

HM SENDS GREETINGS

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Dr. Rodney Errey Lawrence, Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda on his country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda and people of his country. — **ONA**



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HM GREETES PRESIDENT OF ALGERIA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Abdelmadjid Tebboune of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on his country's National Day. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health, wellbeing and a long life to President Tebboune. His Majesty also prayed to Allah the Almighty for the return of this occasion on President Tebboune while the Algerian people realise aspirations of further progress and prosperity. — **ONA**



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PUBLIC UTILITY EXPROPRIATION LAW

HM the Sultan issues four Royal decrees

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik yesterday issued 4 Royal decrees, reading as follows: Royal Decree No. (71/2023) promulgating the Public Utility Expropriation Law.

Article (1) states that the Public Utility Expropriation Law attached to this decree shall be enforced.

Article (2) says that the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning shall issue the bylaw (executive regulation) for the attached law after the approval of the Council of Ministers. The minister shall also issue the decisions necessary for the implementation of the law's provisions. Till such time, the existing regulations and decisions shall be enforced without prejudice to the provisions of the law.

Article (3) annuls Royal Decree

No. (64/78) on promulgation of the Public Utility Expropriation Law. It also cancels all that contradicts the attached law or contravenes its provisions.

Article (4) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from the day following its date of publishing.

Royal Decree No. (72/2023) amending some provisions of the Police College's bylaw.

Article (1) states that the amendments on the bylaw of the Police College attached to this decree shall be enforced.

Article (2) cancels all that contradicts the attached amendments or contravenes their provisions.

Article (3) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from the day following its date of publishing.

Royal Decree No. 73/2023 transfers "powers related to the revision of contracts" from the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs to the Secretariat General of the Tender Board.

Article (1) transfers "powers related to the revision of contracts" from the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs to the Secretariat General of the Tender Board, as follows:

1. Reviewing the blueprints of unified model contracts drafted by Units of the State's Administrative Apparatus and other public legal persons in the instances/circumstances stipulated by law.

2. Reviewing the blueprints of contracts whose value exceeds OMR5 million, as well as related 'change orders', irrespective of their values prior to contract signing or whether any unit of the

State's Administrative Apparatus or other public legal persons might have started implementing the projects. The review of instances other than 'unified model contracts' covers the procedures that preceded the contract signing process.

Article (2) transfers to the Secretariat General of the Tender Board the Justice and Legal Affairs Ministry's technicians and legal advisers tasked with reviewing contracts, as well as other staff of the Ministry whose tasks are associated with such revision/review. It also stipulates transferring the abovementioned employees' status of seniority and financial grades. Existing job nature allowances of the abovementioned employees will be preserved for them in a personal manner. **>A3**



Sayyid Fahd meets GCC housing ministers

A3

GAZA STRIP



International community urged to investigate Israeli aggression: Sayyid Badr

MUSCAT: Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi has called upon the international community to conduct an independent investigation into the Israeli aggression and hold it accountable for its deliberate targeting of civilians, their facilities, depriving them of their humanitarian needs, starving them, and subjecting them to collective punishment in the Gaza Strip.

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Sayyid Badr affirmed that Oman, as always, is committed to political solutions based on dialogue and the principles of international law. He said Oman believes that the international community should intervene to stop this war on Gaza and deter Israel from violating international law and continuing its military operations that result in the killing of civilians within the Gaza Strip, as well as the demolition of infrastructure, buildings, and residential areas.

Sayyid Badr said: "My firm belief is that violence is not a solution, and we strongly condemn it because victims are often children and civilians. If we look at previous historical experiences, it is clear that a military solution to the Palestinian issue or the Arab-Israeli conflict is impossible to achieve. Yes, there are existing movements or organisations resisting occupation, and this is their legitimate right. However, if we seek a final and just solution, it cannot be achieved militarily but through peaceful means. The possible and sustainable solution lies in political solutions, dialogue, and a strong commitment to achieving peace."

He further added: "We must continue to confront these practices and Israel's inhumane actions by upholding our values and adhering to our humanitarian ethics, which reject killing, destruction, and attacks on children and civilians. **>A2**

OMAN SEES 87% EMPLOYMENT RATE IN THIRD QUARTER OF 2023



76%

More than 76 per cent of Omanis got fresh jobs or replaced expatriates in the government sector, the data from the Ministry Labour shows

Employing Omanis in public and private sectors is a top priority for labour ministry

MUSCAT: The total employment rate in the government and private sectors during the third quarter of 2023 stood at 87 percent, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Labour.

More than 76 percent of Oma-

nis got fresh jobs or replaced expatriates in the government sector, the data from the Ministry Labour shows.

As part of the employment plans in the government sector, a total of 10,000 jobseekers out of a

target number of 13,050 received employment, either by undertaking fresh jobs or occupying seats left vacant by expats.

The ratio in the private sector was 11,165 employed out of 16,000 target number.

Meeting the goals

The Ministry of Labour considers the employment percentage of citizens quite satisfactory in meeting the goals set for national plans aimed at enabling Omani jobseekers to join the labour market.

As for training on replacement/

job in the government sector, the target number was 2,000, of which 1,461 was completed. In the private sector, the target reached 7,000, including 1,614 in the field of self-employment.

It is worth noting that the Ministry of Labour attaches utmost importance to the employment of Omanis in the public and private sectors, to generate employment opportunities for job seekers through its national plans based on Royal directives as employment is a fundamental pillar of the national economy.

REFUGEE CAMP

Israeli airstrikes kill 400 in Gaza

GAZA: The Israeli army committed a new massacre in the crowded Jabalya refugee camp, north of the Gaza Strip, after Israeli warplanes attacked several residential buildings in the centre of the camp leading to the death and injury of around 400 people, mainly children, according to WAFA, Palestine news agency.

Many were rushed to nearby hospitals, while a large number of people are still under the rubble.

Meanwhile, at least 15 people were killed when Israeli warplanes targeted a residential building in Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, according to



WAFA correspondent. Dozens remain under the rubble either dead or wounded, he said.

Dozens of others were killed or injured in an attack on another

residential building in the camp.

Another airstrike at a house in Beach refugee camp, west of Gaza City, also killed at least 10 people and wounded many others.

OMAN GCC housing plans discussed

1 A dialogue session titled "Housing Projects and Plans in GCC States" was held at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. Winners of the GCC Housing Award were honoured. First place was won by "Yeti City" project that was implemented by Omran Company; second place went to "Economic and Sustainable Housing Unit Designs" project presented by the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure in the United Arab Emirates. **>A2**

SPORTS



Ilyas' blitz powers Oman into semis

2 Aqib Ilyas (63) smashed a 24-ball half-century as Oman overpowered Singapore by 22 runs for their second successive victory. **>A8**

MARKET Regular gasoline (91) output rises 24.6%

3 Production of refineries and petrochemicals in Oman recorded an increase of 13.8 percent till the end of September 2023 compared to the corresponding period in 2022, according to statistics released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information. The production of regular gasoline (91) witnessed a 24.6% increase by the end of September, resulting in a 13% increase in sales and a 10.1% increase in exports. **>B1**

PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr 11:55pm
Asr 3:09pm
Maghrib 5:34pm
Isha 6:45pm
Fajr (Tomorrow) 4:56am

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JUDICIAL COOPERATION

HM

Deputy Chairman of Supreme Judicial Council receives Chinese official

MUSCAT: Sayyid Mohammed Sultan Al Busaidi, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council yesterday received Ying Yong, Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate of China and his accompanying delegation, currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed judicial and legal cooperation between the two countries and ways of expanding its prospects, in addition to benefiting from the common experi-



ences between the two countries. During the visit, the Chinese delegation met with Sayyid Khalifa Said Al Busaidi, Chairman of the Supreme Court. The Chinese delegation was

briefed on the judicial experience of the Sultanate of Oman. The two sides also discussed exchanging visits between the two countries and their impact on enhancing and promoting areas of joint cooperation.

The delegation also got acquainted with facilities of the Supreme Court, such as the library and courtrooms.

The meeting was attended by the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Sultanate of Oman. -**ONA**

Royal Decree appoints three governors

< FROM A1 The transfer shall take place in accordance with the mechanism that will be agreed by the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs and the Secretary General of the Tender Board.

Article (3) cancels all that contradicts this decree or contravenes its provisions.

Article (4) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced on its date of issue.

Royal Decree No. (74/2023) appointing governors.

Article (1) appoints the following as governors to the governorates indicated along their names: -Eng. Masoud Said Hashim Al Hashmi as Governor of South Al Batinah, with the Special Grade. -Mahmoud Yahya Sulaiman Al Thuhli as Governor of North A'Sharqiyah, with the Special Grade -Sheikh Ahmed Musallam Suhail Jidad Al Kithiri as Governor of Al Wusta, with the Special Grade.

Article (2) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from its date of issue. - **ONA**

Discussion on GCC housing plans



First place was won by "Yiti City" project that was implemented by Omran Company

MUSCAT: A dialogue session titled "Housing Projects and Plans in GCC States" was held yesterday at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, on the sidelines of the ongoing "Urban October" conference and the "First GCC Housing Week".

Attended by GCC ministers

of housing and the GCC Secretary General, the dialogue session discussed themes that take centre stage in member states, as follows: "housing trends in future city projects" in the Sultanate of Oman, "innovative infrastructure technologies in housing projects" in the United

Arab Emirates, "housing plans and policies aimed at achieving social welfare" in the Kingdom of Bahrain, "future vision of the urban sector" in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, "principles guiding housing projects as elements in enhancing family stability" in the State of Qatar and the State of Kuwait's experience in establishing integrated cities.

Later, winners of the GCC Housing Award were honoured. First place was won by "Yiti City" project that was implemented by Omran Company; second place went to "Economic and Sustainable Housing Unit Designs" project presented by the Ministry

of Energy and Infrastructure in the United Arab Emirates; and the third prize was bagged by the "Residential Unit in Al Jar Neighbourhood of Yanbu Industrial City" project presented by the "Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu", Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

At the conclusion of the event, outstanding private sector establishments, charity organisations and individuals were also felicitated for presenting the best designs of economic and sustainable housing units.

This was followed by the announcement of winners of the "Urban Planning Hackathon". -**ONA**

GAZA

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

< FROM A1 Sayyid Badr calls for immediate ceasefire

We must continue to exert political, diplomatic, and legal pressure and employ the voice of truth, the language of reason, and the power of logic in the face of Israel's oppressive aggression, which includes killing innocent civilians, destroying their infrastructure, and depriving them of water, food, fuel, and medicine. I would like to emphasize that the media also has a responsibility here to deal with the situation objectively and credibly and to convey a fair message to the world, appealing to the human conscience everywhere. In the end, truth must prevail, and injustice must recede".

He explained that the value of constructive international engagement lies in protecting the rights of civilians in peace and war, and therefore the immense potential of global frameworks is capable of creating the necessary conditions to halt the conflict and adopt peaceful solutions.

Sayyid Badr said that all countries condemn and denounce the targeting of civilians, regardless of their nationalities, because this contradicts all the values we believe in. All countries have the right to self-defence. However, Israel's response is excessively disproportionate, particularly in targeting civilians. It should not be forgotten that the Palestinian people also have the right to self-defence, he affirmed.

He explained that the forced displacement of civilians in the northern Gaza Strip and pushing them to move southwards is widely considered a precursor to genocide, according to Article II of the 1948 Convention on the Preven-

tion and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

The blockade of Gaza, which prevents civilians from accessing water, electricity, food, and fuel, is an unlawful act and can be considered a war crime." "These collective measures are prohibited under Article 33 of the Geneva Convention, he asserted.

He said, "History has taught us that "self-defence" cannot justify genocide, collective punishment, and the targeting of innocent civilians. Moreover, blocking humanitarian aid to the population is a crime under international law.

Sayyid Badr called for an immediate ceasefire and the establishment of a truce monitored by independent United Nations observers. The world must also formulate urgent plans to provide direct and immediate humanitarian aid and necessities to the Gaza Strip.

He affirmed that Oman and the GCC countries have committed to supporting humanitarian relief efforts in the Gaza Strip.

He said that the world needs to address the root causes that have led us to this crisis, and deal with them progressively.

As for the most important root causes of this crisis, Sayyid Badr explained: "There are four key reasons we would like to focus on:

1. Israel has unlawfully occupied Palestinian territories in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip since 1967.

This occupation involves the persecution and displacement of innocent residents from their homes and the imposition of daily suffering on Palestinians in their territories. It deprives all Palestinians and refugees in these territo-

ries of their fundamental right to self-determination.

2. Despite the agreements reached in the Oslo Accords in 1993, the continued occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, has led to the systematic expansion of illegal settlements and the forced eviction of Palestinian residents from their lands and homes without rights, not to mention the apartheid policy pursued by the Israeli government.

3. Gaza has been under siege since 2007, isolated from Palestinians in the West Bank, making the territory entirely dependent on Israel for its infrastructure and essential vital supplies. 2.3 million of its inhabitants live in poverty and isolation: conditions imposed on them by Israel without any rights.

4. The Israeli coalition government formed in 2022 has escalated this injustice and darkness. We witness how the leaders of this Israeli government promote policies that target Palestinian populations more aggressively and cruelly than ever before".

Sayyid Badr appealed to the world to take strong, deterrent, and punitive measures against the heinous statements and threats made by Israeli officials, such as those made by the current Israeli Minister of Finance, who, for example, said, "There are now three options for the Palestinians: slavery, migration, or death".

Sayyid Badr pointed out that the international community has neglected these root causes of the conflict for decades. It is time for a genuine awakening within the United Nations Security Council to enforce its resolutions and apply international law to all coun-

tries without discrimination or double standards.

As for what needs to be done to achieve a successful peace process in the future, Sayyid Badr said: "It may be too early to discuss the details of a peace project, but in brief, I would like to say that, at the right time, an effective and credible peace process involving all parties without exclusion will be needed.

There are experiences and lessons that can be learned from. For example, Israel and its allies previously accepted the idea of engaging in dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization in the 1990s, after initially refusing to negotiate with it due to its classification as a terrorist organization. That dialogue with the PLO led to the start of the peace process at that time.

Today, we say that Israel and its allies must face the reality that, without engaging in dialogue with all parties, including Hamas, there cannot be a genuine Palestinian-Israeli peace.

The peace process should involve all key parties. We believe there is an international consensus on the need for a comprehensive peace, based on the two-state solution and in accordance with international law and well-known United Nations Security Council resolutions related to the Palestinian issue".

At the conclusion of his statement, Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr affirmed that the Arab Peace Initiative is still in place and remains applicable because it is based on international law and United Nations Security Council resolutions. It is comprehensive and addresses all the occupied Arab territories exactly as stipulated by international legitimacy. -**ONA**

Oman and KSA explore investment opportunities



RIYADH: Prospects for enhancing economic cooperation and investment opportunities available in economic zones, free zones and industrial cities in the Sultanate of Oman were discussed in Riyadh yesterday.

The meeting, which took place at the premises of the Federation of Saudi Chambers, brought together a delegation from Oman's economic zones, free zones and industrial cities, members of the Saudi-Omani Business Council and representatives of major companies and businessmen in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

The meeting highlighted the most important incentives offered to investors by the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ). The discussion covered projects in food and fisheries industries, pharmaceutical industries,

technology, logistics, renewable energy, petrochemicals and the added-value projects.

The meeting included visual presentations by Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Investment and OPAZ on economic indicators and investment opportunities available in a number of economic sectors.

The Omani delegation also held meetings with representatives of Saudi companies operating in areas of industry, real estate development, imports, clean energy projects, logistics services and ground handling.

During the meetings, the two sides considered ways to benefit from the expertise of those companies in establishing similar projects in economic and free zones and industrial cities. The proposals covered entering into the purchase and ownership of some Omani companies operating in the same sectors.



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21ST MEETING

Sayyid Fahd stresses the importance of GCC housing plan



MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers yesterday received GCC ministers of housing who are taking part in the 21st meeting hosted by the Sultanate of Oman as the chair of the GCC current session. After welcoming the ministers, HH Sayyid Fahd expressed appreciation of the Sultanate of Oman for the efforts exerted in the

field of housing and urban planning targeting progress based on modern methods of construction with preservation of the architectural heritage. He underscored the importance of the GCC housing action plan and ways of its implementation in support of the GCC march and aspirations of its people towards better future. Conversation during the meeting comprehensively reviewed major

topics presented by the ministers at their meetings; the foremost of which exchanging experience, expertise and information among the GCC states, encouraging the signing of agreements with organizations specialised in the construction field in a manner that serves the housing sector, in addition to the necessity of benefiting from the manual on modern construction technologies among the GCC states.

In their turn, the GCC ministers of housing expressed their thanks for Oman's host of this meeting. They commended the constructive role undertaken by the Sultanate of Oman and its constant support for the success of the GCC march. The meeting was attended by Dr. Khalfan Said Al Shuaili, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning and Jassim Mohammed Al Budaiwi, GCC Secretary General. -ONA

Turkish Embassy celebrates Turkiye's 100th National Day

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Turkish Embassy in Muscat celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Turkiye and the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Oman and Turkiye last Sunday. The event took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Muscat and was held under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs. The gathering was graced by the presence of distinguished Ambassadors, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Sultanate, and members of the Turkish community. In a speech delivered at the event, Al Harthy extended his warmest congratulations to Turkiye on their national day. He expressed his admiration for the legacy of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Turkiye, and paid respects to the martyrs and veterans. The event highlighted the historical journey of Turkiye from its war for independence, which followed the occupation of the Ottoman Empire, to its transformation into a modern, democratic nation under the visionary leadership of Atatürk.



In his address, Mehmet Hakimoğlu, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkiye accredited to the Sultanate, said: "President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's leadership is the driving force behind Turkiye's vision for the "Century of Turkiye," a forward-looking concept aimed at achieving excellence in various domains." He added: Atatürk's ideal of "Peace at Home, Peace in the World," reflects the country's goals and Turkiye's humanitarian foreign policy approach under

President Erdoğan. Hakimoğlu said: "Turkiye's role as a stabilising force in the region, its democratic culture, mediation efforts in conflicts, and its humanitarian aid efforts are all acknowledged globally. Turkiye has consistently ranked first in the world in providing humanitarian aid and has hosted the highest number of refugees, particularly Syrians." The ambassador also talked about Turkiye's exemplary diplomacy role in the Ukrainian-Rus-

sian war, where it gained appreciation from the UN for its efforts in prisoner exchange and resolving the grain crisis. Hakimoğlu and other attendees at the event expressed their sadness and regret over the tragedy in Gaza, emphasising the importance of finding a peaceful solution and ensuring the rights of the Palestinians through a two-state solution. The ambassador also highlighted the growing Turkish-Omani relations, with the countries celebrating the 50th anniversary of their diplomatic ties this year. The event showcased historical documents exchanged between the two nations and Hakimoğlu expressed gratitude to His Majesty and the people of Oman for their support after a devastating earthquake in Turkiye last February. He said: "Turkiye's culture, hospitality, and natural beauty make it a preferred destination for Omani tourists and the Turkish government pledges to continue protecting the strong bond of brotherhood between the two nations." He also announced the setting up of a Turkish Teaching Center in Oman, dedicated to the Turkish language, which will open by the end of the year.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERALS

Guide introduced on occupational health, safety in minerals sector

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Under the auspices of Mohsen bin Hamad Al-Hadrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, the Ministry of Energy and Minerals has introduced a guide on occupational health, safety and environment for the minerals sector. The launch event saw the participation of various representatives of government entities, mining companies and health and safety specialists. At the beginning of the event, the Undersecretary of Energy and Minerals delivered a speech emphasising the imperative for a profound transformation in the management of mining projects, especially at the leadership level. He stressed the significance of adopting work mechanisms that prioritise health and safety of workers and the neighbouring communities, while also safeguarding the environment. The Ministry is dedicated to averting accidents by adhering to professional guidelines in this aspect. Furthermore, he provided examples of practices and standards applied in the oil and gas sectors, which have had a positive impact



in reducing accidents and protecting individuals and facilities. The Ministry is committed to elevating the application of safety, health and environmental standards in the mining sector, similar to the standards applied in the oil and gas sector, according to carefully developed plans. He also highlighted the role of the Health and Safety Subcommittee within the Main Committee for the Added Value of the Minerals Sector, where several sector companies are actively engaged under the auspices of the Oman Energy Society. This committee held many meetings related to occupational health, safety and environment topics, including this guide.

POSTPONED

Oman Cancer Association calls off walkathon event in Muscat



MUSCAT: The Oman Cancer Association (OCA) has announced the postponement of the 19th Annual Walkathon that was to be held on Friday, November 3, 2023 at 4:30 PM at Qurum Natural Park. OCA said in a statement: "It is with great regret that due to the present circumstances we at the Oman Cancer Association (OCA) are advising the public including our sponsors and all those who have graciously registered for OCA's 19th Annual Walka-

thon that was to be held on Friday, 3rd of November 2023 at 4:30 PM at Qurum Natural Park that the walkathon will be postponed. This is a postponement and not a cancellation." The new 19th Annual Walkathon date will be communicated to all those who have registered and announced through our social media accounts. The Oman Cancer Association profoundly apologises for any inconvenience caused.

ANNOUNCED

Road dualisation project

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The General Secretariat of the Tender Board in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, announced on Tuesday the launch of a tender for the Rub Al Khali Road dualisation project (first phase). The Ministry of Transport,

Communications and Information Technology explained that the dualisation of the Empty Quarter Road project (first phase) includes the implementation of dualisation of the existing road starting from Ibri roundabout to the Tanam roundabout, with a length of 6 km, in addition to the construction of a number of surface intersections, and roundabouts.



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Procurement Engineer with 10+ yrs of experience in all trades of construction industry, specialized in Automotive P&M procurement in Oman with valid Oman D/L, seeking a role in a reputed organization, based in Muscat. Strong communication and negotiation skills with in-depth market knowledge.

Contact : 97600287 Email: thchirama@gmail.com / thomaschirama@gmail.com

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Chartered Accountant, CFA Level II (doing): Indian, Male, 23 years' exp (16 years in Oman in Senior Finance positions including 4 years in Audit). Experience in Budget management, Board Presentation, Bank Financing, Tax matters, Procurement, Consolidation of Accounts, Payroll, cash flow management, Projects/Construction finance Management, ERP finance module, financial modelling, NoC/DL. Can join immediately. Please Call 77323205

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COUNSELLOR

Indian female with experiences seeking suitable position as social work, school counsellor, & hospital administration level. Hospital Administration, M.S.W. & Post Basic Bsc nursing Presently in Muscat. Contact: 98555411 Email: margarateshajian7@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

DRAUGHTSMAN (MECHANICAL)

Mechanical draughtsman Indian. Diploma holder having 16yrs experience (Oman-10+India-6). Expert in 2D & 3D drawing with AutoCAD & Solidworks.

Contact: 91595019 | Mail id: ksr.ssusbash@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Position looking for MEP coordinator or Senior Electrical Engineer with 18 years of experience in project management around GCC (Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman). I have a valid driving license.

Contact: +968 95931551 | Email: akkarthikeyan.engr@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

Sr. QUANTITY SURVEYOR / COST ENGINEER

Sri Lankan BSc QS with more than 15 Years' Experience (13 years in Gulf) in Buildings, Road, Infrastructures & External works, MEP, Civil, Architectural fit-outs, immediately available.

Contact : +968 91 250 810 | Email: sameem.mmm@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

A Syrian Architectural Engineer with 13 years of experience in Oman

- Classified as a consultant with the Omani Society of Engineers
- Proficient with all Engineering programs and Quantity surveying.
- Seeking a job in a consultant's or owner's representative office.

Contact: 79766317

JOB WANTED

MANAGER

A Pakistani national with 20+ yrs of Managerial experience in road & safety, logistics, transportation, production & technical services holding a BTECH & MBA degree is looking for a job in a growing organization.

Contact: 94624972

JOB WANTED

FINANCE

Seeking Accountant Job, Male- Indian, 16 year Gulf experience, GCC D/L, NOC available.

GSM-92317899

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Graduate Civil Engineer having 25+ years exp in Contracting & Consultancy worked as a Project Manager/Sr. Resident Engr. / Sr. Planner in Mosques, Comm. & Res. Buildings, Oil & Gas, Hospital, Housing and Infrastructure projects with valid Omani D/L seeking suitable placement & available to join immediately.

Contact: 95091406

JOB WANTED

FINANCE

Indian female B Com Graduate having 9 years' experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP 9).

Seeking suitable placement in Accounts.

Contact: 91365798

JOB WANTED

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CONNECT

JOB VACANCY

SALES/MARKETING

Urgently required - for a leading Shipping & freight forwarding Co. in Oman for below positions Asst. manager - sales/marketing Sr. Executive - sales/marketing Send cv: accounts@vestalshipping.com

Urgently required - for a leading shipping & freight forwarding co. in Oman for below positions Manager - Sales/Marketing, Asst. manager - sales/marketing send cv: cargoshippingcareer@hotmail.com

One of the leading shipping & freight forwarding company looking for a sales & business development executive for their Oman office. Driving license and local experience as sales executive in freight forwarding is must . Please forward CV to oman.imtec@gmail.com

MECHANICAL/ TECHNICAL

Urgently required Production and factory in charge- steel fabrication Specialized in steel pipes fabrication- structural steel-tanks-vessels- skid packages 5 years experience with driving license. Send to email: najma@alrouba.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

12 yrs GCC experienced Senior Accountant, Indian (33) B.Com, (CMA USA), Currently in Oman. Looking for suitable position. (valid Oman D/L). Contact: 96358811.

Well experienced accounts professional in Oman seeks suitable immediate placement. Contact: 78581435

Senior Accountant, Accounts manager, MBA Finance, B.Com, diploma in HR, 22 yrs experience in Muscat, audit finalization, MIS, VAT, tax assessment. Odoo, tally, focus; NOC/DL available. Contact: 78293476

Sri Lankan Male ACCA (partly qualified) with 3+ yrs experience. Seeking a job in Oman. Contact: +968 78433173 Email: zayan.oem@gmail.com

Accountant-CA- Inter part 1 seeking suitable post. Contact: 93984681

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian female. 29 yrs B.Com with 3 yrs experience,looking for the post of Asst. Accountant, Admin executive. Presently on family visa & ready to join immediately. Contact 97795901. Email: ranjith.reshma9@gmail.com

Indian junior accountant with 4 years of experience currently in Oman looking for immediate openings. Contact: 78736368 Email: vineeshvinu798@gmail.com

Indian female, Accounts, Finance, Admin having 2 yrs of experience. Contact: 79955415. Email: Shimnavk93@gmail.com

Young Indian male accountant having 1 yrr experience looking for Accountant job. Contact: 78135399

Indian male 29 yrs, M.Com, 2 yrs experience in Accounts, currently in Oman, looking for suitable placement. Contact: 77570410

M.Com, Indian, Chief Accountant, having D/L, 16 yrs experience in Oman up to finalization, audit, budgeting, MIS, VAT, Income Tax, Tax assessments, looking for a suitable position. Contact: 78233089.

Senior Accountant graduation with 23 yrs experience in finance & accounting looking for suitable placement. NOC, D/L available. Contact: 93607242. Email: shammnith@gmail.com

Indian male 8 yrs experience senior accountant with Oman D/L and visa available for par-time. Contact: 92358950

Indian Male, 23 yrs B.Com, expert in Tally ERP and Microsoft looking for suitable job. Contact 97989185 Email: reeqabkadir23@gmail.com

Indian Male (24yrs) CA intermediate, with 1 yr experience in accounts in Oman., have NOC & immediate joining. Contact: 78680255. Email: jubinjuktr@gmail.com

Indian MBA, ICWA (Inter) M.Com, more than 23 yrs experience in Oman, looking for suitable positions in finance,accounts, management. Contact: 96211885

Indian male B.Com Graduate having 6 yrs experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP). Seeking for suitable position. Contact: +968 90810048

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Accounts manager, Indian male, MBA finance. 15+ yrs experience in Oman, seeks new opportunities. D/L Available. Contact: 92861899

Senior Accountant 18 yrs of experience in Oman with DL & NOC. Contact: 92103806

Sri Lankan male accountant with over 3 yrs of professional experience in financial reporting, VAT, management accounts, cash management and can handle up to finalization of accounts. Available for immediate joining. Contact +96897883816. Email: ammarmuzammil986@gmail.com

Finance Manager with 15+ yrs gulf experience in oil & gas multi-national company. Looking for suitable placement. Contact: +968-95230609.

ADMIN/HR

Indian Male 30, MBA (HR and Accounts) having 5 yrs of experience in HR and accounts departments, Excellent in computer applications including Tally. 79130775 Email: malikemployee@gmail.com

Administration, marketing and sales professional with 15 + yrs exp and Oman DL, seeks suitable position in and around Muscat. Contact: 78289678.

Indian, excellent english, Oman experience in project administration, operations, corporate communications, technical writing, commercial. Contact: 99283938.

Looking for job position as Admin office assistant, Sales female with 10 yrs experience of GCC. Can join immediately. Contact: 78408133

Experienced female Hr & Admin with travel agent experience with visa seeks job in Muscat. Contact: +96897051516. Email: rachu.raghu@gmail.com

DRIVER

Looking for driving job, experience of 11 yrs. Contact: 97002240

Looking for driving job. Contact: 71513966

DRIVER

Driver, Sales executive (BCA) seeks placement. Contact 78539740, 95452405. Email: pkkamah@gmail.com

Looking for driving job, having car. Contact: 98586920

Looking for driving job. Contact: 96968050

Looking for driving job, 15yrs exp. Contact: 78037801

Looking for driving job, experience of more than 15 yrs. Contact: 92015802

DESIGNER/ AUTOCAD D/MAN

Indian male with 21 yrs experience as CTP operator & designer seeks placement. Contact: 71258940

Freelancer Autocad (2D/3D) MEP design-BOQ, Estimation. Contact: 97103168

Pakistani male fashion & graphic designer, professional bar-code designer computer operator. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 96878045135, WA+923028945511

ENGINEER

Quantity surveyor, B.Tech Civil experienced, Seek placement. Contact: 93541799

Civil Project Manager with 25 yrs of experience in contracting, consultant, client representative. Looking for suitable placement. Contact: 79081315. Email: riyas05@hotmail.com

8+yrs experienced HSE engineer. Nebosh, DCRP & NDS approved. Seeks opportunities. Contact: 94068189 Email jithujay.in@gmail.com

Civil Engineer (BE), 11 yrs exp in Oman and India (construction & interior furnishing) holding valid Oman D/L. Looking for opportunities. Contact: 78816186

Indian male, B.Tech (Mechanical) with total 08 yrs experience (5 yrs in HVAC industry), looking for HVAC engineer & new opportunities. Contact: 78270420. Email: sachinmathew009@gmail.com

ENGINEER

BE, Electrical Engineer, seeking opportunities, Mob: 97327744, Email: kannankalesh97@gmail.com

Electrical engineering diploma holder having 15 yrs of Oman experience in electrical power distribution system upto 33KV as project engineer, site engineer. Looking for suitable placement. contact +919249945568. Email: rajaneeshktr@gmail.com

Indian male 55 yrs old, looking for suitable placement, in Finance, procurement, logistics ready for immediate joining at any work location. Contact: +968 99261475 Email: mujahad69@gmail.com

EC Engineer experienced IT support and operations executive available now for EV and catering businesses. Contact: +968 78814985

Sudanese Bachelor of electrical engineering MEP & Solar (10 + 2 yrs) (9 yrs of Oman experience) D/L & Oman resident. Contact: 79965677

Civil engineering, 5 yrs experience as site engineer seeking placement. Join immediately. Contact +968 78230150. Email: ajaykumar270212@gmail.com

EDUCATIONAL/ TRAINING

Oman resident, Female, (BSc, MSc Zoology) PG Diploma in. Preprimary teachers training, IELTS 6.5, 3 yrs teaching experience looking for teaching, Zoology field, executive job in Muscat. Contact: +968 91390492. Email: sukanyavmani03@gmail.com

HOSPITALTY

Indian male with total 3.5 yrs experience with Hospitality & food industries looking for new opportunity. Presently in Oman & can join immediately. Contact: 77336060. Email: fawask64@gmail.com

HOUSE MAID

Sri lankan female 26 yrs with 4 yrs experience in Oman looking for the job. Contact: 71703853

LOGISTIC

Indian male with 18 yrs Oman experience in logistics & equipment's seeking suitable placement. Contact: 95868618

Indian male with 8yrs of logistics, freight forwarding, and procurement experience, with Omani D/L. Contact/WA +968 9744 2565. Email: hussain_khizar@yahoo.com

MANAGER

Asst Manager operations, event management, 5 yrs experience in India, looking for suitable position. Contact: 78677579

Sr Project Manager- BE, MBA, PMP. Indian with 28 yrs of Exp (9 yrs in Oman) into Projects Management of Civil Construction. Contact: 99542184

MECHANICAL/ TECHNICAL

Dip. Mech. 14 yrs exp. in piping, structure and marketing with Oman D/L. Contact +968 78391098

SALES/MARKETING

Sales & Marketing Manager MBA Indian, having 25 yrs' experience in Oman for consumer durable and an excellent contact with the major retailers in the country is looking for a suitable placement. Contact: 71134042.

Digital Marketing and SEO expert, looking for job in digital marketing with website development, Google ad and lead generation, 18 yrs experience. Contact: 92547968 Email: mkhan127@gmail.com

Indian male 8 yrs experience in sales & marketing & store Keeper with D/L. Contact: 78540188

Sales & Marketing Executive with 11 yrs experience having Oman D/L. Seeking suitable placement. Contact: 93415429 Email: alibvrm@gmail.com



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WHO

Bangladesh eliminates visceral leishmaniasis; Maldives leprosy

DHAKA: The World Health Organisation on Tuesday announced the elimination of visceral leishmaniasis as a public health problem in Bangladesh, the interruption of leprosy transmission by Maldives and the elimination of rubella by DPR Korea.

Bangladesh has become the first country globally to be validated for the elimination of visceral leishmaniasis or kala-azar, a life-threatening neglected tropical disease.

The country achieved the elimination target of less than one case per 10,000 population at the sub-district (upazila) level in 2017 and has sustained it to date despite disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a press release by the WHO.

Maldives is the first country to verify the interruption of transmission of leprosy, having achieved the milestone of no child case detection for more than five consecutive years.

In 2019 Maldives published a 'Framework for Zero leprosy' with clear milestones to reach leprosy elimination by 2030. An independent assessment team by WHO highlighted high political will and community motivation,



along with strong health systems and minimal evidence of stigma and discrimination towards persons affected by leprosy, as the key factors for Maldives' success.

The WHO South-East Asia Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination, at its extended eighth meeting held virtually on 3 October, based on the evidence provided by the National Verification Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, concluded that endemic rubella virus has been eliminated from the country.

DPR Korea introduced the measles-rubella vaccine in the childhood immunization programme in November 2019 after successfully carrying out a

wide age range immunization campaign targeting 9-month to 15-year-old children and 16 to 18-year-old women with measles and rubella vaccines. Regional Director Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh felicitated Bangladesh, Maldives and DPR Korea for these public health achievements, at the ongoing Seventy-sixth Regional Committee Session.

She also felicitated Bangladesh for the elimination of lymphatic filariasis as a public health problem, and Bhutan and Timor-Leste for eliminating rubella.

"Neglected tropical diseases like lymphatic filariasis, visceral leishmaniasis and leprosy, along with the threat to children and young people posed by rubella, require continued national leadership, commitment and collaborative action by countries and health partners worldwide," said WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "I salute the great progress made, in line with WHO guidance, by Bangladesh and Maldives on protecting their populations from such NTDs, and from Bhutan, DPR Korea and Timor-Leste for their work to eliminate rubella as a public health threat."

-ANI

GAZA

WHO warns of looming 'health crisis'

BERLIN: An official from the World Health Organization has told a press briefing in Geneva that people in Gaza are facing a looming "public health catastrophe."

Israel tightened its blockade on the Gaza Strip, home to 2.3 million people, following the Hamas terror attacks on October 7.

Although more than 150 trucks carrying humanitarian supplies have been allowed to enter the territory from Egypt over the past few days, aid workers say it's not enough.

Damage to water and sanitation infrastructure, overcrowding and mass displacement are compounding an already dire humanitarian situation in the territory, they say.

Fuel urgently needed

The WHO spokesperson said fuel was urgently needed to run generators at clinics, to treat water and for emergency vehicles.

At the same press briefing, a spokesperson from the UN children's agency UNICEF warned there was also the risk of infant deaths due to dehydration.

Just 5% of normal water supplies are currently available in Gaza, the spokesperson said. -DW



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B61-13

US announces new nuclear bomb

WASHINGTON, DC: The United States Department of Defence has announced that it will pursue a modern variant of the B61 nuclear gravity bomb, designated the B61-13, pending Congressional authorisation and appropriation.

According to a Fox News report, the nuclear bomb is said to be 24 times more powerful than one of the bombs dropped on Japan during World War II.

"Today, the Department of Defense (DoD) announced that the United States will pursue a modern variant of the B61 nuclear gravity bomb, designated the B61-13, pending Congressional authorisation and appropriation.

The Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) would produce the B61-13," the Department of Defence release said.

"The decision to pursue this capability, which was undertaken in close collaboration with the NNSA, responds to the demands of a rapidly evolving security environment as described in the 2022 Nuclear Posture Review," the statement read.

The B61-13 will yield similarly to the B61-7, which has a maximum output of 360 kilotons. -ANI



Sultan Qaboos University

TENDERS NOTICE

The Investment & Revenue Department at Sultan Qaboos University would like to invite companies to submit their quotations for:

S/N	Type of Business	Location	Date of visit	Date of visit	The last date for collecting the Document	The last date for submission of the quotations
1	Rent and operate Coffee Shop	College of medicine and Health Sciences	8/11 /2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 5/23	19 /11/2023	19/12/2023 before 11:00 a.m.
2	Provision of Photocopying Services (R Tenders Notice)	In various locations at Sultan Qaboos University Campus	9/11/2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 6/23		
3	Sales & maintenance of computer equipment & mobile phones	Shop No (11)-The Student Services Center	13/11/2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 7/23		
4	Rent and operate ice cream kiosk	A Kiosk near the Shop No (15) -In The Student Services Center	13/11/2023 10:00 Am	SQU.IRD. 8/23		
5	Rent and operate ATM machine	Administration Building Extension	14/11/2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 9/23		
6	Rent and operate ATM machine	Cultural Center	14/11/2023 10:00 Am	SQU.IRD. 10/23		
7	Rent and operate ATM machine	Sultan Qaboos University Hospital	14/11/2023 10:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 11/23		
8	Rent and operate commercial shop (Food Related)	Shop No(1) College of Arts and Social Sciences	15/11/2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 12/23		
9	Rent and operate commercial shop (Nonfood Related)	Shop No(2) College of Arts and Social Sciences	15/11/2023 9:30 Am	SQU.IRD. 13/23		

- The priority will be for the Small and Medium Establishments (SME), which fulfils the quality requirements. All classes of companies can also apply for these bids.
- Tenderers who wish to participate in this Tender may collect Tender Documents from The Section of Revenue and Expenditures at the Investment & Revenue Department, Sultan Qaboos University, during the working hours for an amount of OR.25 for each tender document (non-refundable). The last date for collecting the Document is on Sunday, 19 /11/2023.
- The Site Visit for the selected shop is necessary. It will be on the above-mentioned date and the assembly point will be at the Investment & Revenue Department.
- The last date for submission of the quotations: is on Tuesday,19 /12/2023. The quotations should be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Director of The Investment & Revenue Department, located on the first floor of the commercial building at Sultan Qaboos University and deposited in the Tender Box kept in the Department, before 11:00 a.m.
- The exterior of the envelope should be marked with the name and number of the Tender being presented and should bear no identification or mark of the Tenderer.
- The Tenderer should prepare the Site in accordance with the health requirements of Muscat Municipality and the requirements of civil defense in cooperation with the concerned authorities.
- Sultan Qaboos University reserves the right to reject any quotation not fulfilling the requirements and does not bid itself to accept the highest rent or any other quotations.

The Investment & Revenue Department
P.O BOX 50, P.C. 123, ALKHOD, SULTANATE OF OMAN
Tel: 24142685
E- mail: investment@squ.edu.om
The Department of Investment & Revenue Location:





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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Dear Shareholders,
On behalf of the Board of Directors of UBAR Hotels and Resorts SAOG, it is our pleasure to present the Un-Audited Consolidated Financial Results of the Company for the period ended 30 September 2023.

Performance Review
For the period ended till 30 September 2023, the Company has generated consolidated revenue of RO 1,747,691/- which is on the higher side by 7% compared to the last year's revenue of RO 1,626,687/-. In the first quarter, the hotel noticed growth in the leisure segment.

Overl All Company has managed to reduce its losses by 5%. For the same period, the Net Loss of the Company is RO 807,577/- against net loss of RO 849,543/- of last year.

Like the previous years, 2023 also looks very challenging for the Hospitality and Travel industry.High inflation worldwide, the energy crisis, Russia & Ukraine Conflict and high air ticket farestill continue.This year the Ramadan period also fell in the peak seasonal months of March & April which saw reduced inflow of leisure guest, this also effected the total revenues being generated during these 2 particular months. On the Positive note, Now the tourism sector of Oman is heading to the 4th Quarter of the year, which is a season period for the tourism sectorand expected to grow. The management team has constantly been reviewing the various steps needed to address the difficult conditions to minimize the losses and improve the liquidity situation. All efforts have been exerted in order to maintain the Company's stability and ensure the continuity of its operation.

During the off-season, leisure segment movement was very minimal. Therefore, both hotels have targeted the corporate and local tourism. The Management is also working on various promotional offers for all segments to increase revenue. All efforts have also been put in place to control the costs in every area and to reduce the overall losses.

Omanization,
The Company has been encouraging Omanization by employing Omanis in various departments. All efforts are made to comply throughout the year to achieve the Omanization level as per the Government's requirement.

Future Perspective
The Board is hopeful that the current scenario will show signs of improvement in the coming period, and Oman will witness the increased influx of leisure tourists by the end of the year, and it will continue to remain a desired destination among travelers.

The Board assures the shareholders that the Company shall strive and continue to achieve better results in the coming months with the proven, hard, and sincere efforts of Management and its staff.

Conclusion,
The Board looks forward to the continued growth of the tourism industry in the Sultanate of Oman. The Board of Directors, on behalf of the Shareholders, have a great pleasure to extend their profound thanks, loyalty, and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik; God Bless Him, for His Majesty's inspiring leadership and wise policies. We are confident that our nation will continue to walk on a path of progress and prosperity under His Majesty's leadership.

Thanking You
Chairman/Director

SEPARATE AND CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	2023 RO	2022 RO	Group 2023 RO	2022 RO
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	1,649,067	1,738,217	9,396,067	9,729,280
Right-of-use asset	113,452	101,067	113,452	101,067
Loan to a subsidiary	2,362,600	1,440,000	-	-
Margin deposit	100,519	83,941	100,519	83,941
Investment in a subsidiary	4,104,906	4,104,906	-	-
Total non-current assets	8,330,544	7,468,131	9,610,038	9,914,288
Current assets				
Inventories	69,178	68,714	100,111	100,031
Other current assets	32,215	25,432	983,531	72,481
Trade receivables	75,940	38,160	185,059	148,040
Due from related parties	1,217,244	1,691,999	-	-
Other receivables	4,550	4,550	5,550	5,550
Loan to a subsidiary	4,000	270,000	-	-
Cash and bank balances	197,722	8,019	220,366	52,973
Total current assets	1,600,849	2,106,874	580,397	379,075
Total assets	9,931,393	9,575,005	10,190,435	10,293,363
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
EQUITY				
Share capital	5,001,750	5,001,750	5,001,750	5,001,750
Legal reserve	759,398	759,398	983,531	983,531
Special reserve	508,515	508,515	508,515	508,515
Replacement reserve (Accumulated losses) / Retained earnings	-	-	1,091,599	1,039,007
Total equity	5,839,146	6,085,433	5,009,173	5,842,382
LIABILITIES				
Non-current liabilities				
Employees' end of service benefits	199,728	200,103	286,936	281,176
Deferred government grant	65,961	72,629	65,961	72,629
Term loan	2,312,756	1,435,500	2,312,756	1,435,500
Lease liabilities	119,651	68,089	119,651	68,089
Total non-current liabilities	2,698,096	1,776,321	2,785,304	1,857,394
Current liabilities				
Term loan	4,000	512,624	4,000	512,624
Bank overdraft	502,286	301,609	502,286	301,609
Lease liabilities	66,101	43,192	66,101	43,192
Trade and other payables	340,389	341,839	995,956	914,663
Accrued liabilities	469,983	488,965	816,223	796,238
Income tax payable	11,392	25,022	11,392	25,261
Total current liabilities	1,394,150	1,713,251	2,395,958	2,593,587
Total liabilities	4,092,247	3,489,572	5,181,262	4,450,981
Total equity and liabilities	9,931,393	9,575,005	10,190,435	10,293,363
Net assets per share	0.117	0.122	0.100	0.117

SEPARATE AND CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	2023 RO	2022 RO	Group 2023 RO	2022 RO
Revenue	816,938	771,153	1,747,691	1,626,687
Operating costs	(1,106,259)	(1,115,349)	(2,415,895)	(2,454,651)
Income from Insurance Claim	-	-	-	99,482
Operating loss	(289,321)	(344,196)	(668,204)	(728,482)
Finance income	113,616	79,908	-	-
Finance cost	(139,154)	(115,376)	(144,174)	(121,796)
Other income	4,556	592	4,801	735
Loss before taxation	(310,303)	(379,072)	(807,577)	(849,543)
Taxation	-	-	-	-
Net and total comprehensive loss for the year	(310,303)	(379,072)	(807,577)	(849,543)
Attributable to:				
Equity holders of the Parent Company	(310,303)	(379,072)	(807,577)	(849,543)
Basic and diluted loss per share attributable to equity holders of the Parent Company	(0.006)	(0.008)	(0.016)	(0.017)

AUSTRALIA PULLS OUT OF THE BID RACE

2034 FIFA World Cup: Saudi Arabia set to host the event

LONDON: Saudi Arabia is set to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup after Australia decided against bidding to stage the tournament a few hours before the deadline for bidding for the FIFA World Cup ended on Tuesday.

Saudi Arabia is the only other nation to bid.

"We have reached the conclusion not to do so for the 2034 competition," read a statement from Football Australia.

Australia's governing body says it intends to focus its efforts on hosting the AFC Women's Asian Cup in 2026 and the Club World Cup in 2029. The 2026 World Cup will take place in the US, Mexico and Canada.

Morocco, Portugal and Spain will host the 2030 tournament, with matches also in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

FIFA said the 2034 World Cup would be held in Asia or Oceania, and an Australian bid was regarded as the only potential challenger to Saudi Arabia, which announced its intention to bid shortly after FIFA's decision.

After the withdrawal of Australia, the president of the Asian Football Confederation, the sport's continental governing body said that "the entire Asian football family" would stand united in support of the Saudi bid.

Like the 2022 men's tournament, the 2034 edition would almost certainly be held in winter because of extreme heat in the summer, although modernising existing infrastructure rather than building new stadiums would likely make it more environmentally friendly than Qatar.

Saudi Arabia has hosted several major sporting events since 2018, including football, Formula 1, golf and boxing, and will stage the Club World Cup in December.

Hosting the World Cup would represent another significant sporting milestone. Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki bin Faisal, Saudi Arabia's sports minister, said the bid "constitutes an important and natural step in our journey as a country passionate about football".

Tennis will hold a professional event in Saudi Arabia for the first time in November after a five-year deal was agreed for Jeddah to host the Next Gen ATP Finals. Saudi Arabia has also held talks with the women's tour about hosting its end-of-season WTA Finals. - Agencies

Lionel Messi wins eighth men's Ballon d'Or award

The 36-year-old Argentine was recognised for his key role in his country's winning the World Cup in Qatar last year



PARIS: Argentina and Inter Miami forward Lionel Messi won the Men's Ballon d'Or for an eighth time on Tuesday.

The 36-year-old was recognised at the ceremony in Paris after helping his country win the World Cup in Qatar last year.

England and Real Madrid midfielder Jude Bellingham won the Kopa Trophy for the world's best player aged under 21.

Messi won his record-extending Ballon d'Or award ahead of Manchester City forward Erling Haaland. France forward Kylian Mbappe - who became just the second man to score a World Cup final hat-trick in the 4-2 penalty shootout loss to Argentina - finished third.

"It's nice to be here once more to enjoy this moment," Messi said. "To be able to win the World Cup and achieve my dream."

The former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain star added:

"I couldn't imagine having the career I've had and everything I've achieved, the fortune I've had to be part of the best team in history.

"All of them [Ballon d'Or awards] are special for different reasons."

Spain and Barcelona midfielder Aitana Bonmati won the Women's Ballon d'Or for the first time. The 25-year-old enjoyed a hugely successful year as she helped her club triumph in the Spanish top flight and Champions League, and her country win the World Cup in the summer.

Norway international Haaland scored a record-breaking 36 goals in 35 league games and hit 52 in all competitions as City won the Treble of Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup.

He was recognised for his achievements with the Gerd Muller Trophy for best goalscorer.

The Ballon d'Or recognises the best footballer of the year and is voted for by 100 journalists from around the world.

Messi has now won three more Ballon d'Or awards than anyone else, with Cristiano Ronaldo having won it five times, most recently in 2017.

Argentina World Cup winner and Aston Villa goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez won the Yashin Trophy for the best goalkeeper in the world. Martinez also won the Golden Glove at the World Cup.

Manchester City were named the club of the year at the awards for the second year running. Pep Guardiola's side became only the second English team to win the Treble of Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup last season.

Real Madrid winger Vinicius Jr received the Socrates Award for his contribution off the field and vowed to keep speaking out against racism in world football.

Vinicius has been the target of racist abuse regularly in La Liga games for the past two seasons.

Former England and Manchester United midfielder David Beckham presented the men's Ballon d'Or to Messi, but before announcing the winner he paid tribute to Sir Bobby Charlton. The England World Cup winner died at the age of 86 earlier this month. - Agencies

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP ROW

FIFA bans Rubiales for three years

MADRID: Former Spanish football federation president Luis Rubiales has been banned from all football-related activities for three years by FIFA.

Rubiales was involved with an indecent act with forward Jenni Hermoso following Spain's Women's World Cup final win over England.

The act, which forward Hermoso says was not consensual, sparked outcry, with Rubiales eventually stepping down from his role in September. Hermoso later filed a legal complaint against Rubiales.

On Monday, world governing body FIFA announced the three-year ban for breaching article 13 of its disciplinary code.

Rubiales says he intends to appeal against the ban. "I will go to the last resort to see that justice is done and that the truth shines through," he said on social media.

Rubiales, 46, claimed the act at the post-match presentation ceremony was "mutual" but Hermoso has consistently said it was not. The incident overshadowed Spain's historic win in Sydney, Australia. - Agencies

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Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

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

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of Tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-retundable)	
					Small and Medium companies	Local companies
419/2023	Purchase of (9) firewall devices	Companies specialized in the field of design, installation and maintenance of information programs and systems / equipping information data centers and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first or second degree	Monday 20-11-2023 02:00 PM	Tuesday 12-12-2023 10:00 AM	10 R.O	25 R.O
420/2023	Supply of tools and means for the sensory effects halls of Al-Aman Rehabilitation Center in Al-Khoud and Al-Wafa Center for the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Bidbid	Companies specialized in the field of supplying tools, materials and office and educational supplies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first, second, third or fourth				
421/2023	Supplying, processing and providing nutrition meals to those enrolled in Al-Aman Rehabilitation Center in Al-Khoud	Companies specialized in the field of catering services and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board with the excellent or first degree				
422/2023	Laundry and ironing of clothes for those enrolled in Al-Aman Rehabilitation Center in Al-Khoud	Companies specialized in the field of cleaning, washing and pest control services and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent, first or second degree				

❖

Specialized Companies, registered with the **Tender Board** may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) on Wednesday 1/11/2023

❖

For Inquiry, please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) Tel. (24402200)

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

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SPORTS

PAKISTAN KNOCK BANGLADESH OUT OF SEMI-FINALS RACE

Former champions dismiss Bangladesh for 204 and then overhaul the target in 32.3 overs for their third victory



KOLKATA: Pakistan snapped their four-match losing streak in the ICC ODI World Cup 2023 to knock Bangladesh out of the race for the semi-finals at Eden Gardens on Tuesday. Pakistan defeated Bangladesh by seven wickets for their third win and leapfrogged Sri Lanka and Afghanistan to move up to fifth place. Fakhar Zaman (81) and Abdullah Shafique (68) starred for them with fifties. Earlier, Shaheen Shah Afridi (3/23), Mohammad Wasim (3/31), and Haris Rauf (2/36) were the pick of Pakistan bowlers, as the pacers rallied together to bowl Bangladesh all out for a total of 204. For Bangladesh, Mahmudullah (56) and Shakib Al Hasan (43) showed fight with the bat. After being put to bowl first, Afridi got Pakistan off to a perfect start, sending Bangladesh opener



Tanzid Hasan back to the pavilion in the very first over. With this dismissal, Afridi became the fastest bowler to pick 100 wickets in ODIs, shattering the previous record set by Australia fast-bowler Mitchell Starc. He came back in the third over to dismiss Najmul Shanto, who continued his dismal form in the tournament. Rauf joined the party in the powerplay, getting rid of the experienced Mushfiquir Rahim in the sixth over to leave Bangladesh reeling at 23/3. Opener Litton Das and Mahmudullah pulled the game back for the Bangla Tigers, stitch-

ing a carefully curated 79-run stand for the fourth wicket. Litton fell short of his 13th ODI half-century, being dismissed by Iftikhar Ahmed after scoring 45 runs off 64 balls. Mahmudullah went on to complete his 28th ODI fifty before being dismissed by Afridi. Mahmudullah scored a 70-ball 56, to take his run-tally to 274 runs in five innings in this World Cup. Towhid Hridoy continued to disappoint with the bat, falling after scoring seven runs as Bangladesh found themselves reeling at 140 for 6. Skipper Shakib Al Hasan formed a 45-run stand with

Mehidy Hasan Miraz before being dismissed by Rauf after scoring 43 runs off 64 deliveries. Pacer Mohammad Wasim Junior took over and ran through Bangladesh's tail, dismissing Miraz, Taskin Ahmed and Mustafizur Rahman to bowl the Bangla Tigers out for 204 runs in 45.1 overs. **Zaman, Shafique get Pakistan off to flyer** Pakistan opening batters Shafique and Zaman got Pakistan off to a perfect start. Zaman, who replaced Imam-ul-Haq for this match, slammed his 16th ODI half-centu-



WORLD CUP 2023 GROUP STANDINGS							
TEAM	P	W	L	N/R	T	NRR	PTS
India	6	6	0	0	0	+1.405	12
South Africa	6	5	1	0	0	+2.032	10
New Zealand	6	4	2	0	0	+1.232	8
Australia	6	4	2	0	0	+0.970	8
Pakistan	7	3	4	0	0	-0.024	6
Afghanistan	6	3	3	0	0	-0.718	6
Sri Lanka	6	2	4	0	0	-0.275	4
Netherlands	6	2	4	0	0	-1.277	4
Bangladesh	7	1	6	0	0	-1.446	2
England	6	1	5	0	0	-1.652	2

ry, while raining sixes. Meanwhile, Shafique also brought up his fourth ODI fifty as the two openers went hell for leather against Bangladesh. The two batters formed a 128-run partnership for the opening wicket, before Shafique fell at the hands of Miraz in the 22nd over. Shafique scored 68 runs off 69 balls, smashing nine boundaries and two sixes. Pakistan captain Babar Azam failed to fire with the bat, as Miraz struck in the 27th over to send him back to the pavilion. However, Zaman continued his onslaught, keeping the pressure on the Bangla

Tigers. He missed out on his 11th ODI century, being dismissed by Miraz after scoring 87 runs off 74 deliveries, hitting three boundaries and seven maximums. **Mohammad Rizwan and Iftikhar Ahmed finished the game off for Pakistan, getting to the 205-run target in 32.3 overs. Brief scores:** Bangladesh 204 in 45.1 overs (Litton Das 45, Mahmudullah 56, Shakib Al Hasan 43; Shaheen Afridi 3/23, Mohammed Wasim 3/31, Haris Rauf 2/36) lost to Pakistan 205/3 (Abdullah Shafique 69, Fakhar zaman 81* Mehidy Hasan Miraz 3/60). - Agencies

ASIA QUALIFIER FINAL IN NEPAL

Ilyas' blitz powers Oman into semis

MUSCAT: Aqib Ilyas (63) smashed a 24-ball half-century as Oman overpowered Singapore by 22 runs for their second successive victory in a GroupA match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Asia Qualifier Final in Kirtipur, Nepal, on Tuesday. Batting first, Oman set up a formidable score of 174/6 and then restricted their rivals to 152/8. The win also secured Duleep Mendis-coached Oman side a place in the semi-finals following hosts Nepal's six-wicket win over Malaysia in the same group later on Tuesday. Both Singapore and Malaysia have yet to open their account and with a game left, Oman and Nepal advanced to the last-four stage with four points each respectively. The concluding GroupA league match between Oman and Nepal on Thursday will decide the group topper.

The winners of the semi-finals on Friday will secure a direct spot in the 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup, co-hosted by the USA and the West Indies. Oman currently lead Group A on better net run-rate (NRR) with 1.350 while Nepal have 1.322. The Group A topper will play the Group B second-placed team while the Group B leader will meet Group A runner-up team. After two rounds, UAE lead the Pool B with four points after their five-wicket win over Kuwait on Tuesday while Bahrain and Hong Kong have two points each. Kuwait have yet to open their account. On Tuesday, at the Tribhuvan University ground against Singapore, Oman were put to bat first. Openers KashyapPrajapati and Pratik Athavale gave the team a fast start but Prajapati departed in the fifth over with the total at 28. Ilyas along with Athavale then send the Singapore bowlers on a leather chase as they shared 50-run stand before Athavale was



dismissed for a 32-ball 42. Opening match hero and Oman skipper ZeeshanMaqsood and his deputy, Ilyas, then took on themselves to accelerate the scoring. Ilyas was in explosive form, blasting 50 in just 24 balls, and along with Maqsood shared a 69-run partnership before the latter departed for 17-ball 26, a knock that was studded with three

boundaries and a maximum. Ilyas continued to exhibit his vast range of strokes but in a bid for quick runs perished for a 35-ball 63. His innings had equal number of four boundaries and maximums. Oman finally managed to score 174/6. Janak Prakash, Ramesh Kalimuthu and Anish Paraam took two wickets each. Oman spinners Shakeel Ahmed

Duleep Mendis' men defeat Singapore to lead Group A after second successive win in the ICC T20 World Cup Asia Qualifier Final

and Maqsood stalled the Singapore chase as they dismissed the openers to leave them 42/2 in seven overs. Anish Paraam (26) and Surendran Chandramohan (41) provided a semblance of fight but Mohammed Nadeem broke the partnership when Paraam was caught by Ayaan Khan to leave Singapore 77/3 in the 12th over. Ilyas then got the crucial wicket of the dangerous-looking Chandramohan as the Singapore batter was hit wicket. Manpreet Singh's valiant 31 off 20 wasn't enough as seamers FayyazButt and Bilal Khan ran through the lower order to restrict them to 152/8. All the six Oman bowlers were among the wickets. Following the two impressive wins Oman will take on hosts Nepal with their confidence high in the concluding Pool A game on Thursday. **Brief scores:** Oman 174/6 (Pratik Athavale 42, Aqib Ilyas 63, ZeeshanMaqsood 26; Janak Prakash 2/22, Ramesh Kalimuthu 2/25, Anish Paraam 2/45) beat Singapore 152/8 (Anish Paraam 26, Surendran Chandramohan 41, Manpreet Singh 31; Bilal Khan 2/26, Fayyaz Butt 2/21, Shakeel Ahmed 1/21, ZeeshanMaqsood 1/18, Aqib Ilyas 1/32, Mohammed Nadeem 1/21).

FINAL ROUND IN SAHRAH

Al Harthy aims to end WEC season on a high



MUSCAT: Oman's ace racer Ahmad Al Harthy aims to end his 2023 FIA World Endurance Championship debut season on a high with a podium finish when the seventh and final round of the season concludes at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhrir on November 4. Oman Racing with TF Sport's Al Harthy has had a successful season in the world's premier endurance racing category, recording two podium finishes in the GTE Am class, including a sensational runner-up finish on his maiden appearance at the Le Mans 24 Hours. Backed by the Oman Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, OQ, Omantel and MHD-ITICS, Al Harthy hopes to finish among the top-three in the eight-hour race. Currently fifth in the GTE Am points standings, Al Harthy is just eight points shy of the coveted top three place. The competitiveness of Oman Racing's No.25 Aston Martin Vantage GTE has been hindered to a large extent by the category's Balance of Performance grading, which has had a major impact on the squad's challenge for the podium at recent races. At the last race in Fuji circuit

in Japan in September, a refueling problem during the race saw the squad take 13th position. In Bahrain, Al Harthy aims to seek the third podium finish of the year. The weekend will mark his first race in the Middle East since a season-best top four finish in the final event of the 2022 Asian Le Mans Series in Abu Dhabi. Speaking ahead of the Bahrain season finale, Al Harthy said: "It really has been a wonderful debut season for Oman Racing in FIA WEC. We've achieved some amazing results and I have been proud to represent Oman in the world's biggest endurance racing championship. "I think everyone at the team can feel incredibly proud of everything we've achieved so far this year. There have been ups and downs but we've continued to fight. We have one race to go and I really hope we can conclude the season with a podium finish. It would be incredible to end the year on a high." The opening free practice sessions will take place on Thursday. On Fridaythe third free practice will be followed by qualifying. The final race of the FIA WEC season is set for Saturday.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by December 2023 reaching \$88.52, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.16 from the price of Monday, which was \$89.68. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,545.46 points, up by 0.05 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.02 per cent at 437.94 points. Al Batinah Power, up 9.52 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 14.75 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman's production of refineries, petrochemicals rises by 13.8%

The production of regular gasoline (91) witnessed a 24.6 percent increase by the end of September, resulting in a 13 percent increase in sales and a 10.1 percent increase in exports

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman's production of refineries and petrochemicals recorded an increase by 13.8 per cent till the end of September 2023 compared to the corresponding period in 2022, according to preliminary statistics released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information.

The production of regular gasoline (91) witnessed a 24.6 percent increase by the end of September, resulting in a 13 percent increase in sales and a 10.1 percent increase in exports.

Additionally, liquefied petroleum gas, paraxylene, and gasoline

products recorded an increase in exports, with growth rates of 1089.1 percent, 956.2 percent and 288.1 percent, respectively.

The statistics indicate that the production of regular gasoline (91) reached 12,305,300 barrels by the end of September 2023, with sales amounting to 10,872,400 barrels. On the other hand, the production of premium gasoline (95) decreased by 17 percent, reaching 9,476,700 barrels, and its sales also decreased to 9,061,300 barrels.

The production of diesel fuel (gas oil) increased by 14.3 percent, reaching 26,573,700 barrels, with



sales amounting to 10,635,000 barrels. Furthermore, the production of jet fuel increased by 40.1 percent, totaling 8,091,000 barrels, with sales of 3,320,100 barrels. The production of liquefied petroleum gas increased by 31.4 percent, reaching 6,201,700 barrels.

Regarding petrochemicals, the production of benzene increased

by 204.8 percent, reaching 118,500 metric tonnes, while the production of paraxylene reached 398,000 metric tonnes, representing a 1256 percent increase. The production of polypropylene increased by 16.4 percent, amounting to 206,000 metric tonnes.

Oman's exports of gasoline (91) reached 1,222,000 barrels, while the

exports of premium gasoline (95) by the end of September 2023 amounted to 580,000 barrels, reflecting a 78.9 percent decrease compared to the same period in 2022.

The exports of diesel fuel (gas oil) reached 16,078,000 barrels, and the exports of jet fuel reached 4,814,000 barrels, indicating a 38.9 percent increase. Additionally, the

exports of liquefied petroleum gas reached 438,000 barrels.

The exports of paraxylene amounted to 401,200 metric tonnes, while the exports of benzene reached 121,700 metric tonnes. The exports of polypropylene increased by 18.2 percent, reaching 186,600 metric tonnes. - **ONA**

21ST MEETING



Discussion on successful experiences in housing field, sustainable smart cities

MUSCAT: GCC officials responsible for housing affairs held their 21st meeting in Muscat under the chairmanship of Dr. Khalfan Said Al Shuaili, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning.

The meeting discussed promoting the joint efforts of the GCC joint housing action march, as well as upgrading the level of cooperation, coordination and integration

in this field.

The meeting reviewed successful experiences in the field of housing and sustainable smart cities in the GCC states. It also discussed the potential of benefiting from conferences and workshops related to the field particularly the 1st GCC Housing Week which was held at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. - **ONA**

SEEKING TO GROW SME SECTOR

Bank Muscat organises seminar for Najahi business banking customers in Dhofar

MUSCAT: In line of its corporate vision "To serve you better, everyday" and commitment to enhancing and supporting the SMEs sector, Bank Muscat, the leading financial institution in the Sultanate of Oman, organised a seminar on "Secrets of Success - A Company's Transformational Journey Towards Growth" in the Wilayat of Salalah, with the attendance of a number of executive officers from the Bank and "Najahi" Business Banking customers from Dhofar.

Speaking on the occasion, Taya Eid Bait Sabaea, Deputy General Manager - Interior Regions, Bank Muscat, delivered a speech in which he expressed his gratitude for the active participation of entrepreneurs in the seminar organised for "Najahi" Business Banking customers.

During the speech, the Deputy



General Manager highlighted the prominent roles the SME sector plays in driving the Sultanate's economic growth, bringing about sustainable development and creating job opportunities for the Omani youth.

He also explained that the Bank Muscat's "Najahi" Business Banking provides great support to SMEs through a suite of products and services offered to cater the diverse needs of entrepreneurs and customers. Therefore, Taya

extended his thanks and appreciation to all SMEs for their constant trust in the support granted by Bank Muscat, having emphasized that the bank will continue providing the best services to its individual and institutional customers.

During the event, Ahmed Ndoom, an entrepreneurial consultant, delivered a workshop about "Secrets of Success - A Company's Transformational Journey Towards Growth" in which he illustrated the importance of Small-Medium Enterprises as a key player in the Sultanate's economic growth, having focused on a number of major subjects that were of high importance for entrepreneurs to expand their businesses. The seminar constituted a new step for ambitious entrepreneurs to develop their businesses and find solutions to the challenges facing the SME sector.

ISWA WORLD CONGRESS

be'ah inks agreements for waste recycling and resource optimisation

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Environmental Services Holding Company (be'ah) signed two agreements with Turbah and NTZ Solutions that are poised to revolutionise Oman's approach to waste recycling and resource optimisation. The exciting partnerships were officially announced during the ISWA 2023 World Congress that was held for the first time in the Middle East, hosted by be'ah.

Highlighting the far-reaching potential of these strategic partnerships, Hilal Al Noumani, Chief Operating Officer - Municipal Solid Waste at be'ah, stated, "These agreements are tangible steps in be'ah's journey to deliver its strategy and help realize Oman Vision 2040 and the national goal of Net Zero by 2050. Our partnerships with Turbah and NTZ Solutions are essential levers that we will fully utilize to uphold our commitment to sustainable waste management and environmental stewardship."

The agreement inked by be'ah is with Turbah, is to preserve natural resources by recycling shredded green and bulky waste materials into compost. This aligns seamlessly with be'ah's own environmental strategies and Oman's 2040 vision for sustainable waste management and resource optimisation. Through cutting-edge recycling techniques, be'ah and Turbah aim to advance circular



economy, reduce environmental impact, and contribute to environmental conservation.

Darren Olejnik, Founder and Managing Partner at "Turbah" emphasized the importance of this collaboration, saying, "This partnership aligns with our mission to produce sustainable, non-hazardous value-added products that cater to the growing demand for healthy soil and a diverse ecosystem. The ongoing support from be'ah stands as a testament to the holistic vision encapsulated in the 2040 vision, and the signing of this contract solidifies a lasting connection between our two organisations."

The second milestone agree-

ment was signed with NTZ Solutions for the recycling of green and bulky waste materials into biochar. This novel technology will revolutionise waste management practices and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, two objectives that will drive be'ah's mission. NTZ Solutions is set to establish the first biochar production facility in Oman, paving the way for sustainable waste management practices in the Sultanate and across the GCC region.

Sharifa Tahir Aidid, Chairman and Founder at "NTZ Solutions", shared her perspective on the collaboration with be'ah, stating, "This agreement with be'ah re-

fects our shared dedication to sustainable waste management practices, resource optimization, and environmental responsibility. As the inaugural biochar production facility in Oman, this project aims to set an example for other entities and countries in the region, in both sustainable waste management and the commercialisation potential of green projects."

Through these game-changing partnerships and by hosting the ISWA 2023 World Congress, be'ah is putting sustainability into action and showcasing its unwavering commitment to pioneering innovations in waste management and environmental stewardship.



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MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Al Batinah Power, up 9.52 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 14.75 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,545.46 points, up by 0.05 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.02 per cent at 437.94 points. Al Batinah Power, up 9.52 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 14.75 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of OQGN were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover. A total number of 2,412 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR5.07 million, with more than 31.48 million shares changing hands. Out of 40 traded securities, 15 advanced, 10 declined, and 15 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC and Arab investors were net sellers for OMR1.31 million while foreign investors were net buyers for OMR855,000, followed by domestic investors for OMR459,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 7,411.37 points, up 0.04 per cent. Prices of Global Financial Investments, and Bank Muscat were up by 1.82 per cent and 1.57 per cent respectively. Prices of United Finance, and Bank Nizwa were down by 1.82 per cent and 1.04 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 5,436.89 points, down 0.43 per cent. Prices of Oman Cables, Voltamp Energy, A'Saffa Foods, and Al Anwar Ceramics were up by 5.13 per cent, 1.77 per cent, 0.99 per cent and 0.57 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman Fisheries, Oman Cement, Construction Materials, and Galfar Engineering were down by 14.75 per cent, 9.75 per cent, 8.16 per cent and 0.64 per cent respectively. Services Index was down by 0.10 per cent before closing at 1,590.89 points. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

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EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,555.769	4,535.890	4,545.460	4,543.340	2.120	0.05
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,418.486	7,402.815	7,411.369	7,408.702	2.667	0.04
Industry Index	5,463.044	5,349.704	5,436.886	5,460.316	-23.430	-0.43
Services Index	1,595.333	1,588.439	1,590.895	1,592.544	-1.649	-0.10
MSX Shariah Index	438.677	435.092	437.942	437.855	0.087	0.02
MSX TR INDEX	5,998.218	5,972.044	5,984.645	5,981.854	2.791	0.05
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,094.931	8,075.730	8,087.165	8,084.254	2.911	0.04
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	5,835.890	5,714.815	5,807.947	5,832.977	-25.030	-0.43
SERVICES TR IDX	1,761.960	1,754.347	1,757.059	1,758.881	-1.822	-0.10

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
31,484,711	5,071,848	2,412	23,718,429,006	15	10	15	40

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (MR)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PAR. VALUE	SECURITY SYMBOL	MARKET CAP	
REGULAR MARKET																	
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	64,470	3,352	7	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.053	0.057	0.100	OEO	6,337,500	
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	10,000	2,922	4	0.300	0.300	0.287	0.287	0.318	-0.031	-0.748	0.287	0.290	0.310	0.100	OCOI	94,960,468
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	30,000	5,161	5	0.168	0.177	0.160	0.177	0.176	-0.001	0.568	0.177	0.160	0.177	0.100	AACT	38,940,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	19,000	3,730	4	0.200	0.200	0.190	0.190	0.200	-0.010	-5.000	0.190	0.192	0.200	0.100	AJSS	11,628,812
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	100,000	5,400	3	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.055	-0.001	-1.818	0.054	0.054	0.059	0.100	UFCL	19,230,474
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,813,174	468,080	102	0.255	0.259	0.255	0.258	0.254	-0.004	-1.575	0.258	0.279	0.258	0.100	BKMB	1,936,650,442
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	335,642	345,435	32	1.030	1.030	1.012	1.030	1.010	-0.020	-1.980	1.030	1.111	1.030	0.100	OTEL	772,500,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	66,200	3,705	4	0.056	0.056	0.055	0.056	0.055	-0.001	-1.818	0.056	0.055	0.060	0.100	GFIC	11,200,000
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	938,865	95,764	25	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.100	BKBS	557,724,627
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	207,258	66,381	11	0.320	0.320	0.319	0.320	0.320	0.000	0.000	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.100	ORDS	208,302,154
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	90,000	6,202	14	0.070	0.070	0.068	0.068	0.073	-0.005	-6.849	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.100	SMNP	13,575,221
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	15,662	3,314	9	0.212	0.212	0.200	0.212	0.212	0.000	0.000	0.212	0.200	0.212	0.100	AMCI	11,660,000
Total	12	3,690,611	1,009,447	220													

Parallel Market																	
OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	9,500	428	2	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.049	-0.004	-8.163	0.045	0.045	0.049	0.100	CMCI	2,812,500
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	361,093	44,720	27	0.124	0.126	0.123	0.124	0.124	0.000	0.000	0.124	0.125	0.126	0.100	RCCI	24,800,000
OM0000001426	OMAN REFRESHMENT	25	40	1	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600	0.000	0.000	1.600	1.600	1.600	0.100	ORCI	80,000,000
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	2,750	5,377	3	1.950	2.050	1.950	2.050	1.950	-0.100	-5.128	2.050	1.900	2.050	0.100	OCAI	183,885,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	103,000	7,474	11	0.073	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.073	0.000	0.000	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.100	AAIC	15,038,000
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	1,565	167	1	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.096	-0.004	-4.187	0.100	0.099	0.101	0.100	RACS	9,000,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	1,000	161	1	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.000	0.000	0.161	0.157	0.160	0.100	ABOB	978,294,832
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	3,000	666	1	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.000	0.000	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.100	GMPI	10,160,000
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	25	22	1	0.880	0.880	0.880	0.880	0.880	0.000	0.000	0.880	0.000	0.880	0.100	SOMS	83,600,000
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	18,350	5,563	4	0.300	0.307	0.300	0.307	0.304	-0.003	-0.987	0.307	0.307	0.307	0.100	SPFI	36,840,000
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	157,967	5,846	12	0.038	0.038	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.000	0.000	0.037	0.036	0.037	0.100	BWPC	5,920,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	22,000	3,432	6	0.156	0.156	0.156	0.156	0.157	-0.001	-0.637	0.156	0.153	0.156	0.100	GECS	31,665,886
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	698	80	3	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.113	-0.002	-1.770	0.115	0.114	0.124	0.100	VOES	9,361,316
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	1,387,958	131,538	67	0.096	0.096	0.094	0.095	0.096	-0.001	-1.042	0.095	0.094	0.095	0.100	BKNZ	212,510,538
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	10,000	1,060	1	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.102	0.106	0.100	SSPW	101,184,627
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	9,333	197	2	0.021	0.023	0.021	0.023	0.021	-0.002	-9.524	0.023	0.020	0.023	0.100	BATP	15,522,411
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	15,261	336	7	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.024	-0.002	-8.333	0.022	0.022	0.025	0.100	SUWP	15,716,939
OM0000005983	PHOENIX POWER	21,000	1,197	7	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.054	0.057	0.100	PHPC	83,368,283
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	65,500	5,346	2	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.081	-0.001	-1.235	0.082	0.081	0.082	0.100	MCDE	12,755,133
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	3,000	774	1	0.258	0.258	0.258	0.258	0.260	-0.002	-0.789	0.258	0.258	0.270	0.100	MSPW	18,160,620
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	1,500	149	1	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.095	-0.004	-4.211	0.099	0.095	0.099	0.100	AMAN	19,800,000
OM0000008447	OMAN RET FUND	2,000	162	1	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.080	-0.001	-1.250	0.081	0.081	0.085	0.100	OMRF	38,166,097
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	45,514	13,501	21	0.295	0.299	0.295	0.297	0.296	-0.001	-0.338	0.297	0.297	0.295	0.100	ABRJ	228,749,400
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	25,468,899	3,822,035	1,993	0.150	0.151	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.000	0.000	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.100	OQGN	649,593,588
Total	24	27,710,738	4,050,269	2,176													

ULTRA-MEGA ONSHORE PROJECT

L&T wins ultra-mega contract for its hydrocarbon business

DUBAI/RIYADH: The Hydrocarbon Business (L&T Energy Hydrocarbon – LTEH) of Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has secured Letter of Intent for yet another Ultra-Mega Onshore project from a prestigious client in the Middle East further to the recent Ultra-Mega project award for a Gas Compression plant. The scope of work comprises engineering, procurement, & construction for Gas Processing Plant consisting of Inlet Separation Facilities, Booster Compression System, Amine Gas Recovery Unit, Dehydration Unit, Mercury Removal Unit, NGL Recovery Unit and Sales Gas Compression System in new onshore facilities and its integration with existing Gas Processing Plants. Upbeat by the ultra-mega order win, L&T Chairman & Managing Director S N Subrahmanyam said, “This is a huge order that will not only strengthen our balance sheet



but also provide impetus to our demonstrated credentials in the Hydrocarbon EPC space. We are proud of our LTEH team.” Commenting on the recent ultra-mega award, Subramanian Sarma, Whole-time Director and Senior Executive Vice President (Energy), said, “In the ever-evolving landscape of the oil and gas sector, this twin win for LTEH demonstrates our execution and delivering capabilities of ultra-me-

ga projects. It drives us to constantly strive for excellence, to innovate, and to deliver solutions that exceed customer expectations.” Organised under Offshore, Onshore, Construction Services, Modular Fabrication and Advanced Value Engineering & Technology (AdVENT) verticals, LTEH offers integrated design-to-build solutions across the hydrocarbon sector to domestic and international customers.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Asyad Group signs investment partnership agreements with real estate development companies

MUSCAT: Asyad Group, represented by Oman Post and Asyad Express, has forged an investment partnership with Wujha Real Estate Development Company and Bayan Investment House. This initiative perfectly aligns with Asyad Group's strategy to actively involve the private sector in the development and investment of its assets. The signed agreements translate Asyad Group's comprehensive land investment strategy, strategically designed to enhance its assets through Design, Build, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) arrangements with private entities. As part of the agreements, the two real estate companies will invest in two of Asyad's strategically significant locations in the wilayats of Bausher and Al Amerat.



The agreements were signed by Sheikh Ibrahim Sultan Al Hosni, Acting CEO of Oman Post and Asyad Express, Sheikh Fahad Mohammed Al Khalili, CEO of Bayan Investment House and Ali Sultan Al Hashmi, CEO of Wujha Real Estate Development. - ONA

AWARDS CEREMONY

Omran excels at Urban October and First Gulf Housing Week

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran Group) highlighted its dedication to sustainability and urban development during Urban October and the First Gulf Housing Week, organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning. During an awards ceremony held in conjunction with the event, The Sustainable City - Yiti Project, a pinnacle of Omran Group's commitment to sustainability, was honoured with the prestigious GCC Housing Award. This significant recognition reflects the project's innovative sustainable solutions, effective management across economic, environmental, and social spheres, and its role in setting global benchmarks for sustainable development. Mohammed Khamis Al Ghufaili, Omran Group's Chief Operating Officer accepted the award on behalf of the group. Eng. Ammar Sulaiman Al Kharusi, Omran Group's Head of Development, further underscored the Group's commitment to sustainable urban development in his presentation. He highlighted the Yiti Integrated Tourism Development as a testament to the Group's mission of crafting modern communities, fostering significant investments, and de-



veloping innovative tourism destinations in alignment with Oman Vision 2040 and the National Tourism Strategy. The Sustainable City - Yiti

Project, spanning over a million square meters in the picturesque Muscat Governorate, stands as a holistic community that epitomises sustainable urban development.

With its adoption of innovative solutions for energy production, recycling, water management, and sustainable transportation, the project aligns with the goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2040, pursuant to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Moreover, the project highlighted its objectives and sustainable practices during the Gulf Housing Week exhibition, providing insights into its reliance on renewable energy sources, commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle, and dedication to maximising local value while fostering innovation.

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Kalyan Jewellers celebrates festive season with mega Diwali offers

The unique promotion aims to ensure that patrons maximise the value of jewellery purchases from Kalyan Jewellers, by getting free gold coins weighing up to 2 grams on their purchases above OMR600

MUSCAT: Kalyan Jewellers, one of the most trusted and leading jewellery brands, recently kicked off the festive celebrations with the launch of its mega Diwali offers campaign. As part of this, the jewellery brand has announced mega giveaways and bumper discounts for patrons.

The unique promotion aims to ensure that patrons maximise the value of jewellery purchases from Kalyan Jewellers, by getting free gold coins weighing up to 2 grams on their purchases above OMR600.

As part of these exciting offers, the brand has announced assured gold coin giveaways for patrons on



jewellery purchases worth OMR 350 and above. Kalyan Jewellers will be rewarding patrons with a 2 gram gold coin on every OMR 600 spent on diamond and polki jewellery, whereas a 1 gram gold coin on purchase of uncut/precious/platinum jewellery worth every OMR 600 OR purchase of diamond and polki jewellery valued above OMR

350. Furthermore, the company has announced half gram gold coin giveaways to patrons making gold jewellery purchases worth every OMR 600 or uncut/precious/platinum jewellery valued above OMR 350. The jewellery brand is also offering patrons with an assured gold coin on purchase of gold jewellery worth OMR 350 and above.

This exciting array of giveaway offers can be availed until December 24 across all its Oman outlets.

Speaking about the offer, Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director – Kalyan Jewellers said, “At Kalyan Jewellers, our commitment is to empower our customers by ensuring they derive maximum value from their purchases while

enjoying an exceptional shopping journey. In line with this, we are thrilled to introduce our Mega Diwali offers campaign, designed to help our patrons make the most of their jewellery purchases. We are confident that our customers will continue to show their unwavering love and support for Kalyan Jewellers, making this initiative

a big success.” Kalyan Jewellers is committed to providing exceptional experiences and fostering a sense of delight for its valued patrons. Customers can avail the exciting range of offers along with benefits of Kalyan’s 4-Level Assurance Certification on their jewellery purchases, ensuring a seamless service-backed shopping experience. The Kalyan Jewellers 4-Level Assurance Certificate, guarantees Purity, Free Lifetime Maintenance of ornaments, Detailed Product Information and Transparent Exchange and Buy-back policies. The certification is part of the brand’s commitment towards offering the very best to its loyalists.

Kalyan Jewellers offers popular house brands such as, Muhurat – Wedding Jewellery Line, Mudhra - handcrafted antique jewellery, Nimah – temple Jewellery, Glo – dancing diamonds, Ziah – Solitaire like diamond jewellery, Anokhi – uncut diamonds, Hera – daily wear diamonds, Rang – precious stones jewellery, and the recently launched Lila – coloured stones and diamond jewellery.

2050 NET ZERO TARGET

Renaissance Services partners with Omani SME Wakud

MUSCAT: In alignment with the Sultanate’s 2050 Net Zero target, Renaissance Services, the leading Omani Accommodation, Services Solutions and Integrated Facilities Management (IFM) provider has joined forces with local SME Wakud.

The collaboration involves conversion of Used Cooking Oil (UCO) from Renaissance’s industrial-scale central kitchens into biodiesel at Wakud’s state-of-the-art facility in Khazaen Industrial City. The partnership was initiated earlier this year by sending more than 9,000 litres of UCO to the Khazaen facility to be converted into biodiesel. Both partners plan to increase recycling of cooking oil in the coming months.

Biodiesel, which can be used in the industrial and transportation sectors, has efficiency similar to petroleum-based diesel and notably reduces emissions of major pollutants including Carbon Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxides (NOx). Typically, it can help in cutting carbon emissions by as much as 88% compared to fossil fuels. However, for biodiesel produced at Wakud, this rises to as much as 93% as all the energy needs of the entire facility are sourced from renewable solar power.

Speaking on the occasion, Stephen R Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Renaissance Services said: “We are pleased to partner with Wakud in line with the pillar of



Sustainable Environment envisioned by Oman Vision 2040 and the Sultanate’s Net Zero commitments, as recycling of UCO is one of the ways in which our Net Zero ambition and related targets can be achieved.

“Our growing collaboration with innovative Omani SMEs like Wakud represents a significant step forward in reducing envi-

ronmental impact and fostering a greener future for people in Oman, in line with our ‘safe, efficient, green and local’ company ethos.”

Maher Al Habsi, Managing Director, Wakud, said, “We are delighted to partner with Renaissance Services to convert UCO from the company’s operations in Oman into biodiesel, thereby increasing fuel efficiency, reducing carbon and minimising the release of dangerous pollutants like NOx and sulphur compounds. By partnering with other business and residential customers, we are confident of contributing to the goal of having a green and circular economy that addresses national needs and develops in line with global trends.”

CHERY TECH DAY

Chery’s super hybrid platform advances technological frontiers

MUSCAT: Recently during Chery Tech Day, Chery initiated the forward-looking technology strategy, exploring the technological development direction and future research layout under the tide of industry transformation.

In 2022, Chery Tech Day dedicated an exhibition area to “new energy,” displaying innovative technologies such as intelligent hybrid architecture and multi-functional skateboard platforms. This demonstrated Chery’s determination and confidence in leading the new energy race. In 2023, Chery’s Super Hybrid Platform and high-performance electric platform have been implemented in various vehicle models. Among the six major technical show areas of the “2023 Chery Tech Day,” the hybrid technology zone, electric technology zone, and battery zone have collectively showcased Chery’s technological breakthroughs in the field of new energy.

Chery’s Super Hybrid Platform, known as C-DM, has advanced further. It is equipped with Chery’s dedicated 1.5T hybrid engine, paired with Chery’s pioneering hybrid-specific 3-speed DHT gearbox, hybrid-specific three-element lithium battery pack, and battery management system. This achieves three core advantages: comprehensive high performance, sustained high energy



efficiency, and high battery safety. It boasts impressive performance metrics such as thermal efficiency exceeding 44.5%, accelerating from 0 to 100 kilometers per hour in 4.26 seconds, and achieving a super-fast charge from 30% to 80% in only 18 minutes. These enhancements contribute to an overall elevated user experience.

Through technological innovation, global attributes, and a focus on user experience, Chery showcased a wide array of achievements at the 2023 Chery Tech Day. This demonstration highlights Chery’s ongoing pursuit of self-improvement and innovation, with a commitment to lead-

ing the future development of the industry, and ultimately, providing a better driving experience for users worldwide.

Recently, Kantar and Google jointly released the 2023 Chinese Global Brand Builders Top 50. Chery is ranked as the best Chinese global brand builder in cars and 14th in the overall list and its brand power has achieved strong growth.

Chery Automobile took the first spot among all Chinese automotive brands in J.D. Power 2023 China Initial Quality StudySM(IQS).

In Oman, Chery will soon be launched by Saud Bahwan Group.

ENHANCED SECURITY AND REWARDS

BankDhofar introduces innovative vertical credit card

MUSCAT: BankDhofar announced the launch of its new Vertical Credit Cards, designed to meet the customers need. The vertical design offers a unique and modern look that is both stylish and functional. This reflects the bank’s commitment to deliver customer centric solutions made possible by listening to the needs of its customers.

The card is set to revolutionise the way our customers manage their finances. It offers a contemporary design, reflecting the convenience of ‘Tap and Go’ payments, thus enhancing their everyday banking experience. The vertical design is more ergonomic and easier to hold, making it ideal for one-handed use. It is also more secure, as the card number and other sensitive information are hidden



from view when the card is used for payment.

In response to changing customer preferences and spending patterns, especially in the post-COV-ID era, BankDhofar recognised the

growing demand for a more convenient and secure payment experience. To cater to these evolving expectations, the bank collaborated with a local Omani SME for the new card designs, where colour

scheme was chosen carefully to reflect the specific segment colours along with a wave pattern of silver to reflect the movement and endless possibilities. This not only reflects the dedication to understand

customer needs but also mirrors the spirit of Oman Vision 2040, emphasising the power of government and private partnerships.

In addition to enhanced design, BankDhofar’s vertical credit cards

reward customers for their everyday spending. Each transaction offers an opportunity to earn valuable rewards, ensuring that every purchase contributes to a brighter financial future.

BankDhofar’s cardholders will have a chance to be part of the credit card “Bonus Points” promotion campaign.

During this campaign for spend of OMR 200, Platinum cardholders can earn 3,000 bonus reward points (worth of OMR 30 which is equivalent to the card’s annual fee) and for spend of OMR 100 Gold cardholders will have the opportunity to earn 2,000 bonus points (worth of OMR 20 which is equivalent to the card’s annual fee). This campaign is valid till 30 November 2023.

ROUND-UP

Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital launches Breast Cancer Clinic

The launch of Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic is aimed at enhancing breast health care and its role in combating breast cancer on a local and global scale



MUSCAT: In a significant milestone for healthcare in Oman, Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital has today announced the launch of Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic for specialized breast cancer care. This state-of-the-art facility is dedicated to the early detection and comprehensive treatment of breast cancer and other breast-related ailments.

The launch of Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital's Breast Cancer Clinic comes at a crucial time when incidence of breast cancer

accounts for 12.5% of new annual cancer cases worldwide. In Oman, where breast cancer is the most prevalent cancer overall and particularly among women, the clinic's specialised services are of utmost importance. Notably, 31% of breast cancer cases in Oman are diagnosed at advanced stages, emphasising the need for early intervention and specialised care.

The Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic boasts of cutting-edge technologies and a team of expert

medical professionals dedicated to providing the highest standard of care. The clinic features advanced diagnostic technologies that include world-class breast mammography, ultrasound, and breast MRI machines. These critical tools play a pivotal role in ensuring early detection and precise diagnosis of breast-related issues. This launch of the Breast Cancer clinic heralds a new era in healthcare by offering a range of diagnostic and therapeutic services.

Commenting on the launch of the Breast Cancer Clinic, Dr Salim Al Rahbi, Consultant Breast Surgeon at Aster Al Royal Raffah Hospital, emphasized the clinic's dedication to providing comprehensive care for breast cancer patients. He said, "At Aster, we have observed that early diagnosis of breast cancer within patients can result in slower progression of the condition, along with better chances at survival. With 31% of breast cancer cases in Oman di-

agnosed at advanced stages, our specialized Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic is poised to become an integral support in early detection and comprehensive care for breast-related issues. Our clinic is committed to guiding patients through every step of their journey, from early diagnosis to surgery, ensuring that they receive the best possible care from our expert team of radiologists, oncologists, and surgeons. We are steadfast in our mission to improve outcomes and the overall well-being of our patients."

Dr AbhaSinghvi, Specialist – General Surgery, Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital, said "Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital has been at the forefront of providing top-notch healthcare services. The opening of the Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic underscores this commitment and signifies a significant enhancement in healthcare options, particularly in the field of breast health. We believe that our world-class team along with state-of-the-art facilities, will create a significant impact in the improvement of health outcomes for patients. From early detection to surgery and beyond, our dedicated team support patients every step of the way, ensuring they receive the best care for breast health.

The clinic also provides open

and guided biopsies, performed in collaboration with skilled interventional radiologists. This not only minimises patient discomfort but also enhances the accuracy of diagnoses. Additionally, the clinic is also well-equipped to address benign breast tumors, such as fibro adenoma, inflammatory breast conditions, and abscess.

For breast cancer care, the clinic offers an array of services including staging equipment, lymph node biopsies, and a comprehensive support system. With a team of highly specialized breast oncology consultants and dedicated nurses focusing on breast wound care and post-surgery support, patients can rest assured they will receive the highest level of care throughout their treatment journey. The Breast Cancer Clinic will be led by Dr Salin Al Rahbi and Dr Abha Singhvi.

Located within the 175-bed multispecialty tertiary care facility, Aster Al Raffah Breast Cancer Clinic is fully prepared to cater to Oman's population of 5 million.

The establishment of the Breast Cancer Clinic at Aster Royal Al Raffah Hospital reiterates the healthcare provider's commitment to the enhancement of healthcare in the Sultanate and the betterment of individuals facing breast cancer and other conditions.

RECOGNITION

Liva Insurance wins coveted 'Most Innovative Insurer Oman 2023' Award

MUSCAT: Setting new benchmarks in digitalisation and innovation, Liva Insurance has been awarded the title of 'Most Innovative Insurer Oman 2023' from the World Economic Magazine.

This prestigious accolade reflects the company's endeavours in offering digitised and innovative insurance solutions while enhancing the diversity and features of its products, ensuring to fulfil the evolving needs of its customer-base.

Aspiring to become the region's leading multi-line insurer, Liva has committed to continuously enhance the overall insurance experience for its customers. The company offers a broad suite of digitally enabled, customisable solutions across all lines of insurance, underpinned by exceptional services. Liva aims to instill confidence in people to live the life they want, well prepared for the unexpected, by creating an ecosystem beyond insurance that has customers' needs at its core.

This prestigious accolade reflects the company endeavours in offering digitised and innovative insurance solutions while enhancing the diversity and features of its products, ensuring to fulfil the evolving needs of its customer-base

On this remarkable accomplishment, Arif Al Zadjali, Head of IT at Liva Insurance, said, "We are delighted to receive this prestigious award as a testament to our commitment to progress the insurance industry in Oman through providing digital products and services that meet the needs of our customers. We place customer satisfaction at the utmost priority in our daily operations and services to ensure providing a seamless and

unique experience. Keeping pace with the latest technologies, Liva is relentlessly working on leveraging digital expertise and channels in their core operations and services, aiming to reach new heights in the insurance industry."

"Thanks to the unwavering dedication of our team, the company continues the success and growth journey. On behalf of the Board of Directors and all employees, we extend our appreciation to our val-

ued customers for their continued support and trust in our services and products. Positioning itself as a key contributor to the economic development of Oman, the company pursues its efforts to cater innovative insurance solutions to meet the aspirations and requirements of individuals," he said.

The World Economic Magazine Awards felicitates and honours diverse institutions across the globe for their exceptional performance and outstanding contributions. These awards showcase the extraordinary achievements of institutions that effectively drive positive impacts on the socio-economic scene.

Liva is a unique combination of two dynamic and award-winning companies with a collective experience of over 80 years, a shared vision, and highly complementary capabilities. Moving forward, the company aspires to be at the forefront of providing innovative insurance services and products that enhance the lives of its customers.

INITIATIVE



OAB marks Omani Tree Day as commitment to planting 5,000 trees continues

MUSCAT: As the Sultanate of Oman recognises Omani Tree Day, Oman Arab Bank (OAB) remains committed to support the nation's sustainability and environmental goals through its purpose-driven initiative 'Roots of Oman'. The initiative aims to plant 5,000 trees across the country by December 2023 as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations.

Sulaiman Al Harthi, CEO of OAB said: "Roots of Oman is part of OAB's concerted contributions towards pushing the nation forward to achieve its carbon neutral commitment by 2050. We are proud to encourage positive and far-reaching socially responsible action, both through the bank's campaigns and by encouraging citizens and residents alike throughout the Sultanate to join

us on this journey. Together, we can significantly help the environment and reduce our carbon footprint."

Roots of Oman was set in motion when trees were planted in the newly opened branch in Saada in Dhofar Governorate and Rustaq in Batinah Governorate as a symbol of the bank's commitment. OAB has also invited its staff, the bank's stakeholders and the public to join the tree planting initiative through a competition on social media, encouraging followers to share their tree-planting efforts using special hashtags #OABRootsofOman.

To date, Roots of Oman has seen many trees being planted across the nation, putting it on track to hit its target of 5,000 trees by the end of 2023.

EUROPCAR MOBILITY GROUP

Europcar MEAAPAC Conference concludes on high note in Bahrain

MUSCAT: Europcar Bahrain extended a warm welcome to the team from Europcar Mobility Group, headquartered in Paris & the Europcar Franchisee Partners from the Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific region for their Annual Conference in Bahrain.

Rating it a phenomenal success, over 70 delegates from the regions met on October 24 & 25 at The Gulf Hotel.

The Europcar MEA APAC Conference is a dynamic annual platform for the team at Europ-

car Mobility Group as well as its franchisee partners to network, exchange knowledge, discuss emerging trends, and forge valuable partnerships wrapped up successfully with industry peers gaining valuable insights and sharing best practices.

In addition to the live workshops held, it also included trainers that joined in through the online platform. Some important announcements were made and the group even got to engage in bespoke culinary delights in the capital.





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