

HORSE RACING SEASON SET TO KICK OFF TODAY

In response to the Royal Orders of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the horse racing season (2021 – 2022) will kick off at Al Rahba Racecourse in the Wilayat of Barka today. **>A4**



ROYAL OFFICE MINISTER RECEIVES FOREIGN MINISTER OF GREECE

Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office on Wednesday Nikolaos Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece. The guest expressed his thanks and appreciation for the Sultanate of Oman's role in enhancing means of cooperation to achieve both countries' joint interests. **>A4**



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Sayyid Asa'ad bids farewell to Algerian Ambassador

A4



FOUR-DAY FESTIVAL

Sayyid Theyazin to attend closing ceremony of camel festival

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth will patronise the closing ceremony of the Camel Festival.

The event is organised by Oman Camel Racing Federation from 29 October until 1 November 2021 at the Royal Camel Corps Racecourse in Al Fulaij, Barka.

The top winners in each race of the four-day festival will be honoured with new cars and valuable awards. The participation will be open for all camel owners and caretakers from all governorates of Oman. **-ONA**



OMAN LAUNCHES DIGITAL ECONOMY PROGRAMME

Approved by the Council of Ministers, the programme is guided in its policy directions and goals by Oman Vision 2040

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman launched the National Programme for Digital Economy, through which the Sultanate seeks to achieve several goals that contribute to building and developing a prosperous digital economy that responds to the requirements of the future.

Approved by the Council of Ministers, the programme includes a set of main axes, and medium and long-term goals based on the national directions of Oman Vision 2040. These are to be achieved through a set of executive programmes, and according to a clear governance for implementation and follow-up.

The programme is also founded



on several main principles that will help achieve its objectives: These include, creating national industries in the digital economy, enhancing the local added value of the digital economy, creating

sustainable income-generating opportunities that keep pace with technical development, creating a strategic partnership with private sector institutions, and digitally empowering the economic

sectors included in the tenth five-year plan.

"The adoption of the National Digital Economy Programme enhances digital transformation in the economic and government sec-

tors at the level of digital services, as well as enriches the citizen's experience through proactive and integrated digital facilities," said Saeed bin Hamoud bin Saeed Al Maawali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, to the Oman News Agency.

"The programme also has a strategic direction to ensure national harmony, coordination and integration between the components of the digital economy in the Sultanate, and a framework for related operational plans and programmes," he added.

Speaking to the Oman News Agency, the minister added that the programme includes three support axes to achieve the established national goals. **>A4**

POST-CYCLONE

Volunteers willingness to help rebuild after Shaheen a matter of pride: NCEM

Times News Service

MUSCAT: People who stepped forward to help rebuild those parts of the Sultanate of Oman that bore the brunt of cyclone Shaheen must be proud of their willingness to help their homeland during its time of need, an officer from the National Committee for Emergency Management (NCEM) has said.

In the wake of Shaheen, hundreds of volunteers from around the country signed up to travel to areas such as North Al Batinah, which saw the most damage from the cyclone. Volunteers either signed up with charitable organisations in their towns and cities, or made arrangements and travelled with community and



family members.

"We are so proud of the community reaction before, during, and after cyclone Shaheen," said Captain Salim Al Rasbi of the NCEM, speaking on the ROP Weekly radio show. "The community is committed to the NCEM instructions and advice

during this incident

He added, "Moreover, the whole community is kind enough to volunteer in the recovery effort, and assist the related institutions in their duties. The community contribution was enormous and included many aspects, such as assistance in distributing supplies, volunteering, as well as offering their professional background in engineering, architecture, construction, and many other specialised forms of assistance."

Al Rasbi said that managing the large numbers of people and resources coming to cyclone-hit areas required a lot of coordination to ensure their safety and security, which was also needed to make sure supplies were delivered in the most effective manner. **>A4**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN Volunteers help in replanting trees

1 Volunteers have joined hands with Environment Authority to help replant trees that were washed away or damaged by cyclone Shaheen. The drive, taking place on 20 and 21 October, saw the wide participation of volunteers and relevant authorities to repair damaged trees, the authority said in a statement. **>A3**

WORLD Russia hosts Taliban for talks in Moscow

2 Russia is hosting the Taliban for talks in Moscow on Wednesday in an effort to boost its influence across Central Asia. Moscow officials also called for action against IS fighters, who Russia says have started to increase their presence in Afghanistan since the Taliban's takeover. **>A6**

MARKET Sezad completes fishing port in Duqm

3 The Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) announced receiving the multi-purpose Fishing Port in Duqm from the main contractor. Accordingly, Sezad handed over the Port to the consortium, led by the companies owned by the Oman Investment Authority (OIA) and another firm. **>B1**



OQIC pledges OMR 100,000 for those affected by Cyclone Shaheen

In solidarity with national relief efforts, Oman Qatar Insurance Company (OQIC), a subsidiary of Qatar Insurance Group (QIG), a dominant insurer in the GCC and MENA region with a global

expansion and proven success of over 50 years has pledged to provide OMR 100,000 to all those affected by Cyclone Shaheen.

"We would like to express our sincere condolences to the families of those affected by this cyclone and pray that the Almighty bless them with peace and strength to overcome their losses. We are devastated to see the loss and damages that were brought upon by the storm. We hope our contribution helps support and rebuild the areas battered by cyclone Shaheen," said Mr. Hasan Al Lawati, CEO of OQIC. "It's a duty to help the affected rebuild their lives," Al Lawati added.

In view of the likely intensity and the damages caused, mobilization of all possible support and contribution from every source becomes necessary and such initiatives are, without a doubt, a key element in the wider social responsibility commitment by QIC Group, which ensures to always give back to the communities it operates in.

OQIC regularly participates in national and community-oriented initiatives and believes in strong governance, transparency, and community commitment. The company urges everyone to collectively rise to the occasion to support the nation and its people however possible.



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بنك مساره

Volunteers help re-green cyclone affected areas



The aim of the drive is to preserve biodiversity, develop vegetation, reduce desertification, and rehabilitate degraded vegetation cover

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Several volunteers have joined hands with personnel from the Environment Author-

ity to help replant trees that were washed away or damaged by cyclone Shaheen. The drive, which is taking place on 20 and 21 October, "saw the wide participation of vol-



unteers and relevant authorities to repair damaged trees," the authority said in a statement. "The campaign aims to preserve biodiversity, develop vegetation, reduce desertification, and rehabilitate degraded vegetation cover."

Online registration
The EA had opened an online registration portal for those who wished to volunteer during these two days. The Omani Sidr Society, the Environment Society of Oman, and the environmental departments in North and South Al Batinah also collaborated under this initiative.



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The match report on Oman vs Bangladesh cricket match reached 29,774 people and had 1,621 engagements on Facebook.



The match report on Oman vs Bangladesh cricket match



MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

20,600 VIEWS



The Oman vs Bangladesh match report video had 20,600 views and reached 54,300 people on Facebook.



Oman vs Bangladesh match report video



MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

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An exclusive interview with Amjad Bin Iqbal Al Lawati of Bank Muscat had 8,902 views and 21 likes on Instagram.



Exclusive interview

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Isha.....	6:52pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:52am

ON BEHALF OF HIS MAJESTY

Sayyid Asa'ad bids farewell to Algerian Ambassador



MEETING: His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan received in his office on Wednesday Dr. Mohammed Yarqi, Ambassador of Algeria. - ONA

MUSCAT: On behalf of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan received in his office on Wednesday Dr. Mohammed Yarqi, Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Sultanate of Oman to bid him farewell at the

end of his tour of duty.

The ambassador expressed his thanks to His Majesty the Sultan for the support extended to him during his tour of duty in the Sultanate from His Majesty, the Government and the Omani people, which had enabled him to carry out his duty. He wished His Majesty good health, happiness and a long life, and the Sultanate further progress and growth under the wise leadership of His

Majesty. In his turn, His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad expressed his utmost thanks to the ambassador for the efforts he exerted in serving the relations between the two countries, wishing him permanent success, and the brotherly Algerian people further progress and prosperity.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary-General and the two advisers at the Office of Sayyid Asa'ad. - ONA

Royal Office minister receives Foreign Minister of Greece

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office on Wednesday Nikolaos Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Greece.

The guest expressed his thanks and appreciation for Oman's role in enhancing means of cooperation to achieve both countries' joint interests. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the bilateral relations and touched on a range of matters of common interest.

The meeting was attended by the Ambassador of the Republic of Greece to the Sultanate of Oman and the delegation accompanying the guest.

Grand Mosque

Nikolaos Georgios Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Greece visited the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, within the framework of his current visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

During his visit to the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, the guest was briefed on history, designs of various Omani and Islamic architecture at the mosque. The guest was also acquainted with the facilities included in the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, such as the Institute of Islamic Sciences, the library and the lecture hall. - ONA



MEETING: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office Nikolaos Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Greece. - ONA



RACING

Horse racing season to kick off at Al Rahba Racecourse today



MUSCAT: In response to the Royal Orders of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the horse races season (2021 - 2022) will kick off at Al Rahba Racecourse in the Wilayat of Barka today (Thurs-

day). The season is organised by the Royal Horse Racing Club. Dr. Sarhan Salim Al Zeidi, Director General of the Royal Cavalry, Supervisor General of the Races told Oman News Agency (ONA) that

the horse races seasons (2021 - 2022) will include 20 races.

He added that the season will witness three major races namely the National Day Cup on 19 November 2021, the Oman Derby



Cup on 18 December 2021 and the Final Race on 1 April 2022.

As for the first race to be held today (Thursday, 21 October 2021), there will be 8 rounds; 6 round will be dedicated for pure Arabian horses whereas 2 rounds will be for thoroughbred horses. - ONA

NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY

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A1

Initiative to focus on a range of opportunities

"As part of the first, the programme will accelerate government digital transformation, while the second axis will see the programme work towards strengthening digital society," he said.

Business digitisation

"The third axis will focus on enabling business digitisation in economic and strategic sectors."

The National Programme for Digital Economy consists of a set of executive programmes supporting its implementation designed based on these main axes.

Key priorities of the initiative

include government digital transformation; e-commerce; development of technical infrastructure; digital industry and cybersecurity. This initiative will also focus on a range of opportunities available in the digital economy in the Sultanate revolving around data centre services, cloud services, and cybersecurity services.

These provisions will enable the use of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies such as artificial intelligence in economic and strategic sectors, help develop digital content, and attract foreign technical investments to the Sultanate.

RELIEF AID



< FROM
A1

One component of the NCEM is Royal Oman Police

The NCEM developed many management plans concerning volunteer management, supply management, and supply supervision and security, in collaboration with the Royal Oman Police, Sultan's Armed Forces, local communities, and charity organisations.

"The NCEM identified locations for supply storage, and volunteer distribution and their accommodation to ensure effective coordination and management of relief efforts," explained Captain Al Rasbi. "All of the supply distribution operations are conducted after field teams assess the areas of priority that need to be assisted, to provide a specific type of assistance, whether it is food and water, the needs of the elderly, kids' accessories, or medical supplies."

"The Royal Oman Police is one component of the NCEM, and our efforts extend to all four phases of the emergency management," he said.

"From the beginning of the Na-

tional Committee for Emergency Management's preparations to deal with cyclone Shaheen, the Royal Oman Police elevated its readiness and mobilised its resources and capabilities to the affected governorates."

The ROP is also administering the media centre at the NCEM, in coordination with institutions concerned with media information, continues to raise awareness among the public, and releases updates and instructions through media outlets.

Police forces are also involved in search operations for people reported missing in wadis and pools of water, while also providing support through its personnel, medical staff, machinery and equipment.

Other roles of the ROP include the restoration and reopening of roads, cleaning up and moving debris from residential and public areas, transporting water and machinery on trucks, and ensuring areas affected by the cyclone continue to remain safe.

EXPO 2020 DUBAI

More than 182,000 visit Oman's pavilion



MUSCAT: As many as 182,348 people visited the Sultanate of Oman's pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai from 1 to 20 October 2021.

The visitors of the pavilion are treated to a marvelous visual display of modern technologies and sound management.

By taking part in Expo 2020 Dubai, the Sultanate aims to achieve several goals, such as high-

lighting civil and development achievements made in all spheres. The pavilion also promotes the Sultanate as a promising hub for tourism and investments.

Moreover, the pavilion's role will help enhance the regional and international relations of Oman and boost its connectivity with the international community.

- ONA

MEETING

Defence Secretary General meets Korean DAPA Minister

SEOUL: Dr. Mohammed Nasser Al Zaabi, Secretary-General at the Ministry of Defence met with Kang Eun-ho, South Korea's Minister of Defence Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA).

The meeting came within the framework of the visit of the Defence Secretary General to the Republic of Korea to participate in Seoul International Aerospace and Defence Exhibition (ADEX).

During the meeting, the two sides discussed a range of matters of common interest.

The meeting was attended by Sheikh Zakaria Hamad Al Saadi, Oman's Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, and the military delegation accompanying the Defence Secretary General. - ONA





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REVIEW MEETING



Oman, Greece discuss ways to boost bilateral cooperation

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Greece held at the Foreign Ministry on Wednesday a session of political talks. The Omani side was headed by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister whilst the Greek side was chaired by Nikolaos Georgios Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The session reviewed aspects of the bilateral cooperation in economic, scientific and cultural fields between the two countries, as well as means of promoting them in all spheres.

The two sides also exchanged views on a range of current regional and international issues of common interest.

The session of political talks was attended by Khalid Hashil Al Musalhi, Head of the Minister's Office Department, Alexis

The two sides also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for political consultations between Oman and Greece

public of Greece also signed at the Foreign Ministry here on Wednesday an agreement on mutual visa waiver for holders of diplomatic, special and service passports between the Sultanate and Greece.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the governments of the two countries by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister and Nikolaos Georgios Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece. The two sides also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for political consultations between Oman and Greece.

The agreement signing ceremony was attended by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Diplomatic Affairs, Alexis Konstantopoulos, Ambassador of the Republic of Greece to the Sultanate of Oman and officials from both sides. — ONA

MEETING

Oman, Bahrain commerce ministers review trade ties

MANAMA: Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion met with Zayed Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism of Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Mohammed Ali Al Balushi, Chargé d'affaires of the Sultanate of Oman's Embassy to Bahrain.

The meeting came on the side-

lines of the GCC Trade and Industry Ministers' meetings being held in Manama. The two sides reviewed the fraternal, deep-rooted bilateral relations. They also discussed a range of matters related to meetings of the committees on commerce and industry cooperation. They also reviewed the joint GCC march in trade, industry and investment promotion sectors. — ONA





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THREAT OF LAVA FLOWS

Japan's Mount Aso volcano erupts

TOKYO: Japanese authorities on Wednesday warned of the threat of lava flows and falling rocks after a volcano erupted on the main southern island of Kyushu.

Mount Aso is one of the world's largest active volcanoes and the largest volcano in Japan. The 1,592-metre (5,223-foot) volcano is a popular tourist destination.

bling down its grassy slopes and plumes of ash 3.5 kilometres (2.2 miles) high, the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) said.

Warning issued

JMA on Wednesday raised its warning for Aso to three out of five.

There have been no reports of casualties, but authorities were checking if any hikers had been trapped or injured, officials told local media.

For those near the mountain, "caution must be exercised for large flying rocks and flows of pyroclastic materials," said JMA official Tomoaki Ozaki.

"Caution is warranted even in far-away areas downwind, as the

Television footage showed dozens of vehicles and tour buses parked at a nearby museum that has a clear view of the volcano.



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EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
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Russia hosts Taliban for talks in Moscow



MOSCOW: Russia is hosting the Taliban for talks in Moscow on Wednesday in an effort to boost its influence across Central Asia. Moscow officials also called for action against IS fighters, who Russia says have started to increase their presence in Afghanistan since the Taliban's takeover.

Officials from 10 different countries, including China and Pakistan, are attending the talks. They are the Taliban's most significant international meetings since seizing power over Afghanistan in mid-August.

Fears of IS expansion

Last week, Russian President Vladimir Putin warned that IS fighters were gathering in Afghanistan to spread into former Soviet republics and eventually Russia.

Putin cautioned last week that around 2,000 fighters loyal to the IS had gathered in northern Afghanistan, adding that their leaders planned to send them into neighboring Central Asian countries disguised as refugees. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov opened the meeting.

"We are satisfied with the level of practical interaction with Afghan authorities," he said, touting Russia's ability to maintain its operations in Afghanistan.

Lavrov also emphasised the importance of respecting human rights, and pursuing well-balanced social policies, adding that he discussed those issues with the Taliban before the talks.

He added that Russia would soon dispatch a shipment of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and urged the international commu-

nity to quickly mobilize resources to prevent a humanitarian crisis

Frozen assets

The US has rejected to release the frozen assets of Afghanistan but assured that it is committed to providing Afghans with humanitarian aids and reiterated that the Taliban must facilitate the distribution process.

Underlining that the people of Afghanistan should not be harmed, US Deputy Minister of Finance Wally Adeyemo stressed that it is important to keep pressure on the Taliban, reported Khaama Press. **-DW/ANI**

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Integrated Services Company S.A.O.C (DISC) "Electricity Service" invites reputable service provider for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.

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Pre-qualification	The Tenderer should be a registered business owner with proper commercial registration with ministry of commerce. The Tenderer must show previous experience in similar services in the past
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OMAN NEED TO COME BACK STRONGER AGAINST SCOTLAND: MAQSOOD



Counter-attacking innings from Mohammad Naim and Shakib al Hasan ensured Bangladesh put up a challenging total

MUSCAT: Zeeshan Maqsood, the captain of Oman said that his side needs to come back stronger against Scotland after their defeat against Bangladesh by 26 runs in Group B of the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground on Tuesday.

Counter-attacking innings from Mohammad Naim and Shakib al Hasan after two early wickets ensured Bangladesh put up a challenging total on board. Naim, who got a couple of reprieves, made Oman pay with a half-century on his T20 World Cup debut. With the ball, Bangladesh wrestled control back after Oman started brightly in the first 10 overs. Needing 84 to win off the last four, the co-hosts

flattered at a crucial juncture in the game and eventually fell short by 26 runs as the Tigers put their first points on board. Zeeshan Maqsood, Oman skipper in the post-match presentation said: "It was a chaseable target. The last 6 overs, we lost wickets and didn't bat well so credit goes to the bowlers. We were in the match for 15-16 overs, and needed 50+ in 36 (58 off 36), which isn't too much, so we just have to be better at batting and get those runs."

"There's no pressure from the crowd, it's encouraging that they supported us. It's a sport, so we'll come back stronger. We have to see where we went wrong, and need to come back stronger against Scotland," he added. **ANI**

T20 WORLD CUP



We held our nerves against Oman, says Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan

MUSCAT: Shakib Al Hasan stated that the win against Oman in Group B of the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground (Ministry Turf 1) on Tuesday will help Bangladesh in settling their nerves.

Counter-attacking innings from Mohammad Naim and Shakib al Hasan after two early wickets ensured Bangladesh put up a challenging total on board. Naim, who got a couple of reprieves, made Oman pay with a half-century on his T20 World Cup debut. With the ball, Bangladesh wrestled control back after Oman started brightly in the first 10 overs. Needing 84 to win off the last four, the co-hosts flattered at a crucial juncture in the game and eventually fell short by 26 runs as the Tigers put their first points on board.

When asked at the post-match presentation, about the defeat against Scotland, Shakib said: "It hurt the whole team. We were not expecting. But should give credit

to Scotland. They were very confident before the game. It was pretty tough because the Scotland loss was hurting us."

"Oman played good cricket. They were in the game for the most part. But we held our nerves. Credit to go to Oman the way they're playing. They're playing with a lot of heart. This win will settle our nerves. We have another game that we have to win. Fingers crossed. Have to win against PNG and then see what happens," added the player of the match.

Mahmudullah, Bangladesh captain said: "We need to improve in a lot of areas, but I'll take the win. Delivering the win for the country is the most important thing and I hope they are happy. Shakib and Naim batted well and took us to 150+, but we should've done better with the new ball and we need to correct those areas where we erred. Death bowling has been good, and we have done well in many areas, so we'll take heart from that." **ANI**

INDIA VS AUSTRALIA

Ashwin, Rahul and Rohit standout performers as India defeat Australia in warm-up game

DUBAI: Ravichandran Ashwin, KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma were the standout performers as India defeated Australia by eight wickets in the warm-up match of the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the ICC Academy Ground on Wednesday.

While Ashwin took two wickets, Rahul and Rohit played knocks of 39 and 60 respectively as India chased down the target of 153 quite comfortably. Suryakumar Yadav also chipped in with an innings of 38 runs. Chasing 153, India got off to a steady start as openers KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma put together 42 runs inside the first six overs. Both batters stitched together an opening stand of 68 runs and it finally ended in the 10th over as Ashton Agar had Rahul (39) caught at the hands of David Warner.

Rohit and Suryakumar Yadav did not let the asking rate creep up, and the duo kept on registering boundaries at regular intervals, keeping India ahead. Both batters ensured that India does not suffer from more hiccups, and with the side 26-run away from the target, Rohit decided to retire hurt after playing a knock of 60.

In the end, India registered a comfortable victory with Suryakumar (38) and Hardik Pandya (14) remaining unbeaten at the crease.

Earlier, Steve Smith and Marcus Stoinis played knocks of 57 and 41 respectively as Australia posted a total of 152/5. Opting to bat first, Australia got off to the worst start possible as David Warner (1), Aaron Finch (8) and Mitchell Marsh (0) lost their wickets cheaply. Ravichandran Ashwin dismissed Warner and Marsh while Ravindra Jadeja sent Finch back to the pavilion, reducing Australia to 11/3 in the fourth over.

Glenn Maxwell and Steve Smith then got together at the crease and the duo revived the innings for Australia. Both batters put on 61 runs for the fourth wicket, but as soon as Australia started gaining an upper hand, Rahul Chahar dismissed Maxwell (37) in the 12th over, reducing Australia to 72/4.

Marcus Stoinis then joined Smith in the middle and the duo accelerated the innings for Australia. Smith went on to bring up his half-century in the 17th over of the innings. In the final two overs, 21 more runs were scored and as a result, Australia posted a total of more than the 150-run mark.

Brief Scores: Australia 152/5 (Steve Smith 57, Marcus Stoinis 41; Ravichandran Ashwin 2-8) vs India 153/2 (Rohit Sharma 60, KL Rahul 39; Ashton Agar 1-14). **ANI**



GROUP B



POINTS TABLE

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

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Al-Zubair and Soucek prepare for GT Open final in Barcelona

The Lechner Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R duo have performed impressively together since the season began

BARCELONA: Al-Faisal Al-Zubair and Andy Soucek bring the curtain down on their first season of International GT Open racing together at this weekend's final round in Barcelona. The Lechner Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R duo have performed impressively together since the season began and head to the northern Spanish circuit with Soucek still holding a mathematical chance of



GT OPEN: Illness forced Al-Zubair to miss the mid-season race meeting at the Hungaroring and he currently holds third in the series, 18 points behind his team-mate in the Drivers' Championship.

sealing the title. Illness forced Al-Zubair to miss the mid-season race meeting at the Hungaroring and he currently holds third in the series, 18 points behind his team-mate in the Drivers' Championship. The clear favourites to clinch the title are Michele Beretta and Frederick Schandorff at the helm of their Vincenzo Sospiri Racing Lamborghini. The ever-consistent duo have won four races and lead Soucek by 22 points heading into a 70-minute race on Saturday and a one-hour finale on Sunday. Soucek would need non-finishes for the Lamborghini crew to stand a realistic chance of snatching the title at the 11th hour. Saying that, it has still been a tremendous season thus far for the Omani and the Spaniard with a race one victory at Spa and a race two win at Imola already under their belts. Belgium's Baptiste Moulin and Japan's Yuki Nemoto are their closest rivals after six rounds and 12 races on some of the most famous circuits in Europe. Al-

Zubair said: "I am very excited to be back for the last round of the GT Open. It is great to be at a track like Barcelona, where we tested before. I think we will be quite strong. It's been a great season and I am looking forward to ending it on a high. No matter what happens, we cannot complain about our first season in endurance racing. That will not stop us pushing flat out for the last round." Three practice sessions have been sanctioned in Barcelona for Friday (October 22) from 09.58hrs, 14.22hrs and 17.16hrs before the first 30-minute qualifying session for race one starts at 10.40hrs on Saturday morning. After sharing the circuit with various Caterham and Euroformula racing disciplines, International GT Open race one fires into life with a rolling start at 14.55hrs. The second 30-minute qualifying session is scheduled for the earlier time of 09.00hrs on Sunday (October 24) morning and precedes the one-hour second race, starting at 13.25hrs.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Ajax humble Dortmund, Madrid sink Shakhtar, City run riot against Brugge

AMSTERDAM: In a clash of the top two teams in Group C, Ajax were 4-0 winners against Borussia Dortmund in the UEFA Champions League on Tuesday evening. The goals at the Johan Cruyff Arena came from Daley Blind, Antony, and Sebastien Haller. Marco Reus scored an own goal for the away team. With their victory, Ajax remain in first place in the group. The match against the Germans started with a bang, when five minutes in, the first big chance

fell to Antony. Though his shot was blocked, it sparked a period of dominant play. In the eleventh minute, the building pressure resulted in the 1-0, when a free-kick by Dusan Tadic was deflected by Marco Reus into his own net. Ajax did not let up, though, and before half-time, Daley Blind slammed home a volley to make it 2-0. The Amsterdammers picked up where they left off at the start of the second half, with the Germans under pressure from the

first minute. Thanks to two more from Antony and Sebastien Haller, Erik ten Hag's team cruised to a 4-0 victory. Elsewhere, Real Madrid continued their unstoppable form on the road in the Champions League as Carlo Ancelotti's men brushed Shakhtar Donetsk aside at Kiev's Olympic Stadium. Krystov's own goal set the Madridistas on their way following a fine first-half showing from the visitors. In a spell of just over 10 minutes following the

restart, the Whites put the result beyond the hosts' reach thanks to a Vini Jr brace. Vini Jr later turned provider when he set Rodrygo up for the fourth of the night in the 65th minute, before Karim Benzema, who landed the Man of the Match honours, rounded off the rout in added time. Manchester City bounced back from the loss to Paris Saint-Germain with a superb performance against Club Brugge, with a 5-1 victory. **ANI**

FOOTBALL

Liverpool edge past Atletico, PSG register comeback win

MADRID: Liverpool maintained their 100 per cent record in UEFA Champions League (UCL) Group B as Mohamed Salah's penalty clinched a dramatic 3-2 victory at Atletico Madrid on Tuesday. In a game played at a relentless tempo, packed with incident, Salah opened the scoring - with a helping touch from James Milner - and Naby Keita thumped home a volley to give the Reds a 2-0 advantage by the 13th minute. But Diego Simeone's seasoned Atletico turned the tide as the half

wore on and got level courtesy of Antoine Griezmann's double - a nudge in from Koke's shot and then a precise angled drive. Griezmann was sent off in the early stages of the second half and the away team edged in front once more when Salah stroked in a low penalty 12 minutes from full-time. PSG picked up all three points against a hard-fought Leipzig with goals from both Mbappe and Lionel Messi, who is fitting into the French side seamlessly. **ANI**



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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by December 2021 reaching \$82.63, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 43 cents from the price of Tuesday, which was at \$83.06. - **OMA**

MARKET BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 3,981.39 points, up 0.30 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.11 per cent at 564.43 points. Construction Material was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while Al Anwar Ceramics, down 2.76 per cent, was the top loser.

Sezad announces completion of multi-purpose fishing port

All the construction works of the fishing port have been completed and it has been handed over to the consortium, which will be responsible for developing the superstructure works and operating the port in Duqm

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) announced receiving the multi-purpose fishing port in Duqm from the main contractor.

Accordingly, Sezad handed over the port to the consortium, led by the companies of Oman Investment Authority (OIA), represented by the Oman Fisheries Development Company (FDO) and Oman Food Investment Company. The consortium also includes the French Lorient Port Company. Eng. Yahya bin Khamis Al Zad-

jali, In Charge of Managing the Operations of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, pointed out that all the construction works of the fishing port have been completed and it has been handed over to the consortium, which will be responsible for developing the superstructure works and operating the port.

"The multi-purpose fishing port has high potentials to serve a number of sectors, including fisheries, fruits and vegetables, livestock, and tourism. The port brings additional yards that can be used for tourism purposes and



LARGEST IN OMAN: Being the largest fishing port in the Sultanate of Oman, the port is 10 metres deep, consisting of 2 breakwaters that are 3.3 km long, a 1.3-km fixed berth and 6 other floating berths. - **Supplied picture**

containers handling food activities, and it can attract the wooden ships supplying foodstuff. Further, the port is characterised by its ability to host commercial fish-

ing activities," Al Zadjali stressed in a press statement.

Being the largest fishing port in the Sultanate of Oman, the port is 10 metres deep, consist-

ing of 2 breakwaters that are 3.3 km long, a 1.3-km fixed berth and 6 other floating berths. In addition, there is land designated for tourism purposes associated

with the port, which is connected with the Fisheries Industries Zone and other projects in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm via a road network.

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



Treasury bills worth OMR54mn issued

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR54 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Wednesday. The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 91 days, from October 20 until January 19, 2022. The average accepted price reached 99.816 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.815 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 0.73943 per cent and 0.74080 per cent, respectively.

Treasury bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportu-

nity to invest their surplus funds. The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) acts as the Issue Manager and provides the added advantage of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo).

The interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 0.5 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 0.75 per cent.

Furthermore, treasury bills promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. - **OMA**

EXHIBITION

Kerala IT Parks showcases its strengths in information technology at GITEX 2021

DUBAI: Kerala IT Parks, which promotes information technology, will be showcasing the competitive advantages it offers in the IT infrastructure space both as a facilitator and as an enabler at GITEX Global 2021, to be held from October 17 to 21, at the Dubai International Convention Centre.

Under the theme 'Future Perfect', Kerala IT Parks CEO John M Thomas will lead the 50 member delegation to highlight their strengths and how they can add value to enterprises in the region cost-effectively. Snehil Kumar Singh IAS, Director, Kerala IT Mission will join the Kerala IT delegation at GITEX 2021.

The Kerala IT Parks offers IT built up space/land parcels in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Domestic Tariff Areas (DTA) within its campuses. The latest Kerala IT Policy invites private IT co-developers/IT companies to invest in IT infrastructure within Kerala IT Parks, and support the growing demand of the Kerala IT ecosystem. Meeting the contemporary demands, our campuses are graduating into IT integrated townships under the 'live-work-play' lifestyle model.

Along with Kerala IT Parks, the



IT ecosystem is well supported with Kerala Start-Up Mission (KSUM- for mentoring budding IT entrepreneurs), Digital University Kerala (DUK) and ICT Academy Kerala (ICTAK) as capability building institutions, KSITIL for IT infrastructure development, Kerala IT Mission on e-governance initiatives and ICFOSS to popularise the use of free & open source technologies.

Technopark, Trivandrum is the first and one of the largest IT Park in the country. Infopark, Kochi is the fastest growing IT destination and Cyberpark Calicut is the youngest IT hub by the

Government of Kerala.

John M Thomas said: "Kerala's evolution as one of the leading IT hubs in the country is the result of a nurturing and enabling ecosystem developed by the Government. Our dynamic IT policy is fine-tuned to respond to the challenging pace of digital technology through the development of world-class IT Parks, and encouraging startups and entrepreneurship. This has resulted in an IT industry with resilience, productivity and innovation skills that places us ahead of the technology curve. Through our participation at GITEX, we aim to engage with the

global tech world and highlight our ability to meet the demands of the new digital economy."

At GITEX 2021, Kerala IT Parks unveil to potential investors and growth partners a range of innovative products and services related to emerging technologies. Given the strong foundations of its growth, Kerala IT today has the enterprise and expertise to power the development of cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, Robotics, Deep Machine Learning, Blockchain & FinTech, Big Data, Cloud and Quantum computing, AR/VR, Space science.

CHIEF ECONOMIST

IMF announces exit of chief economist Gita Gopinath

WASHINGTON: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced the departure of chief economist Gita Gopinath on Tuesday. She will return to Harvard University in January as planned when her public service leave of absence from the university ends, the IMF said.

She will stay on to oversee the release of the IMF's World Economic Outlook forecasts in January. Gopinath joined the organisation in October 2018 and led new IMF analytical research on the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccination targets as well as on climate change mitigation.

She earned praise for her research on a \$50 billion proposal to end the pandemic by vaccinating at least 40 per cent of the world's population by the end of 2021. That plan was later endorsed by the World Bank, the World Trade Organisation and the World Health Organisation. - **dw**

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MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Construction Material was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while Al Anwar Ceramics, down 2.76 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 3,981.39 points, up 0.30 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.11 per cent at 564.43 points. Construction Material was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while Al Anwar Ceramics, down 2.76 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Madina Takaful was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 461 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR2.2 million, with more than 18 million shares changing hands. Out of 41 traded securities, 8 advanced, 10 declined and 23 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net buyers for OMR299,000 while Lo-

cal investors were net sellers for OMR241,000 followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR58,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6,278 points, up 0.27 per cent. Prices of Oman & Qatar Insurance, Sohar International Bank, Bank Nizwa, United Finance and Bank Muscat were up 4.06 per cent, 2.20 per cent, 2.13 per cent, 1.79 per cent and 0.42 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,192.69 points, down 0.19 per cent. Prices of Construction Material and Galfar Engineering were up 6.25 per cent and 2.56 per cent respectively. Al Anwar Ceramics and Oman Cement were down 2.76 per cent and 0.83 per cent respectively.

Services Index remained unchanged at 0.0 per cent before closed at 1,685.31 points. – United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	3,983.11	3,969.27	3,981.39	3,969.54	11.85	0.30
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,283.07	6,260.38	6,278.36	6,261.57	16.79	0.27
Industry Index	6,212.65	6,192.69	6,192.69	6,204.26	-11.57	-0.19
Services Index	1,685.32	1,685.32	1,685.32	1,685.32	0.00	0.00
MSX Shariah Index	565.43	564.22	565.43	564.78	0.65	0.11
MSX TR INDEX	4,787.29	4,770.66	4,785.22	4,770.99	14.24	0.30

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
17,996,072	2,237,415	461	22,087,208,421	8	10	23	41

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	2,365,557	219,272	28	0.092	0.093	0.092	0.093	0.091	0.002	2.198	0.093	0.091	0.094	0.100	278,075,793
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	548,295	260,986	32	0.476	0.476	0.474	0.476	0.474	0.002	0.476	0.476	0.474	0.476	0.100	1,701,450,001
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	106,000	14,522	5	0.137	0.137	0.137	0.137	0.137	0.000	0.000	0.137	0.135	0.137	0.100	11,645,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST& FIN.	210	29	1	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.000	0.000	0.139	0.135	0.139	0.100	32,943,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	160,000	9,600	4	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.060	0.064	0.100	18,428,780
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	2,225,889	230,967	77	0.104	0.105	0.103	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.103	0.102	0.103	0.100	20,800,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	48,000	18,720	13	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.000	0.000	0.390	0.380	0.388	0.100	48,710,204
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	1,050	391	1	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.000	0.000	0.372	0.370	0.372	0.100	22,767,960
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	58,513	43,066	14	0.736	0.736	0.736	0.736	0.736	0.000	0.000	0.736	0.736	0.740	0.100	552,000,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER.	26	12	1	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.466	0.466	0.000	0.000	0.450	0.450	0.464	0.100	110,167,060
OM0000003968	COREDOO	49,154	18,580	8	0.378	0.378	0.378	0.378	0.378	0.000	0.000	0.378	0.378	0.384	0.100	246,056,919
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	22,330	6,881	3	0.310	0.310	0.308	0.308	0.310	-0.002	-0.645	0.308	0.300	0.310	0.100	248,793,877
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	74,250	17,658	8	0.238	0.238	0.237	0.238	0.240	-0.002	-0.833	0.238	0.237	0.239	0.100	78,747,705
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	5,825	548	3	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.095	-0.001	-1.053	0.094	0.092	0.096	0.100	8,460,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR.	99,091	32,009	6	0.330	0.330	0.320	0.324	0.330	-0.006	-1.818	0.320	0.320	0.330	0.100	32,400,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	79,873	33,747	9	0.420	0.430	0.420	0.422	0.434	-0.012	-2.765	0.420	0.420	0.430	0.100	92,840,000
Total	16	5,844,063	906,987	213												
Parallel Market																
OM0000000679	OMAN QATAR INSUR.	113,000	23,135	8	0.200	0.205	0.200	0.205	0.197	0.008	4.061	0.205	0.193	0.205	0.100	20,500,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	1,497,006	119,832	48	0.078	0.082	0.078	0.080	0.078	0.002	2.564	0.080	0.078	0.082	0.100	16,238,916
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	180,287	17,308	11	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.094	0.002	2.128	0.096	0.093	0.096	0.100	214,747,491
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	30,352	2,943	2	0.097	0.097	0.095	0.097	0.095	0.002	2.105	0.095	0.095	0.097	0.100	12,610,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	100,731	5,744	4	0.059	0.059	0.057	0.057	0.056	0.001	1.786	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.100	19,901,231
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	10,000	1,290	1	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.000	0.000	0.129	0.129	0.133	0.100	4,330,717
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	5,000	445	2	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.089	0.089	0.090	0.100	178,027,838
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	21,242	1,275	3	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.057	0.061	0.100	11,940,000
OM0000002297	GULF MUSHROOM P.	1,500	360	1	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.260	0.260	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.260	0.260	0.100	10,817,370
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	1,005,900	122,720	3	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.000	0.000	0.122	0.122	0.125	0.100	365,554,875
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	3,000	2,700	2	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.896	0.896	0.000	0.000	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.100	54,902,400
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	2,800	296	2	0.106	0.106	0.105	0.108	0.108	0.000	0.000	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.100	58,452,889
OM0000004735	SEMECOIP SALALAH	1,500	124	4	0.083	0.083	0.082	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.100	79,229,472
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	519	27	2	0.053	0.053	0.052	0.053	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.051	0.053	0.100	35,769,034
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	103,157	5,365	8	0.053	0.053	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.051	0.052	0.100	37,149,130
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	7,000	336	2	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.047	0.048	0.100	70,204,870
OM0000007407	DHOOFAR GENERATING	34,000	3,094	4	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.000	0.000	0.091	0.090	0.091	0.100	20,223,840
OM0000008447	OMAN RET. FUND	28,000	2,236	3	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.100	56,308,269
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	1,307,500	252,969	15	0.193	0.195	0.190	0.193	0.194	-0.001	-0.515	0.194	0.194	0.194	0.100	313,807,647
OM0000007043	NATIONAL LIFE INS.	65,115	22,169	3	0.342	0.342	0.340	0.340	0.342	-0.002	-0.585	0.340	0.330	0.340	0.100	90,100,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	7,423,500	727,966	104	0.098	0.099	0.098	0.098	0.099	-0.001	-1.010	0.098	0.098	0.101	0.100	17,150,000
OM0000005281	TAGEER FINANCE	155,000	11,425	6	0.074	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.075	-0.001	-1.333	0.073	0.073	0.075	0.100	18,765,660
Total	22	12,094,109	1,323,757	238												

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High intensity effective zone in upper air for purification

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Air movement by convection, natural or mechanical ventilation ensures that the bacteria, viruses and other micro organisms in the air pass through the UV zone.

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Effective Height - 3m

Droplets containing virus in the air

Droplets land in nose, mouth, possibly lungs

Two arm

1 to 2m

Droplets fall on surfaces / objects

On fingers from touching

The droplets eventually get into nose and mouth

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UNCTAD INVESTMENT TRENDS

Global investment flows rebound in first half

PARIS: Global foreign direct investment (FDI) flows in the first half of 2021 reached an estimated \$852 billion, showing stronger than expected rebound momentum, according to UNCTAD's Investment Trends Monitor.

The increase in the first two quarters recovered more than 70 per cent of the loss induced by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"The rapid FDI recovery and the optimistic outlook mask the growing divergence in FDI flows between developed and developing economies, as well as the lag in a broad-based recovery of the greenfield investment in productive capacity. Furthermore, uncertainties remain abundant," said James Zhan, UNCTAD's Director of Investment and Enterprise.

Developed economies saw the biggest rise, with FDI reaching an estimated \$424 billion in the first half of 2021 – more than three times the exceptionally low level in 2020.

In Europe, although the bulk of the growth was due to reversals in countries with significant conduit movements, several large economies saw sizeable increases, on average remaining only 5 per cent below pre-pandemic quarterly levels.

Inflows in the United States were up by 90 per cent, driven entirely by a surge in cross-border mergers and acquisitions. -WAM

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NEW DIGITAL PLATFORM

DP World launches 'CARGOES Logistics'

DUBAI: DP World on Wednesday announced the launch of its new digital logistics platform, CARGOES Logistics.

The platform provides customers with a single-window solution enabling seamless, safe, secure, and efficient movement of their cargo.

With CARGOES Logistics, customers can choose from multimodal logistics options, ship freight by sea, road, and/ or rail, get instant quotes, swift booking confirmation and multiple secure payment options in three simple steps – Search, Choose & Book.

It will offer easy and swift cargo booking from origin to destination.

The first phase of the launch will immediately offer customers access to book cargo from UAE to India as well as India to multiple destinations across the Middle East, Subcontinent, Southeast Asia, the Far East and North Africa.

CARGOES Logistics will address complexities and inefficiencies that exist in global supply chains including multiple handovers, inefficient tracking and limited visibility of a shipment across the supply chain. -WAM

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Interested may please contact: Mr. ABHIJITH - 93647583

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Interested call: 99411607 / 92466266

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Contact No: 93910079, 93817042, 99321944 • Address: Wadi Al Lawami, Nursery, after NMC medical, Seeb, Muscat

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HAR Complex MSQ 2&3 BHK Flats & Villas / 6 BHK villas + maids room, garden, shared gym/swimming pool & Children play area.

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3 BHK Duplex (With Maid Room)
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Contact: 99657906 or 24702141

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TEL. 99382489, 99263443

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For Rent - Office, accommodation at Misfah/Saal area. Industrial Office, workshop facilities for Rent in Al Misfah area. Interested parties please Contact 71916590

Flats 2BHK & 1BHK Ghubra near Indian School.
Contact 99341138, 90991079

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Block-G. No of Godowns - 8 (675 sqm per godown)

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Contact 99453198 / 99069777

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Jeep Grand Cherokee, Model 2009, 200K KM, good condition. Price RO 1350 & **Nissan Kicks**, 2019 full Automatic, 4 cylinder, 24.000 Kms driven, Price RO 5,450.
Contact 92948999

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REQUIRED

Looking for Earthwork Roller 19 Ton

For our ongoing Dam Project, Muscat Area.

(NB: Equipment Not Older than 5 years)

Contact Tel. 24526995, 91358504

***Classified Advertisement space booking with text, should be done till 12.00 noon for next day's publication. * Subject to space availability**

JOB VACANCIES

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Responsibilities:

- To manage operations and production of the restaurant.
- To liaise with the respective Government/ Statutory Authorities to procure the necessary licenses and documentations.
- To lead the operations and production team to deliver within specific standards and schedules required.
- To manage overall costs including material, equipment, manpower, etc.
- To manage production planning, forecasting, purchasing and stock control.
- To maintain and improve the overall performance of the restaurant on a regular basis including cost analysis and monitoring of processes.
- Provide on-job coaching and guidance to team members, managing their performance to ensure a smooth operation.
- To work along with the Marketing team to develop Marketing Strategies and Promotion plans to successfully market the restaurant in the relevant media platform.
- Manage and supervise the food & beverage staff to ensure maximum utilization of the manpower allocated.
- Ensure strict compliance with all relevant Hygiene and Safety legislation and requirements.
- To maintain close, professional and effective links with all external contractors/suppliers to ensure that they deliver to mutually accepted agreements and highest quality levels.

Educational Qualifications & Experience:

- Post Graduate/Graduate or equivalent qualification.
- Minimum 05 years of experience in a supervisory level at F&B, Catering, Hotels and Hospitality establishments.
- Knowledge of food hygiene and Health and Safety requirements.
- A good understanding of quality assurance, procedures and protocols.
- Excellent communication skills both verbally and written English/ Arabic.

Key Skills Required:

- Excellent co-ordination skills
- Strong presentation and communication skills, verbal and written.
- Effective planning, management and organizing skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills to work with internal teams and external suppliers and customers.
- Must possess neat and pleasant grooming habits.
- Proactive approach to problem solving.
- Change orientated to make business improvements.

If you feel you are right for the position and for any further information, please write us at oman2020marketing@gmail.com

WE ARE HIRING

SPACE MARKETING for Online Directory

Responsibilities:

- Contact potential clients to describe advertising opportunities. This usually takes the form of cold calling over the telephone but may involve face to face contact as well.
- Contact existing clients to arrange the placement and design of advertisements they have agreed on and ensure an ongoing relationship.
- Research client needs and explain the benefits of buying advertising space, responding to any objections.
- Explain pricing costs to potential clients and negotiate a fee, if necessary.
- Account manage an existing client

to ensure their needs are satisfied and they are happy with the service.

- Work with production teams to ensure that agreed advertisements are carried in the right place and at the right time.
- Track purchases and keep record of sales, contacts and deals.
- Work to maximize sales and meet targets.
- Deliver sales reports to management.

Key Skills: Excellent telephone manner, ability to persuade clients, outgoing, and sociable

Education: Any degree, candidates with marketing background will be preferred.

If you feel you are right for the position and for any further information, please write us at oman2020marketing@gmail.com

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Interested candidates, please do send resume to below e-mail id:
Email: sales@omi.om or antony@omi.om

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Need experienced Sales Executives for a Healthcare Business.
Good Sales & Communication skills a must.
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Both Omani & Expat candidates are welcome.

Send your CV to:
jobmct19@yahoo.com
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URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR SALES COORDINATOR

One of the most reputed ISO Certified Manufacturing Company in the Sultanate of Oman has vacancy for the post of Sales Coordinator. The candidate should be a graduate with excellent skills in Microsoft Office.

- Preferred Age: 25-30 years
- 1-2 years of experience.
- Oman/GCC driving license is must.

Interested candidates may please contact on +968 99443014

JOB VACANCIES

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Interior Architectural Visualizer
- Draughtsman High quality 3D Max, carona rendering, photoshop, autoCAD, illustrator, sketchup, lumion. Expert detail drawings, lighting, plumbing layouts. Full-time, Diploma/Degree. Send CV, portfolio Email on 22inquirus@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Required Electrical Engineer with minimum 2 year Oman experience in HT, LT, OHL & UG. Oman D/L must, creativemarketingoman@gmail.com. Fax: 24593880

SALES/MARKETING

Marketing & Sales Engineer for Instrument and Equipment in Water and Oil & Gas. Kindly forward your CV to: admin@npcoman.com

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Lebanese female, MBA, looking for an executive job, experienced in project coordination, management and logistics, bilingual Arabic, English, D/L. Contact 98103298

Indian Female looking for Office Assistant or Accountant job. 97947214

Indian Female MBA (HR), PGDBM, B.E. 7 Yrs. of experience in HR & Administration (5 yrs in Oman) with Omani D/L Looking for suitable placement. Contact 92474376

Indian national, male, 42 years, MBA in HR & Administration, 18 years of work experience in office administration, secretarial, commercial activities in Muscat, Omani D/L. Currently in India, seeks suitable placement.
Contact +968 91360212 (WhatsApp)
Email: sajithnarayanan@yahoo.com

SALES/MARKETING

Experienced and academically qualified senior retail professional available in Oman with more than 20 years experience in multinational brands. Looking for a challenging opening in the top management role. GSM: +968 92629143

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

Pakistani Male (5 years experience), M.Phil, Marketing and Sales Expert in the oil & energy industry. Skilled in Lectureship, Research, Business Administration. Contact 91102995 fahadikram96@hotmail.com

Indian female 29, MBA, 5+ yrs' experience in Marketing management, valid Oman D/L. Available for joining. Contact 96384048

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

JOB VACANCIES

1. Sales or Site Engineer Construction for Waterproofing works Job Purpose Develop and maintain a company growth. Driving licence must.

2. Building AMC Maintenance and Marketing Engineer play a vital role in large facilities like corporations, schools, hospitals, or retail centers. Their responsibilities include carrying out maintenance tasks, preparing spaces for new clients. Driving licence must.

Whatsapp: 97236220

REQUIRED

A reputed construction & fabrication company in Oman is looking for suitable candidates for the following positions.

1. **CIVIL ENGINEER** – SITE
2. **CIVIL SUPERVISOR**
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5. **STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**
6. **HR EXECUTIVE**
7. **DRAFTSMAN**

Contact: +968 99845439, +968 97665454
Email: info@queentopaz.com

Urgently Required

Indian Cook

For Private Family, with experience in Arabic and Indian cuisine.

Please contact 99735820

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

B.Tech Civil Engineer With 11.5 yrs Exp, Seeking Suitable placement (Construction /Consultancy), having Omani D/L and NOC available. Contact 78365008

Civil Engineer, Looking for a job, NOC available, immediate joining, Indian Male, 32yrs, have over 9+ years India, UAE, Oman (O&G - PDO), Gulf 7+ years, Valid Oman D/L, expertize construction n project mgmt. Email: marumugam.89@gmail.com Whatsapp +91 9566783904

Sudanese Mechanical engineer have 5 years experience 1years in MEP and 4 years in factories,maintenance and with D/L. Contact 93521100

Young Indian male having 3 years experience as a site engineer, presently in Oman looking for suitable job. Contact 94130276

Electrical engineer with +10 years of experience in electrical network (MT, LT) and project management. Contact 944462214

Autocad, MEP design / drafting, Elec Engg. Currently in 2 yrs resident visa. Contact 99506977

B.E. Civil Engineer having Oman experience looking for sub contract-ing works like plastering n all. Please Contact 91731098

Fresh Indian Chemical Engineering Graduate from NIT on resident visa seeks entry level management position in reputed companies. Contact 96087321

B.E civil engineer having 13yrs of Oman Experience in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact 72132426

Graduate Civil Engineer having over 20 years of experience in Oman is looking for immediate placement in contracting/consultancy firm. NOC/Release available. Contact 99446786 or 93251306

6+ years of experience looking for job as Civil Engineer, ready to join. D/L available. Contact 92146076. Email: taugir.akbar@yahoo.com

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Freelancer Autocad works/2D /3D MEP, Arch, Quantity. Contact 79037728 (WhatsApp)

Inventory Coordinator

Indian male 31: Having 8 years experience handling Retail F&B Operations, inventory, purchase, Sales & Accounting with various other skills, NOC available.

Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

FINANCE

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

GSM: 92334161

HR/ADMIN

Female with 13yrs of experience in HR/Admin or Similar field is looking for job opportunities. Available to start immediately.

CONTACT 79285929

PROJECT ENGINEER

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

Contact 79170769

HR & Administration

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

Contact 94948676

MEP Supervisor

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

Contact +968 96135973
Email kddhaya2@gmail.com

HSE OFFICER

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

Contact 7974 3601

ADMIN / FINANCE

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

GSM: 96974637
Email: goutam14b@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

LOGISTIC

Indian male 23 yrs, BBA logistics and shipping graduate looking for a suitable placement. Presently in Oman. Contact 78140743
Email: nishad4022@gmail.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian having 10 -15 years of experience in Purchasing/Logistics & commercial filed seeking a suitable position. Having D/L. Contact 98531104

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

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

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

SALES/MARKETING

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

Contact 95034204

PURCHASE

Inventory, Purchase, Sales: Indian male 30, having 8 years experience in Retail F&B Operations, Accounting and various other skills, NOC available

Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

ACCOUNTANT

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

Contact No: +968-94649272
Email: sherin.am01@gmail.com

IT/ HR / ACCOUNTS

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

Contact: 95297497

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER

MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of Trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas, Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.

Contact 93270023 rajugetme10@yahoo.com

ENGINEER

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

Contact 78375996
Email: vishnutp999@gmail.com

Finance Head

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

Contact 92148608

ADMINISTRATION

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

Contact: +968-78539053
Email: rkkambat@gmail.com

HSE Advisor

Omani HSE Advisor, 5 yrs experience seeks placement.

Contact +96879990740
Email: mundhirsaidalrashdi@gmail.com

PROJECT ENGINEER

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

Contact 91731694

FINANCE MANAGER

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

Contact Number # 78556829

GROUP FINANCE MANAGER

with 20 yrs+ experience seeks suitable placement

Contact 92578435
Email: 1974KSD@gmail.com

FINANCE

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

Mob # 92301318
abdulrasheedlulu@gmail.com

Chemical Engineer (Omani)

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

Contact +96896444740
Email: msr15@live.com

OMANI HR/PRO

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

Contact 97264447

Process Engineer (Omani)

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

Contact number: 92115804
Email: Faiza112@outlook.com

Management Professional with Business Development Experience

Looking for suitable placement
Worked in Diversified Business Conglomerate, Oil & Gas and Construction Industry. Long journey in Oman with progressive career growth. Professional experience in Sales, Administration, Business Development, Project Management and Overall Company Management. Dual Masters in Oil & Gas Management and International Business with PMP Certification. NOC with Local Transfer is available.
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Email: sales@oceancentre.co

Carpet & Sofa Shampooing, General Cleaning - Offices, Villas & Flats. Ocean Centre LLC. Contact 9932 9289
Email: sales@oceancentre.co

Carpet Shampoo, marble & tile polishing, pest control & anti-termite treatment, general cleaning painting, Plumbing, Electrical, shifting. Mundhir Al Rizaqi Trading LLC. Contact 24810137, 99450130

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OMAN



Times of Oman

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PRICE BAIZAS 200

AIRLINES SPREAD THEIR WINGS



GULF AIR BOOSTS FLIGHTS

Gulf Air has expanded its operations through Muscat, adding new routes and increasing the frequencies on others.

With the winter schedule, which starts on Sunday, Gulf Air will be flying directly to Athens and to Jeddah the two new routes.

There are also significant changes on the Muscat-Bombay route and the frequency of flights to Colombo, Kuwait and Larnaca have been increased.

"The route to Athens was added due to the increasing number of expatriates working in Oman," Mr Ali Khaliq, Gulf Air's manager in Oman said.

Travel within the Gulf states has been facilitated with the addition of Jeddah to Gulf Air's routes and through increasing the number of flights to Kuwait.

"We have plans for non-stop operations to Nairobi (Kenya) and Rawalpindi (Pakistan) which we hope to operate with the next summer schedule," Mr Khaliq revealed.

Athens

On the new route to Athens, a Gulf Air Boeing 737 will fly three times a week on Saturday, Monday and Thursday, leaving Muscat at 6.45 am and arriving at Athens at 2.45 pm the same day. It makes one stop at Amman.

On its return flight, it leaves the Greek capital at 3.20pm and



Mr. Ali Khaliq.

arrives in Muscat at 2.50 am the next day.

The Boeing 737 has 85 economy seats and 12 first class seats.

In 1977 Gulf Air used to fly to Athens, but due to a shortage of aircraft the route was cancelled.

The winter fare to Athens, between October 1 to May 31 is RO 267.600 while the summer fare, from June 1 to September 30, is RO 314.200. Validity is for 35 days.

Gulf Air will be flying two times a week to Jeddah — on Tuesdays and Fridays — leaving Muscat at 7am and arriving in Jeddah at 10.40 am. It leaves Jeddah at 11.20am and arrives at Muscat at 4.20 pm the same day. The flight has one stop — Dubai.

The airline has also made some changes and increased the frequencies on certain routes.

London

On the Muscat-London route, Gulf Air will fly eight times a week. Two of the flights, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, make one halt, leaving Muscat at 11.55 pm and arriving in London at 5.20 am the next day.

Three other flights make two stops, both within the Gulf, and the remaining three flights make three halts, two within the Gulf and one at Paris. All flights are operated using Tri-star aircraft which can carry 222 economy class and 28 first class passengers.

Eight flights a week operate on the Muscat-Bombay route, five of which are daylight flights. Previously almost all flights were at night.

The day flights leave on Tuesdays (2.20pm), Wednesdays (1pm), Fridays (12.30pm), Saturdays (10.30am), and Sundays (11.35 am).

The three night flights leave on Mondays (11.45 pm), Fridays (2 am), and Sundays (11 am).

Turn to Page 3

.. and Musandam service begins

0645/0745; Khassab/Muscat, — 0815/0915.

The flight will be on a 40-seats F27 aircraft. The one way fare will be RO 30 and the round - trip RO60.

If the service is a success Oman aviation will consider increasing the number of flights.

All passengers, except employees of Musandam Development committee and its contractors, who want to travel from MUSANDAM to MUSCAT, shall register at the Office of H.E. The Governor of Musandam. Employees of Musandam Development Committee and its contractors shall register at the office of the Musandam Development committee at Khassab.

All passengers, except the employees of Musandam

Development Committee and its contractors, who want to travel from MUSCAT to MUSANDAM, shall register at the Ministry of the Interior. Employees of Musandam Development committee and its contractors shall register at the office of the Musandam Development Committee at Ruwi.

Tickets for the flight Muscat/Khassab/Muscat or Muscat/Khassab can be purchased from the Domestic Service Office of Oman Aviation Services Company(SAO) at Seeb International Airport; the tickets for the flights Khassab/Muscat/Khassab or Khassab/Muscat can be purchased from the representative of Oman Aviation at Khassab Airport prior to the departure of each flight, on production of evidence that the passenger has registered.



Flights by Oman Aviation Services Company (SAO) begin on Saturday between Muscat and Musandam.

The service scheduled to begin in September, was postponed for technical reasons. The timetable is as follows.

Saturday: — Muscat/Khassab, — 0645 (dep) 0745 (arr); Khassab/Muscat, — 0815/0915.

Sunday: Muscat/Khassab, — 0645/0745, Khassab/Muscat, — 0815/0915; Muscat/Khassab, — 1630/1730; Khassab/Muscat, — 1800/1900.

Wednesday: Muscat/Khassab, — 0645/0745; Khassab/Muscat, — 0815/0915; Muscat/Khassab, — 1630/1730; Khassab/Muscat, — 1800/1900.

Thursday: Muscat/Khassab, —

Rents cannot be increased arbitrarily — Minister

Landlords in Oman cannot arbitrarily increase rents, says the Minister of Land Affairs and Municipalities, Mr. Ahmed bin Abdullah al Ghazali.

Mr Ghazali said in a press interview that the Government had laid down specific procedures to be followed by a landlord before rents of residential premises were increased.

The system is an organised one and the laws stipulate that every increase should be referred to a committee set up by the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities.

The committee meets once a week and decisions are taken keeping in view the interests of both landlords and tenants, Mr Ghazali said. The committee is also authorised to seal or reopen any premises.

In any case, the maximum permissible increase is up to 20 per cent. The landlord, cannot demand the 20 per cent as a right. "If the matter is referred to the committee we generally agree on an increase of only five per cent annually", Mr. Ghazali said.

A new rule is to be introduced soon to streamline the rent procedure in the Sultanate. A draft had been submitted to the Council of Ministers and a decision could be expected soon, Mr. Ghazali disclosed.

Royal Decrees

There are two Royal Decrees on the subject of rent 4/1973 and 1/1974 and they specify that landlords cannot evict a tenant after the expiry of an agreement unless the landlord wants to use it for his personal use. Also the landlord cannot increase the rent unless he cites renovation as a reason.

● Turn to page 3.



Omani writer dies

A brilliant figure in Oman's literary world, Mohammed Amin Abdulla, died in Muscat on Monday.

He had been ailing for some time and was having treatment at Khoula Hospital.

He was in his 60s and is survived by his widow, a son and three daughters.

Close friends, relatives, several intellectuals and dignitaries attended the funeral in Muscat on Monday.

The Founder of the Times of Oman sends his condolences to the bereaved family.

● Full report-page 3.

Middle East: latest

US President Ronald Reagan has had a meeting at the White House with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to discuss securing a speedy withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

Later, Mr Reagan said he and Mr Gemayel had made some progress.

The Israeli judicial inquiry into the massacre last month at the Shatilla and Sabra Palestinian

refugee camps in Beirut and how the killings were carried out while Israeli troops were in control of the surrounding area, has held its first working session in Jerusalem.

A BBC correspondent in Jerusalem says dozens of requests to give information had already reached the commission which was also received documents sent by the Defence and Foreign Ministries. He says the proceedings are expected to take at least two months.

MUHARRAM

The Founder and staff of the Times of Oman offer their best wishes to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos and the people of Oman on the occasion of the Islamic New Year of 1403.

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ROUND-UP

Bank Muscat celebrates graduation of first group of ACCA affiliates

In addition to the ACCA scholarship, Bank Muscat has offered the graduates job opportunities across its various departments

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate has announced that the first batch of Omani youth supported by the bank has become ACCA-affiliates with excellent results in their qualifying examinations. In line with the objective of developing national human resources, the bank had partnered with Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) in 2018 under the auspices of the Ministry of La-



bour to provide scholarships for a group of Bachelor's degree holders to complete the internationally-recognised Chartered Certified Accountant course from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). In addition to the ACCA scholarship, Bank Muscat has offered the graduates job opportunities across its various departments. The ACCA candidates have already achieved remarkable progress and milestones towards attaining the goals of this first of its kind initiative by the bank to develop Omani youth. Said Salim Al Aufi, Group Deputy General Manager - Human



Resources, Bank Muscat, said: "Comprehensive and continuous development of Omani youth is key to achieving the goals of the landmark Oman Vision 2040 and the Renewed Renaissance of the Sultanate. Aligned to its pioneering role in sustainable development, Bank Muscat has always given top priority to the development of Oman's human resources. In 2018, Bank Muscat embarked on a journey partnering with Petroleum Development Oman to provide new opportunities for talented Omani youth to gain an internationally recognised ACCA qualification. The success of the first 3 young



achievers from that path-breaking programme is a great encouragement to the strategy of promoting banking excellence and professionalism in the Sultanate." Said Al Aufi thanked ACCA and education specialists Kaplan for their resolute efforts to successfully continue the programme online, overcoming all challenges brought about by the global pandemic. He congratulated Fajer Al Akhzami, Jumana Al Qassabi and Nusaiba Al Manji for their success in not only becoming ACCA Affiliates but also for surpassing important academic benchmarks in their long journey to get there. He also wished the



very best to all the other students in the programme and added that the bank would continue to nurture and support Omani talent to build a pipeline of future leaders for different sectors in the country. Fajer Al Akhzami, who scored the top marks in Advanced Performance Management in the region, and currently working in Corporate Banking, said: "We are grateful to Bank Muscat for providing us with this excellent opportunity to build our capacity and skills. Completing this programme will help us advance in our professional careers and help towards building a large pool of talented Omani

youth, who will contribute to the future growth and development of the Sultanate." Jumana Al Qassabi, who did well in Advanced Financial Management and at present working in Investment Banking, said: "Thanks to this excellent opportunity from Bank Muscat, I have succeeded in my dream to become an ACCA-affiliate. Through my ACCA studies, I have been able to gain a lot of valuable insights and skills, and I am confident that this will greatly help me in my career and improve our contributions to the success of the Omani economy." Nusaiba Al Manji, who became an ACCA affiliate with excellent marks, and currently working in the bank's Agency and Custody Services added: "Through the ACCA programme, Bank Muscat has helped us to enhance our knowledge in accounting and finance. We will always be indebted to the Bank for providing us with this valuable opportunity to develop and build our skillsets. Completing this programme and becoming an ACCA-affiliate will impact us positively."

MEKONG RESTAURANT

Flavours of the Far East return to Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara

MUSCAT: Cruise the cuisines of the Mekong River and rediscover the flavours of Asia at Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara this October. Anantara invites you to join the grand reopening of the Mekong restaurant on Friday 29 October from 6:30 pm onwards. Enjoy the exquisitely blended tastes of Thailand, China, Vietnam, and beyond at our exclusive Far East themed celebration launch. Our expert chefs will guide you through the subtle spices and aromas of this vast and unrivalled culinary region. Allow us to bring the famous hospitality of South East Asia to your table in our luxury Omani resort. Step into a place where tradition and innovation combine seamlessly to provide an unforgettable dining experience. A wide selection of authentic dishes from handmade dim sum to Thai hotpot will be on offer throughout



the evening. Live grill stations and fresh sushi will whet the appetite for a range of a la carte dishes showcasing the eclectic and dynamic fare of the Far East. "We are delighted to be welcoming guests back to our signature Asian restaurant this month. We recognise it has been a long wait but the opportunity to revitalise

our menu and reintroduce our loyal visitors to the amazing dishes from the countries of the Mekong has us filled with anticipation. We can't wait to see our friends again, old and new," commented Andrea Orrù, General Manager, Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara. Be the first to sample the new menu curated and updated by

Anantara's skilled chefs and be transported to the banks of Asia's most famous river as you dine. Crispy Beijing prawn, sizzling chicken kung pao, Vietnamese shaking beef, and, of course, delicate red and green Thai curries are simply the highlights of an extensive menu stretching from Beijing to Bangkok.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES

Opaz kicks off environment-friendly initiative to reduce use of single-use plastic water bottles



MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) started this month an environment-friendly initiative aimed to reduce the use of single-use plastic water bottles at workplaces. This initiative aims to dispose of approximately 3,000kg of plastic waste annually in the buildings of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones in Muscat and Duqm as a first phase. Zakiya bint Mohammed Al Balushi from the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free

Zones (Opaz), pointed out, "This green initiative was picked from the box dedicated for "Share Your Ideas" Programme, which was introduced by Opaz to urge employees share their creative ideas. "Accordingly, a number of employees presented different outstanding ideas aimed to improve the work environment and adopt various projects, which serve to make the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) and the free zones more attractive and environment-friendly." "Glass water bottles have been

approved as an alternative for the single-use bottles at workplaces of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones, the Special Economic Zone at Duqm and Oman Company for the Development of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Tatweer). Furthermore, Opaz intends to promote the culture of minimising the use of plastic bottles and bags on a larger scale to include the free zones and companies operating within all zones during the next phase," Zakiya Al Balushi explained.

SPECIAL OPENING OFFER

REDTAG launches new store at Mall of Oman

MUSCAT: REDTAG, the region's favourite homegrown value fashion and homeware brand, launched its latest retail outlet on October 20, at the Mall of Oman in Muscat, a venue that is the talk of the town for being the largest shopping mall in the country, as well as its impressive and state of the art facilities. Accompanying the launch will be a special opening offer of a free OMR 4 voucher, on purchases of OMR 20. The latest of more than 250 REDTAG retail outlets, the brand's Mall of Oman store will be located on Level 1, and feature REDTAG's trendy fashion collections for Women, Men, and Kids; a recently launched collection which is the latest in a series inspired by Queen of Stage Myriam Fares; the de-

lightful and charming homeware and lifestyle products that have earned a loyal following in the region; and REDTAG's popular character-wear collection - the largest such selection in the region. "There's a genuine sense of excitement around the launch of our latest store, at the Mall of Oman in Muscat," says Shoaib Syed, Country Manager Oman, for REDTAG. "Although REDTAG has opened many stores in recent months, as part of our expansion plans; a venue of this scale, which offers such a unique experience to visitors, is always special. The special opening offer of a free OMR4 voucher, on a OMR20 purchase, is our way of thanking our loyal customers for their continued support." "The Mall of Oman has already become an extremely popular at-

traction since its launch and is earning a reputation for delighting the entire family with its facilities; as well as shopping, entertainment and dining options. "This is the perfect fit for our own relationship with our customers, which also aims to delight all ages and tastes," Shoaib concluded. With REDTAG'S ongoing promises - including the #WearASmile initiative's Anytime Anywhere Exchange, Find your Size, Personal Stylist, Instant Gift, and Free Home Delivery, add-on services - the brand is continually striving to show customers how much their support is valued. REDTAG's Tiered Loyalty Programme - RT Rewards - gives customers the additional perks of a loyalty system catered to them.



LATEST ADDITION

Huawei MatePad T Kids Edition now available in Oman

MUSCAT: Huawei announced the release of the Huawei MatePad T Kids Edition in Oman, which was designed especially to keep children's education and healthy development in mind. This latest addition to the Huawei MatePad T Series comprises beautiful tablets that are specifically designed for children aged 3-8 years old. They boast a sleek and minimal design, portable and child-friendly case, Kids corner full of rich educational content, eye protection, secure parental assistant and more. Each tablet comes with a beautiful Kids Case made from environmentally safe silicone and a curved back, offering a delicate and rounded grip. The case is anti-shock and wraps fully around the device, offering protection for the tablet while also keeping it clean. Consisting of a blue shell and cute green grips, the tablet is comfortable and enjoyable to hold for small hands. There is even a bright blue stylus pen attached with a string that can be stowed away in the case. A convenient handle is also available so that kids can easily tow the tablet around wherever they go. With a tailored Kids Corner jam-packed with fun features, this tablet is not only safe but also perfect for unleashing your child's creativity. With a special "Kids Corner" supporting Kids Painting, Recorder, Camera, and other interesting features that all help to stimulate your child's mind. It also comes with a wealth of rich educational content, the Huawei MatePad T Kids Edition is the perfect tablet for children as they learn and grow: That's why Huawei has partnered with Azoomee



and BabyBus, two of the leading educational developers creating apps for children. The Huawei MatePad T Kids Edition, therefore, comes with a free three-month membership to Baby Panda World, and a free one-year membership to Azoomee. With a constant stream of updated content, these apps allow children to keep learning, and have fun while doing it. BabyBus is an internet company providing children with creative and educational content. The company has served 500 million families worldwide and released over 200 apps and 2,500 episodes of animations, as well as over 5,000 audio stories. Their products are available in 12 languages in 160 countries and regions worldwide. The Huawei MatePad T Kids Edition also leverages the power of technology to protect children's eyesight. A built-in colour adjustment module intelligently adjusts the content on the display, offering a discrete eye protection mode. With help from an ambient light sensor, the tablet also enables multi-layered eye protection for your child's eyes, with additional features like Bumpy Road Alerts, Posture Alerts, eBook mode and more, which can all be toggled on and off in Kids Corner.



ROUND-UP

ahlibank staff honoured for decade-long service

The employees were felicitated for their loyalty to the bank and their commitment to the departments they represent



in sync, with other team members and departments.

MUSCAT: Dedicated its success and impressive growth to its strong human capital, ahlibank honoured its employees who have completed a decade-long service to the bank. Attended by senior management and staff members, the ceremony was held at a virtual event, recently.

The employees were felicitated for their loyalty to the bank and their commitment to the departments they represent. They were lauded for playing their assigned roles in line with the vision and mission of the bank and for continuing to work harmoniously, and

By honouring employees in this initiative, ahlibank recognised the value of a long-standing team that is instrumental for the bank's growth in Oman's competitive banking sector.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohammed Mohsin Al Mufargi, AGM – Head of Human Resources, thanked the employees on the honour roll and acknowledged the importance of every staff member in shaping the progress of the bank. He attributed the bank's nurturing and motivating work culture to developing a strong human capital. According to him, the very premise behind ahlibank's human resource

development strategy has been the manifestation of endless possibilities for career growth, alongside much-needed flexibility to change and a collection of opportunities to learn.

"We have made human resource development our rationale for enjoying departmental excellence and experiencing calculated growth within the industry. It is thanks to the drive and the aspiration that every employee brings to the organization, which has helped in establishing newer paradigms of growth and progress. We have, since the beginning, opened our doors to youth who want to live their dreams and pursue careers that are reflective of their skills and passion. And, over the years, we have seen that our policy to provide career options with endless possibilities, has helped pave the way for a strong human capital; one that wants to be a longtime partner," he stated.

Attesting to the partner concept, Muneer Al Balushi, AGM, Head Retail distribution who was honoured along with others for completing ten years with the bank, maintained that his role in the bank has been that of a partner from the beginning. "And I am delighted to continue giving my

best to this partnership for the benefit of the bank, as well as for myself. My personal and professional goals are aligned to ahlibank's long-term growth roadmap and this reciprocated work environment keeps me motivated" he exclaimed, adding that he has grown personally and professionally in the last ten years. Reiterating similar sentiments, Zaliya Al Balushi, DGM – Large Corporate, added that she cherishes everyday spent as an employee at ahlibank. "As employees at ahlibank we are constantly supported and encouraged by our esteemed leadership's unique approach, who have put great emphasis on teamwork and constantly seeking opportunities to improve work flow mechanisms at the bank in order to achieve the best outcome possible," she said.

With 'pride' underlined as a keyword to develop a motivated employee pool, the focus of ahlibank has always been on ensuring that they attract creative, responsible and entrepreneurial employees who take pride in being a part of the organization. This has led to better employee retention rate as well as a growth sphere that is marked with constant training and upgrades to stay on par with the market trends.

FIA WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP



Toyota GAZOO Racing team celebrates sixth win in Finland

MUSCAT: Toyota's advancements in performance and technology as a result of being a part of leading automotive sports events across the world, help them make ever-better cars. Through the GAZOO Racing team, Toyota pushes the boundaries of possibilities, to research and develop some of the finest vehicles in the market today.

Recently during the 2021 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) at Rally Finland, The GAZOO Racing (GR) World Rally Team (WRT) achieved Toyota's sixth win thanks to an outstanding performance from Elfyn Evans and his co-driver Scott Martin in the No. 33 Toyota Yaris WRC. The duo is now the only crew who can challenge teammates Sébastien Ogier and Julien Ingrassia in the battle for the championship with two rounds

remaining, meaning a Toyota driver is now guaranteed to win the title for the third year in a row. The team has also taken a step closer to clinching the manufacturers' championship for Toyota.

In the first Rally Finland to be held for over two years, the team faced tough competition on the high-speed gravel roads.

Evans, in the No. 33 Toyota Yaris WRC, was GR's best-placed driver at the end of the opening day in third overall, having produced a strong performance despite running second on the road. On the second day, he surged into the lead with four stage wins out of four and took an advantage of 9.1 seconds into the third and final day where he sealed the win in style with the fastest time in the rally-ending Power Stage, claiming the maximum five bonus points.

LONG-TERM COLLABORATION

German University of Technology in Oman signs pact with SalamAir



MUSCAT: GUtech and SalamAir signed an agreement to start a long-term collaboration that will be mutually beneficial for both parties. The agreement was signed by Dr Hussain Al Salmi, Acting Rector of GUtech, and Captain Ahmed Al Shidhani Director of Operations of SalamAir.

Under the agreement, GUtech will provide training courses and host activities for SalamAir while Salam Air will offer internships and recruitment for GUtech's qualified graduates who meet the requirements set out by the airline.

Dr Hussain Al Salmi, said, "The signing of this document, once

again, proves the high level of trust between the two organizations. We are delighted to start these new relations with SalamAir as we continue our commitment to co-operate closely with different local corporations."

Captain Mohamed Ahmed, CEO of Salam Air, commented, "This is a great initiative taken by both GUtech and our team at SalamAir Training Department. We are confident that this initiation will be widely beneficial for our country's youth and graduates to further their training and readiness to enter the job market."

The communication between

the parties for coordinating the activities is commended to the Training Unit of the German University of Technology in Oman and, the Training Department of Salam Air. This agreement will provide SalamAir staff with the facility to complete their mandatory training by GUtech.

GUtech will provide an in-house training facility to SalamAir candidates in good practices.

Moreover, the SalamAir staff will benefit from a special fee structure, scholarships, and discounts for SalamAir staff and their family members who are willing to study at GUtech.

MYRIAM FARES

REDTAG launches winter collection endorsed by Lebanese pop icon

DUBAI: REDTAG, the region's favourite homegrown value fashion brand, has launched a new fashion collection for Winter 2021, which has been endorsed by Myriam Fares, the much loved Arabian star of screen and stage.

The REDTAG Myriam Fares Winter Collection for 2021 is inspired by imagery that creates six thematic spaces, within which the collection expresses itself. These themes are explored in six videos and image sets; in the campaign that accompanies the collection – Endless Sea, Garden, Lights, Sky, Mountain, and Stars.

Inspired by a world reawakening after a global crisis, the REDTAG Myriam Fares Winter Collection 2021 seeks to evoke a feeling of liberation and freedom, and aspirations reignited. It resonates with the resumption of activity in the new normal, as we rediscover the joys of travel, and surpass the limitations we had to impose on ourselves. The world wants to dream again, and REDTAG has responded with a collection that delivers a never-ending story of inclusivity and joy.

Built around the definitive statements made by pristine



white, pitch black, soft pastels, and ornate gold - with shoes, handbags, and accessories to match – the REDTAG Myriam Fares Winter Collection features a chic design language that fuses the timeless glamour of retro classics, with a contemporary and urban aesthetic. From warm overcoats and classic tweed that hint at vintage European vogue, and winter-ready skirt ensembles that invoke timeless New York mystique; to street-savvy leisurewear offset by eye-catching bomber jackets, Arabic motifs, and snug cardigans; the collection features elements that reflect

Myriam's penchant for sophisticated but playful glamour. The REDTAG Myriam Fares Winter Collection 2021 has a palette that inspires endless discovery and can be mixed and matched to make a statement from boardroom to red carpet, and smart casual weekend evenings, for good measure.

With REDTAG'S ongoing promises, the brand is continually striving to show customers how much their support is valued. REDTAG's Tiered Loyalty Program – RT Rewards – gives customers the additional perks of a loyalty system catered to them.

GIFT OF GOLD

Get guaranteed gold coins with Malabar Gold & Diamonds

MUSCAT: In a run-up to the festive season, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of the largest jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 260 outlets spread across 10 countries, has announced attractive in-store offers to lure customers.

The latest campaign from the brand allows customers to get guaranteed gold coins on the purchase of gold and diamond jewellery. As part of the festive season, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has also unveiled the Festive Jewellery collection, featuring the most eye-catching and unique trends in gold and diamond jewellery, bound to captivate jewellery lovers at the best price. An exclusive jewellery collection in the name of 'Artistry Edition' has also been launched; exquisite designs in diamonds, studded with precious stones including rubies, sapphires, pearls etc., giving a splendid look at special occasions. These pieces are intricately crafted by master artisans and are rare designs that can be treasured as a family heirloom and will be available at selected stores of Malabar Gold & Diamonds.

Through the latest offer announced by Malabar Gold & Diamonds, customers can get guaranteed gold coins on purchase of gold or diamond jewellery from October 21 to November 2.

Festivities

"The next 6 months are all about festivities and celebrations. With the ease of restrictions and tourists returning, we have started experiencing a significant transformation in the market. And now with the festive season soon approaching, we are expecting an increase in footfall across our stores in the coming weeks as well. It is to add more value to our customers' shopping experience that we have created this campaign, wherein they can get the best designs at the best prices while getting guaranteed gold coins, said Shamlal Ahamed, Managing Director – International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds. He also added that on Dhanteras day, all their stores will have extended working hours, to ensure that customers get to safeguard their beliefs and purchase their favourite jewellery.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds also allows customers to avail the gold rate protection offer, designed in such a way that they are protected from any increase in gold rate and if the rate reduces during purchase, they get the lower rate. They can just pay 10 per cent of the value as advance and get gold rate protection until November 2. So, customers do not have to worry about the volatility of the gold price. To ease the payment process, the brand has also enabled an online payment option through their app, which can be downloaded via the app store or Play store. This will allow customers to pay & block the gold rates online.

Apart from the Festive collection and Artistry edition, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has also launched several other collections to meet the diverse tastes of their customers. This includes the 'Bella' Collection – Beautiful designs in 22K gold jewellery to match every woman's unique style and 'Enigma' – exclusive jewellery range studded with precious diamonds to mark any special occasion.

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تلفزيون ذكي (سامسونج) ٦٥ بوصة
Samsung UHD UA65AU7000

SAVE **26.32%**
~~379 RIAL .900~~
279 RIAL .900

Hoover

7kg
1000 Rpm

غسالة ملابس (هوفر)
Hoover front load washer HWM-V710W

SAVE **41.55%**
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