18.4 overs despite Salman Khan's fluent 38.

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by May 2021 reaching \$61.10, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil decline by \$1.92 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$63.02. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS LOWER

Muscat Securities Market (MSM) general index (30) lost 23.4 points, comprising a decline by 0.626 per cent to close at 3,712.63 points, compared to the last session, which stood at 3,736.01 points.

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PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT OMAN

PDO inks major long-term service contracts worth \$4bn

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) signed major service contracts worth \$4 billion covering project delivery and maintenance and integrity work in the North and South of its concession area.

The agreements with Arabian Industries Projects (AIP) and Special Technical Services (STS) encompass the design and execution of more than 200 on-plot projects and will run for seven years with an optional three-year extension.

Current Omanisation levels will double over the life cycle of the contracts, resulting in several thousand additional employment opportunities for Omanis, with a focus on skilled jobs, supervisors and engineering positions.



STRATEGIC AGREEMENTS: PDO's agreements with Arabian Industries Projects and Special Technical Services encompass the design and execution of more than 200 on-plot projects and will run for seven years with an optional three-year extension. - **Supplied picture**

Training for employment

A training for employment scheme has been introduced, enabling the training, re-skilling and upskilling of over 1,000 Omani personnel, and about 1,500 Omani employees from incumbent PDO contractors

will be transferred and redeployed to the new contractors.

Local sub-contracting businesses and small and medium enterprises will also benefit from specific targets for both, and an obligation on the part of the contrac-

tors to ensure and monitor their use. In addition, the deals include a strategy to develop a domestic firm to execute maintenance and integrity tasks in a selected cluster in the PDO oil and gas portfolio within five years.

This further builds on the focus to introduce and mature a domestic contractor for turnarounds to carry out facility maintenance in scheduled shutdowns as recently endorsed by Oman LNG, OQ, OPAL and PDO.

The signings took place at an official contract awards ceremony at PDO's Mina Al Fahal headquarters, which was attended by PDO Managing Director Raoul Restucci, AIP and STS Chief Executive Officers Sadiq Sulaiman and Rejeesh Mani, and the companies' Managing Directors Amer Al Sulaimani and Alex Clark.

Restucci said, "These strategic agreements create a win-win culture for PDO, our partner contractors and Oman, in that they maximise capital efficiency, generate multi-million-dollar savings and enhance In-Country Value (ICV) opportunities. They represent a benchmark of best practice by capturing the lessons learned over the past 17 years from engineering, maintenance and construction contracts across our concession area. We expect to transition seamlessly from our existing on-plot deals in the coming months, working hand-in-hand with AIP and STS to deliver a large portfolio of projects safely, responsibly and efficiently."

"Considering the sheer size and

dimensions of these contracts, embedding such improvements within 15 months of the tendering period during the COVID-19 pandemic is an outstanding achievement. I congratulate and thank all those responsible for bringing these agreements to fruition, as they will generate exceptional value both for our company and the country."

The scope and scale of contracts are significant, spanning the execution of maintenance, integrity, field improvement proposals, turnaround activities, and the delivery of brownfield projects.

Under the terms of the deals, AIP will carry out project delivery in the North of Block 6 and maintenance and integrity work in the South, while STS will be responsible for project delivery in the South and maintenance and integrity in the North.

Over 70 major continuous improvement ideas were generated during workshops to incentivise high performance and optimise efficiency, ICV and delivery and embedded into the contracts.

Bank Muscat approves 35 per cent dividend

At the extraordinary general meeting and annual ordinary general meeting, the Bank's shareholders agreed to increase the authorised capital of the bank to OMR450 million from OMR350 million previously

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat held an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and an Annual Ordinary General Meeting (AGM) of its shareholders on March 23.

The meetings were held through the electronic platform developed by Muscat Clearing and Depository Company (MCDC) and were presided over by Sheikh Khalid bin Mustahail Al Mashani, Chairman of the bank's Board of Directors.

At the meetings, shareholders agreed to increase the authorised capital of the bank to OMR450 million from OMR350 million previously. The shareholders approved the amendment of the bank's Articles of Association accordingly.

The appointments of the statutory auditors for Bank Muscat and the external independent Sharia auditors for Meethaq Islamic banking services for the year 2021 were also approved.

At the AGM, shareholders of the bank granted their approval to distribute 25 per cent cash dividend (at the rate of 25 baisas per share) and also bonus shares at the rate of 10 per cent of the issued capital (10 bonus shares for every 100 shares owned) of the bank for FY 2020. Shareholders will thus receive a combined dividend of 35 per cent.

Speaking on the occasion, Sheikh Khalid bin Mustahail Al Mashani expressed his thanks and gratitude to the shareholders for their strong support and con-



Sheikh Khalid bin Mustahail Al Mashani, Chairman of the bank's Board of Directors.

fidence in the board of directors of the bank and the bank's performance and progress. He stressed that Bank Muscat would continue

to further consolidate its leadership and maintain its position in the banking sector, driven by its customer-centric strategy and continuing to achieve greater success and offering products and services that meet the needs of different customer segments while also achieving added value for its shareholders.

Achievements

Al Mashani said that the Board of Directors of the bank welcomed and supported the measures taken by the Central Bank of Oman and the Capital Market Authority to strengthen the financial sector in the Sultanate. He added that the achievements of the bank would not have been possible without the far-sighted and proactive economic policies of the Government of Oman.

In particular, he expressed his happiness with the strong financial results achieved by the bank in the past year despite unprecedented challenges and strong competition in the banking sector.

The bank posted a net profit of OMR163.36 million for the year ended 31 December 2020 compared to OMR185.55 million reported for the year ended 31 December 2019.

CHANNEL PARTNERSHIP

Omantel partners with Huawei for state-of-art enterprise products

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omantel has taken another step to boost its valued enterprise customers' capacities and push Oman's digital transformation. The leading integrated telecom and ICT services provider in the Sultanate has entered into another channel partnership with Huawei, aimed at capitalising on the enormous changes in the telecom and ICT sector in Oman in particular. The world in general is witnessing.

Under this partnership, all of Huawei's enterprise products will be available to be sold by Omantel to provide advanced, safer, securer, simpler, and high-value end-to-end integrated solutions to enterprise clients, enhancing their operational abilities, productivity, and user experience.

Several factors have created market disruptions that have made the need to adapt quickly and capitalise on the fast-paced changes. Huawei's next-generation solutions coupled with Omantel's ecosystem and its digital transformation vision will bring more innovative solutions that use new-age technologies, like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics, Big Data and Analytics, Internet of Things (IoT), and 5G communications for enterprises. This step further solidifies Omantel's position as a provider of integrated telecommunication solutions for private and public organisations in Oman with the latest innovations and technologies.

Omantel believes in the importance of offering simple yet practical solutions to enterprises for their applications. Omantel's robust infrastructural ecosystem will see the inclusion of high-end, technologically advanced, high-efficiency Huawei enterprise products, giving its enterprise clients across various sectors more efficiency through integration, more satisfaction and better support.

One of the exciting new enterprise products under this partnership is IdeaHub. This produc-



tivity office tool can effortlessly turn conference rooms, executive offices, and open areas into smart spaces.

Baha Al Lawati, Vice President of Omantel's Enterprise Business Unit, said, "We are leveraging Omantel's ecosystem by adding to it the latest technology from Huawei to offer our enterprise clients better and simpler solutions. As the ICT sector sees more significant reliance on newer technologies like 5G, IoT and AI among several others, it was only natural for Omantel to channel its advantages towards its esteemed customers who require support in the transition from traditional digital support to an evolving and more advanced landscape. This partnership with Huawei, which is recognised and relied upon for this technical prowess in the ICT sector, could not have come at a better time. We are confident that this partnership will significantly benefit our enterprise customers."

Robin Chen, the CEO, Huawei Oman, said, "Omantel has been among our biggest partners in the Middle East. Oman's digital economy is showing great potential with its results already reflecting across sectors. Omantel is playing a prominent role in the Sultanate's digital transformation and Huawei has always been a proud partner in this vision. We at Huawei take great pleasure in offering our latest enterprise products to become part of Omantel's growing ecosystem, connecting not just Oman, but also different parts of our world. One of our exciting offerings is the IdeaHub, which will revolutionise the way organisations conduct their operations."

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

TRA officials explore telecom services in Al Mazunah Free Zone

MUSCAT: Eng. Omar Hamdan Al-Ismaili, CEO of Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) visited Al Mazunah Free Zone to explore the challenges of telecom services facing the investors in the free zone. During the visit, Al-Ismaili was accompanied by officials from TRA and representatives of telecom service providers in the Sultanate.

The delegation was briefed on the Al Mazunah Free Zone, the ongoing and upcoming projects and the status of telecom services in the free zone, which are provided by the service providers including Omantel, Ooredoo and Oman Broadband. - **ONA**



BRIEFING: The delegation was briefed on the Al Mazunah Free Zone, the ongoing and upcoming projects and the status of telecom services in the free zone, which are provided by the service providers including Omantel, Ooredoo and Oman Broadband. - **ONA**

MSM index ends lower



The trading value stood at OMR1,330,688, comprising a decline of 34.1 per cent, compared to the last session

MUSCAT: Muscat Securities Market (MSM) general index (30) lost 23.4 points, comprising a decline by 0.626 per cent to close at 3,712.63 points, compared to the last session, which stood at 3,736.01 points.

pointed out that the market value declined by 0.254 per cent to reach about OMR20.45 billion.

The report added that the value of shares bought by non-Omani investors reached OMR136,000, comprising 10.23 per cent. The value of shares sold by non-Omani investors reached OMR376,000, comprising 28.25 per cent. The net non-Omani investment fell by 18.02 per cent to OMR240,000. — **ONA**

The trading value stood at OMR1,330,688, comprising a decline of 34.1 per cent, compared to the last session, which stood at OMR2,017,749.

The report released by MSM

MAN STOCKS

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSM 30 INDEX	3,729.15	3,708.91	3,712.63	3,736.01	-23.38	-0.63
FINANCIAL INDEX	5,774.72	5,722.95	5,730.89	5,783.94	-53.05	-0.92
Services Index	1,536.02	1,527.37	1,535.57	1,530.10	5.47	0.36
Industry Index	4,636.93	4,623.27	4,630.90	4,649.44	-18.54	-0.40
MSM Shariah Index	543.83	542.40	543.21	542.98	0.23	0.04
MSM TR INDEX	4,465.03	4,341.35	4,345.70	4,333.70	12.00	0.28

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....	Sec. Traded
6389482	1330688	478	20451710258	12	17	21	50

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
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REGULAR MARKET

OM0000000148	RAYST CEMENT	54,462	18,770	17	0.287	0.284	0.287	0.291	0.284	0.007	2,465	1,280	0.778	0.298	0.100	58,300.00
OM0000000160	NATIONAL GAS	94,505	3,569	6	0.135	0.138	0.135	0.137	0.135	0.002	1,481	1,138	0.138	0.138	0.100	116,450.00
OM0000000398	SOHAR INTL BANK	20,000	1,780	1	0.080	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.088	0.001	1,136	0.089	0.086	0.089	0.100	21,677.09
OM0000000431	OMDINVEST	140,393	44,918	0.337	0.320	0.332	0.318	0.337	0.318	0.002	1,336	1,552	0.318	0.318	0.100	156,671.60
OM0000000587	OMAN UNITED INSUR	88,425	27,370	1	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.000	0.000	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.100	40,000.00
OM00000001525	OMAN INVEST&F	112,902	9,032	3	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.078	0.086	0.100	138,960.00
OM00000001640	OMAN INVEST	47,807	11,474	0.000	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.000	0.040	0.240	0.040	0.040	0.100	59,260.00
OM00000002077	AL OMANIYA FINS	1,000	70	1	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.066	0.072	0.100	20,345.62
OM00000002440	AL SHARQIA JSC	86,320	5,777	14	0.067	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.100	63,030.00
OM00000002450	OMRIBCO	48,050	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.000	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.100	48,050.00
OM00000003026	OMAN TELECOM	212,150	165,094	20	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.784	-0.004	-0.010	0.778	0.776	0.776	0.100	585,000.00
OM00000003005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	144,100	37,064	13	0.257	0.250	0.255	0.257	0.255	-0.002	-0.072	0.255	0.254	0.258	0.100	141,530.00
OM00000003259	RENAISSANCE	78,300	9,044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.000	0.044	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.100	87,340.00
OM00000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	113,750	4,672	8	0.042	0.042	0.041	0.041	0.042	0.001	2,381	0.041	0.040	0.041	0.100	125,922.99
OM00000001772	ALFANAR INVESTMENT	1,103,510	90,106	57	0.083	0.083	0.081	0.082	0.084	0.002	-2,381	0.083	0.080	0.083	0.100	16,400.00
OM00000002179	OMAN MUSCAT	1,804,949	443,543	10	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.000	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.100	2,248,492.00
OM00000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD	37,190	7,506	11	0.200	0.202	0.200	0.202	0.216	-0.014	-0.041	0.202	0.202	0.202	0.100	25,239.88

Parallel Market

OM0000000275	SHELL OMAN MRK	20,000	17,320	2	0.856	0.876	0.856	0.864	0.820	0.044	5.366	0.876	0.876	0.856	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	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TESTING PROGRAMME

Thameen-1 well testing on Block 49 completed

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Tethys Oil announced that the well testing programme of the exploration well Thameen-1 on Block 49 in Oman has been completed.

No flows were recorded at the surface, but downhole fluid samples were collected and the well will be suspended to allow re-entry at a later date after fur-

ther evaluation has been carried out, the company said in a press statement.

Thameen-1 was drilled to its final total depth in February 2021 and encountered hydrocarbon shows in the primary target, the Hasirah Sandstone. Logs indicate a gross hydrocarbon column of close to forty metres. Sidewall cores, fluid samples and pressure data will be further analysed to

gether with extensive log analysis.

"A slightly smaller step forward than we were hoping for, but the well results so far substantially upgrade the hydrocarbon potential of Block 49.

"When all the data from the Thameen well has been compiled we will plan the next steps for the well and Block 49 in general," says Tethys Oil's Managing Director Magnus Nordin.

PARTNERSHIP

NBC signs incubation agreement with Innovex

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The National Business Centre (NBC), which falls under the umbrella of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates – Madayn, has signed an incubation agreement with Vertex Industrial Design and Consultancy (Innovex).

Through its Omani cadres, the company aims at understanding the client's problem or requirement and thus generates design and technical solutions, evaluate them to best suit the client's needs, then take them into implementation, which reduces the project's cost, increases its efficiency and improves its quality.

Specialised in industrial designing, Innovex addresses the client's design specifications to optimise the functionality, value, and appearance of the desired project using 3D CAD modelling software. As per the incubation agreement, Innovex will benefit from a variety of services offered by NBC which include office space, access to intensive training, coaching and mentoring sessions, in addition to other services that aim at developing the entrepreneurial skills.

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Email naveelkhan524@gmail.com

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MBA Finance 16+Exp of Oman in Accounts up to finalization & Bank Facility LC, LTR, looking for suitable senior position. Contact 92383882

Accountant with 3 years Oman experience (6 yrs total Experience), MBA Finance, well versed in VAT, NOC Available. Contact 92862265

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27 yrs male Sudanese Accountant 3 years experience MBA holder. Contact 94706138

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Indian CPA 15+ years of experience in Oman & UAE as finance manager / chief accountant on visit and have NOC. Contact: 79007124 Email: shkkader@gmail.com

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Indian Male, 12 years experience in Oman seeks job for Admin/Secretary or any suitable post. Holding Oman D/L. Email: vinrai99@gmail.com, Contact 79734085

Indian female BE MBA has DL, looking for job in Muscat. # 97613235

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Contact: 95119284 alya_alsiyabi93@outlook.com

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CONTACT 99283938

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Please contact – 78022980

ACCOUNTANT

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FINANCE

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Contact 94953826 / 92824146

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Indian male, electric engineer 1 year experience in project coordination and MEP looking for suitable placement. Ready to shift location. Contact: 71148202. Email: Muhammadmuzzammil878@gmail.com

B.E Civil engineer Male, with 2 years of professional experience in municipal house construction project. Equipped with a valid D/L. Fluent in English & Arabic. Contact 96749821 Email mhassan9610@gmail.com

Civil engineer with 9 years exp in Oman. Contact 97646908

Indian female M.Tech in Electrical power system having 4+ yrs of experience in Oman seeking suitable placement. Contact 79733520, 94306164

Project engineer, B.Tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman experience in all kinds operation of civil & MEP and interior fit-out field with valued Visa and D/L, 95206259, looking placement

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Indian male, experience of 12 Years in Oman as a Purchasing officer and store manager,D/L NOC available looking for suitable job. Contact 97099785, maniugcc@gmail.com

Procurement, purchase officer having master degree searching for job. 07 yrs exp in oman in a well known construction & maintenance group of companies. NOC available. Contact 92587919, 99423614. Email jehanzeb_athar@yahoo.com

Indian, purchase assistant, store keeper 9 years working experience in oman. Valid Oman D/L(light) Looking for suitable job. Contact 98615731 Email: sanalk73@gmail.com

Indian male, 16 yrs experience in a multinational freight forwarding & logistic coworked under the capacity of Senior operation executive/senior accountant (Ocen freight,air freight, land transport, warehouse operations & finance & accounting). NOC available. Contact 93587605

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Store Incharge, Sales associate, customer service, retail, warehouse logistics and merchandiser with D/L. Contact 95042624

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Indian male (30) MBA with Oman experience in sales & marketing, valid Omani D/L on visit. Contact 79755795 Email dhajwani2@gmail.com

34yrs Indian, MBA marketing, B.Com, 9 yrs experience (2 yrs GCC-Dubai) seeking Sales, admin, accounting job. Contact 78167383

Indian male (24) BBA, 2year experience in sales and administration. Contact 94890534 Email: jebinahmed@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer, 4 yrs experience in Oman & 1 yr in India, have Oman valid D/L. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 91521567

Indian male, 38 yrs old MBA graduate, 14 yrs experience in Oman. looking for appropriate placement in sales & marketing job in Muscat region having valid D/L. Contact 92255983 Email vrikurishnann@gmail.com

Indian males Sales officer with 3 years experience capable to manage from quotation till finalization tally. Contact 79880058

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ROUND-UP



The Mitsubishi Xpander provides the best of both worlds; the interior enjoys plenty of cabin space, storage facilities and smart technologies, and the exterior's bold styling does not compromise on ground clearance, handling stability, or overall driving experience

MUSCAT: Contributing to the expansion of the Mitsubishi line-up in Oman, General Automotive Company (GAC), the official dealership for Mitsubishi vehicles in Oman, has launched the much-awaited Xpander – the all-new versatile 7-seat compact SUV that offers comfort, functionality, quality and value for money.

The Mitsubishi Xpander provides the best of both worlds; the interior enjoys plenty of cabin space, storage facilities and smart technologies, and the exterior's bold styling does not compromise on ground clearance, handling stability, or overall driving experience.

Commenting on the launch of the all-new Xpander, Manoj Ranade, the General Manager of GAC said, "Crossover utility vehicles and compact SUVs represent one of the fastest-growing segments in the market, primarily due to their practicality, fuel efficiency, and cost. As a result, a lot of fans have been waiting in anticipation for the launch of the Xpander. As such, it brings me great pleasure to welcome this all-new model to our model range here in Oman."

The front of the Xpander has a futuristic look inspired by the Montero Sport, and features a chrome upper grille and incorporates auto LED headlamps as well as LED positioning lamps, together with Mitsubishi Motors' Dynamic Shield signature look. The



stylish fenders and strong character line flow into the rear quarter and L-shaped rear combination lamps, which then extend into the tailgate. This, together with the 16-inch diamond-cut alloy wheels in a two-tone finish, and a shark fin antenna, complete the Xpander's strong sculpted look.

On the inside, the Xpander features a spacious cabin designed to reflect Japanese hospitality "OMOTENASHI" and provides comfort for all seven adult passengers thanks to supportive seating, convenient amenities, and high-quality materials.

Noise and vibration in the cabin are effectively absorbed by using special materials, ensuring a supremely quiet experience for the driver and all passengers. The air conditioning system enjoys eight

fan adjustment levels in the front and four in the rear - as well as four rear roof vents, to keep everyone on board comfortable.

Flexibility in the seating configuration to meet changing needs also allows for easy loading. The second-row armrest can be folded down and the second and third-row seats folded flat to accommodate lengthy loads. Furthermore, even with passengers in the third-row seats, luggage space remains sufficient to accommodate four 20-litre water bottles.

Storage features in the Xpander, in addition to the glove box, include door pockets, drink holders, seatback pockets, floor console box, passenger seat undertray, and underfloor luggage area. Smartphone and device charging is accessible to every passenger as each

of the three rows has its 12V power supply adjacent to convenient storage space.

Additionally, entertainment and hands-free operation are available via the large 7-inch Smartphone-link Display Audio (SDA), allowing intuitive operation of music, calls, and messages for a more enjoyable and safer driving experience.

Power is provided by a spirited and responsive 1.5-litre 16-valve Dual overhead camshaft engine with advanced MIVEC - Mitsubishi Innovative Valve timing Electronic Control system - making it easy for the Xpander to carry seven adults uphill with ease. Excellent ground clearance for its class provides confidence on rough or flooded roads, while the reinforced suspension, coupled with high-performance shock absorbers and

a rigid and lightweight body, ensure stability and comfort.

Safety performance is also significantly enhanced thanks to Mitsubishi Motors' Reinforced Impact Safety Evolution body or RISE, which efficiently absorbs energy and maintains high cabin integrity in the event of a collision. All four doors are also equipped with a support beam to increase protection by reducing door deformation in the event of a side collision.

The Xpander also enjoys a variety of active safety features including the Anti-lock Braking System (ABS), Emergency Stop Signal System (ESS), Active Stability Control (ASC), Hill Start Assist (HSA), and more.

"The Xpander will no doubt be a very welcome addition to our range here in Oman, thanks to the

incredible flexibility its interior offers, which together with its cost, attractive looks, and ability to seat seven people in comfort, will make it a very popular vehicle amongst families here in the Sultanate," added Manoj.

The Xpander is now available for purchase at all Mitsubishi showrooms across the country and is available in six attractive colours: Red Metallic, deep bronze metallic, graphite gray metallic, jet black mica, quartz white pearl, and sterling silver metallic.

For more information on the Xpander, visit GAC's Mitsubishi showrooms in Azaiba, Barka, Sohar, Nizwa, Ibri, Sur, Bu Ali and Salalah or follow 'Mitsubishi-MotorsOman' on Facebook or @mitsubishioman on Twitter to learn more.



ROUND-UP



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Lulu Oman kicks off Dream Drive 2021

The campaign, which commences from March 21 and runs until May 19, gives shoppers a chance to win 8 Nissan Patrol 4WDs and a range of marvellous gifts from Ikon.

MUSCAT: Lulu Oman has launched its much-anticipated Dream Drive campaign 2021 to reward its valued customers during the holy month of Ramadan and to celebrate the spirit of the season.

The campaign, which commences from March 21 and runs until May 19, gives shoppers a chance to win 8 Nissan Patrol 4WDs and a range of marvellous gifts from Ikon.

The campaign will go on in all Lulu branches in the Sultanate.

Like previous years, the group has stood firm on its policy of being environment-friendly by digitalizing the raffle draw process. As part of this year's Dream Drive promotion, customers get a chance to win 8 Nissan Patrol 4WDs as grand prizes and 40 fabulous gifts, including smart TVs, cooking ranges, refrigerators, freezers and washers from Ikon. The eight electronic draws will be held on different dates during the promotion period and will be completed by May 23, 2021.

Customers can participate in the eRaffle when they purchase goods worth OMR10 or more in



a single receipt at any of the Lulu branches in Oman, followed by registering online. The raffle coupons for valid claims will be sent to the customers by email or SMS within 48 working hours. Customers who have registered once will only be required to enter their mobile numbers for subsequent registrations. Online registrations will close on May 21.

Speaking on the promotion, Ananth A V, Regional Director of Lulu Hypermarkets Oman, India & Sri Lanka, remarked, "We are happy to adapt to the new normal and break new ground in customer service excellence with our promotions and campaigns. The

Dream Drive campaign is one of our several strategies to engage with our customers and we are happy to bring it back even during challenging times such as this. This campaign has always been a platform for us to appreciate and thank our customers for their continued support and loyalty."

Shabeer K. A., Regional Director, Oman, stated, "Our life becomes meaningful only when we give others the best. Ramadan is the perfect time for us to show our gratitude to our beloved customers, and this campaign is truly a reflection of the spirit of the season. We also consider the shift in customer habits during this time and

accordingly tailor our offers and promotions to meet their needs. We encourage our customers to also make use of online delivery services. We wish all our customers a blessed month of Ramadan."

Lulu Group brings out extraordinary promotions and offers for its customers to suit every occasion and season. Along with the Dream Drive campaign, customers can avail a variety of deals on popular Ramadan essentials, as well as great offers and discounts for the season. With about 206 stores globally, Lulu is certainly the most preferred shopping destination for the multi-ethnic communities of the Sultanate.

DISTRIBUTION CODE REVIEW PANEL



Mazoon Electricity employees receive DCRP certification

MUSCAT: Nine engineers from the certification department of Mazoon Electricity Company, the leading electricity provider in Oman, have received certificates from the Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP).

The employees who obtained certificates in the field of electrical networks protection from the DCRP underwent two years of training, qualification and practical application in various Mazoon Electricity projects.

The training was conducted to empower and refine their talents in the field of electrical protection. Nine engineers have been able to obtain different levels - third, second and first - of certification. The highest level of certification possible is the fourth level.

The evaluation was held in the presence of the head of the Protection department in DCRP as well as the head of the protection section and the head of the Project Certification section in Mazoon Electricity.

This certification will reflect positively on the quality of substations equipment inspection and will further ensure their adherence to the approved standards. This will also allow inspection engineers to better configure safety equipment in various sub-

stations, which will ultimately reflect in the quality and sustainability of services provided by Mazoon Electricity to customers of different segments.

The list of engineers who received the certification based on achievement level is Fahd Abdullah Al-Salami (third level), Nasser Ali Al-Abri (second level), Ibrahim Said Al Tobi (second level), Mohammed Said Al Hajri, (second level), Hilal Khalaf Al-Kalbani (second level), Abdullah Musa Al-Sawafi (second level), Mohammad Khamis al-Jaafari (second level) Abdullah Saif Al-Bahri (first level) Al-Moataz Ahmed Al-Masrouri (first level).

Plans are in place for the rest of the engineers in the department to enter the evaluation process. In addition, those who obtained certificates will compete to reach higher levels.

Engineer Majid Nasser Al-Busaidi, Chief Operations Officer-Distribution, at Mazoon Electricity said, "We congratulate the engineers for this achievement and laud them for their dedication and commitment. We commend the management of Mazoon Electricity for encouraging its employees, which unquestionably is a great accomplishment for the company."

EPIC EXPLORATION PROJECT

Sohar International sponsors 'Not Discovered Yet' documentary series

MUSCAT: Reaffirming its commitment towards endorsing the Sultanate's socio-economic activities, Sohar International has sponsored a documentary series that seeks to uncover the Sultanate's diversified wildlife, thereby boosting tourism and conservation activities in the country in line with Oman Vision 2040.

The epic exploration project initiated by Oman in Focus under the title 'Not Discovered Yet' will cover 12 landmark tourist destinations and encompasses a one-hour documentary - 'The Shoreline of Oman' and a Blue Chip - Two-part documentary series called 'Wild Oman', that will capture the essence of Oman's beaches, rare land and marine wildlife, carrying the audience on an extraordinary exploration of all corners of our fascinating country, from the top of the desolate escarpment to the bottom of some of the world's richest seas.

Mohammed Mahfoudh Al Ardhi, Chairman, Sohar International, said "As a socially responsible bank, it is well within our strategic outlook to sponsor initiatives such as "Not Discovered Yet" initiative that highlights and places this beautiful nation on the international world map for wildlife tourism and conservative efforts. With international expertise and a local flavour, the poten-



tial outcome of this initiative will not only highlight the diversified abundant wildlife Oman has to offer, but will also provide an avenue for young Omanis to pursue their passions in exploration, filmmaking, conservation, and beyond providing economic impetus to

the country."

In the one-hour, high quality, documentary - The Shoreline of Oman - the InFocus team will explore the wonders of the Gulf of Oman, the Arabian Sea, its islands and shores, and reveal the story of iconic marine life - tur-

tles, whales, dolphins and sharks. The two-part 'Wild Oman' series, a first-ever showcase of the Sultanate's natural beauty, will be packed with Oman's impressive habitats and wildlife - unique and vitally important regions, home to hundreds of thousands of marine and terrestrial creatures. The documentaries will be shot in full Range, 4K filming with specialized low light, long-lens and underwater equipment, factually verified through research and expert consultations on every subject. The documentaries are expected to air on two international channels mid of the year 2022.

Maisa Al Hooti, Managing Director, Oman InFocus, said: "In collaboration with well-known international channels and support of Government and private institutions such as Sohar International, Oman InFocus has embarked on a journey to unravel the diversified beauty of Oman, exploring various local marine life including whales, dolphins, turtles, corals, natural reserves as they are considered natural treasures that deserve conservation and awareness. The journey will also take us through Oman's range of mountains to learn more about the unique wildlife they host including fascinating caves, all the way to breath-taking vast white desert sand."

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Promotion valid from 25th February 2021 to 24th May 2021. Raffle draws on 25th March, 26th April and 25th May 2021. Three draws in total. Winners will be intimated in 7 days from the draw date. Pictures shown are for illustrative purpose only. Actual may vary. Customers to retain purchase receipts and scratch coupons to claim the gift. Oasis Water Company employees are not eligible to participate in this promotion. Terms and conditions apply.

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