

**FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS
IRANIAN COUNTERPART**

Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, met here with Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran. The meeting was held in New York on the sidelines of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. **>A5**



6 085010 120010



Founded 1975 · Volume 48 No. 144 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group

TIMESOFOMAN.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/TIMESOFOMAN

TWITTER.COM/TIMESOFOMAN

YOUTUBE.COM/USER/TIMESOFOMANONLINE

TIMESOFOMAN.COM/WHATSAPP

TIMESOFOMAN.COM/RSS

LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/TIMES-OF-OMAN

INSTAGRAM.COM/TIMESOFOMAN



T & C apply
Know more



Your reward is my reward

With Asalah & Al Jawhar Referral Offer



Bank Muscat. Better Everyday.

CABLES

His Majesty the Sultan sends greetings to Armenia, Malta, and Belize

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Vahagn Khachaturyan of the Republic of Armenia on his country's Independence Anniversary.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to President Khachaturyan. His Majesty also wished the people of Armenia further progress and prosperity.

Malta

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Dr. George Vella of the Republic of Malta on his country's Independence Anniversary.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to President Vella and the people of Malta.

Belize

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Froyla Tzalam, Governor General of Belize on her country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his heartfelt sentiments and best wishes to the Governor General and the people of Belize. — **ONA**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



**OMAN
Solomon Islands,
Oman establish ties**

1 The Sultanate of Oman and Solomon Islands signed a statement establishing diplomatic relations. The signing ceremony took place at the headquarters of the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations in New York. **>A3**

**OMAN
Oman praised for
combating NCDs**

2 The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Health, has received the United Nations' 2022 Award for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). **>A3**

**MARKET
Lulu Group opens
export hub in Italy**

3 To boost its sourcing operations and to bring in high quality products for its large chain of hypermarkets, Lulu Group opened its world-class sourcing, food processing & export hub in Italy. **>B1**



Over 924,000 tourists
visit Khareef Dhofar

A4

NEW ROADS TO BOOST CONNECTIVITY, TOURISM

OMR4mn will be spent on the design and construction of a road linking Wadi Bani Jaber from the centre of Sur wilayat

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (MTCIT) has announced that it will undertake several strategic road projects this year.

To tap the tourism potential of Wilayat of Sur in South Al Sharqiyah Governorate, the Secretariat General of the Tender Board has awarded a contract worth over OMR4 million for the design and construction of a road linking Wadi Bani Jaber from the centre of the Wilayat of Sur.

As Wadi Bani Jaber is one of the picturesque sites in South Al Sharqiyah Governorate with a fascinating mountainous area and attractive topography for nature lovers, the phase two of the project will boost local tourism.



Yousef bin Abdullah Al Me-jaini, Director of the Road Construction Department at the Directorate General of Roads and Land Transport at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology said that the phase two of the project involves the construction of a 6km long road.

The work of phase two of the project is expected to commence soon and will take one year to complete, he said.

He also stressed the economic value of the project as better road facilitates will give greater access to the area and facilitate inflow of tourists. Citizens can also visit

health centres, nearby villages and schools easily. He said that the road would contribute to the development of tourism in the area.

Abdullah bin Hamood Al Jabri, one of the citizens of the area said that the phase two of the project is vital as it would put an end to the suffering of dwellers of the area and facilitate their movement between villages.

It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology has completed the works of phase one of the project which is the road from Wadi Al Minqal to Wadi Bani Jaber in the Wilayat of Sur to serve several villages. **>A5**

Thai Weekend in Muscat by the Royal Thai Embassy

21 - 23 September 2023
05.00 pm - 10.00 pm. at
مسقط جراند مول
MUSCAT GRAND MALL

Enjoy Thai street food, cultural performances and Thai hospitality.

Register on-site to
WIN tickets to Thailand and much more!

#Thaifestmuscat
#Amazingthailand

JOIN US AT



OMAN

PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....12:05pm

Asr.....3:31pm

Maghrib.....6:10pm

Isha.....7:21pm

Fajr (Tomorrow).....4:40am

POSITIVE OUTCOME

Saudi Arabia praises Oman for help in Yemen peace talks

RIYADH: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has expressed its warm welcome for the positive outcome of discussions to reach a roadmap in Yemen, in which the Sultanate of Oman participated.

Peace path
The talks, held in Riyadh, support the peace path in Yemen.

In a statement issued by the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs today, Saudi Press Agency (SPA) outlined details of a meeting held by Saudi Defence Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman with the Sana'a delegation.

The meeting underscored Saudi Arabia's constant keenness to



encourage the Yemeni parties to engage in dialogue to hammer out a comprehensive and lasting political solution in Yemen under the auspices of the United Nations.

-UNA



RNO undertakes naval exercise

The drill will continue until 21 September, with the participation of crews from the ships of the RNO fleet, and the Royal Air Force of Oman and the Royal Oman Police



MUSCAT: The The Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) began yesterday the naval drill "Sea Lion 2/2023" in Al Batinah Naval Zone.

The naval drill, conducted with the support of the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO) and the Royal Oman Police (ROP), concludes on 21 September 2023.

Rear Admiral Saif Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman, and a number of senior officers in the Royal Navy of Oman, followed the exercise in

the naval theatre operations and listened to a briefing on the progress of the exercise, its means and methods of implementation in order to achieve the desired goals.

This exercise includes many naval military applications among the participating ships and crews in accordance with the plan drawn up for the exercise.

Live ammunition shooting was also witnessed at supposed naval targets, demonstrating the high levels and operational efficiency enjoyed by members of the Royal Navy of Oman.

The Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman praised the distin-

guished capabilities and competencies of members of the force in translating training programmes and plans into reality in line with the operational requirements of the Royal Navy of Oman to carry out the important national tasks it undertakes alongside the rest of the weapons of the Sultan's Armed Forces.

The implementation of this exercise comes within the framework of the annual training plans pursued by the Royal Navy of Oman to maintain the levels of readiness of its fleet and its members in various specialisations, in line with the national tasks assigned to it. -UNA

UNITS AVAILABLE:
APARTMENTS
» 1 BHK (102MSQ)
» 2 BHK 139MSQ)
» 3 BHK 163MSQ)
VILLAS
» 2 BHK (173MSQ)
» 4 BHK (259MSQ)

EVERYTHING AT YOUR DOORSTEP

AMENITIES:
3 Swimming Pools
2 Gyms
Basketball, Tennis & Squash Courts, Table tennis
Playground & Family Center
Restaurant

**A RESIDENTIAL
RESORT COMMUNITY**
Bausher
@dolphinvillageoman,
@dolphinvillage_club
www.facebook.com/DolphinVillage/
dolphinvillagemuscat.com

9488 6986 / 72744460

RED CHILLIES ENTERTAINMENT
PRESENTS

7TH SEPT.
HINDI • TAMIL • TELUGU

AN ATLEE FILM
PRODUCED BY GAURI KHAN
CO-PRODUCED BY GAURAV VERMA
AN ANIRUDH MUSICAL



Take advantage of Higher Profit Rates up to 3.75%

With High-Yield Savings Account

To apply, simply visit your nearest branch.



#MAISARAHOMAN

2477 5777 | www.maisarah-oman.com

[f/MaisarahOman](#) [@MaisarahIslamic](#) [@Maisarah.Islamic](#)

بنك إسلامي متقدم
Modern Islamic Banking Services

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Oman, Solomon Islands establish diplomatic ties

NEW YORK: The Sultanate of Oman and Solomon Islands on Wednesday signed a statement establishing diplomatic relations.

The signing ceremony took place at the headquarters of the Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations in New York.

The statement was signed by Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad al Busaidi and Jeremiah Manelli, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Solomon Islands. The two sides expressed their keenness to encourage diplomatic communication, commercial and economic cooperation, develop relations between the two countries' peoples and exchange expertise. -ONA



SIGNING CEREMONY: The agreement was signed by Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad al Busaidi and Jeremiah Manelli, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Solomon Islands. -ONA

Discussion on Privilege Card for GCC persons with disabilities

The Sultanate of Oman chaired the 9th meeting of the Ministerial Committee of GCC Ministers of Social Development and Social Affairs



Times News Service

MUSCAT: In a meeting, the GCC Ministers of Social Development and Social Affairs discussed the joint strategy on women's affairs, the dissemination of a Privilege Card for persons with disabilities in GCC states and the State of Kuwait's proposal to dedicate an award for outstanding people with disabilities in member states.

The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Social Development, yesterday chaired the 9th meeting of the Ministerial Committee of GCC Ministers of Social Development and Social Affairs, in Muscat.

The meeting discussed four main of topics, which were: The decision of the GCC Supreme Council on the Unified Law for

Empowering Persons with Disabilities; the Unified Law for Volunteering Action; the decision of the Ministerial Council on protecting moral, religious and family values in Gulf societies; and the decision of the Ministerial Council on endorsing the first initiative that stems from the GCC social development strategy aimed at devising unified policies on securing the stability of Gulf societies and instilling a spirit of Gulf citizenship and Arab and Islamic identity.

Oman's Social Development Minister Dr. Laila Ahmed Al Najjar, who chaired the meeting, gave a speech in which she said, "The current circumstances and rapid trends in daily life around the world produce many social issues and pose challenges that require our attention.

This is because such developments have direct and indirect impacts that may lead to radical and profound phenomena that affect the social system and challenge social values, family cohesion and the unity of the Gulf society."

Dr. Laila stressed the keenness of GCC states to address these challenges, provide social protection for various segments of society and ensure a decent living for Gulf citizens.

This, she added, can be achieved by utilising modern methods and technologies to collect data and draw up strategic and proactive plans. In this way, the authorities concerned would be able to control many social problems and phenomena in various sectors of social action, she explained. -ONA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Oman gets global acclaim for combating NCDs

NEW YORK: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Health, has received the United Nations' 2022 Award for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). The award reflects the UN's recognition of Oman's efforts to combat NCDs resulting from tobacco use.

It was unveiled on the sidelines of the 78th United Nations General Assembly meetings being held in New York.

The international award caps up the Health Ministry's commitment to multi-sectoral action to prevent and control NCDs, for example through the implementation of plain packaging for tobacco



products at the national level. The ministry's approach fits with sustainable development goals vis-à-

vis the control of NCDs in Oman.

The award was received via video call by Dr. Abdullah Hamoud Al Harthi, Senior Consultant in Trauma and Intensive Care Surgery at the Ministry of Health.

An accomplishment

The award was deemed an accomplishment to be added to the chain of achievements made by the Ministry of Health in Oman in various health fields.

It highlights the progress made by Oman within the context of the Renewed Renaissance and underscores the government's aspiration to be within the ranks of advanced countries. -ONA



TENDER NOTICE

Oman Water & Wastewater Services Company (NAMA WATER SERVICES) hereby announces the following Tenders: -

Tender No.	Description	Eligibility	Tender Fee (RO)	Last Date of Sale Tender Documents	Bid Submission Date
T/2484928/2023	Supply, Installation, and commissioning of Emergency Submersible Pumping System at Main Pumping Stations# 2&3 Seeb Area & CPS-Bousher Area	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	R.O. 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	06-11-2023
T/2487928/2023	Development of Internal Mobile App & Chatbot	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	RO 50/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	23-10-2023
T/2495935/2023	Provision of Services of Hydraulic Expert and Engineers	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	RO 50/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	30-10-2023
T/2495938/2023	PEST Control for Sewage Treatment Plants, Pumping Stations, TE Chambers and Sewer Manholes for Muscat Governorate	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	RO 50/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	23-10-2023
T/2481928/2023	Data Discovery and Classification Solution	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	RO 50/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	23-10-2023
T/2497935/2023	Rerouting of The Transmission Pipeline in Sini, Al Rustaq Wilayat in Al Batinah South Governorate	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned	RO 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	06-11-2023
T/2497934/2023	Expert Support Services for SCADA Systems	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and International Companies specialized in the works mentioned	RO 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	05-10-2023	06-11-2023

The tender document can be purchased from Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) e-tendering page (Supplier Login) from the date of publication of this announcement until 05/10/2023.

The applicants shall pay the tender fee through electronic payment gateway through Supplier Login. Applicants who are not registered with Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) shall register from <https://owwsc.nama.om/Business-with-Us/Vendor-Registration> to have the login credentials of Supplier portal. All applicants who have paid the tender fee shall have access to the Tender Documents through Nama Water Services e-tendering page (Supplier Login).

All participating Companies shall submit a Bid Bond of 1% of the bid value in a sealed envelope to Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) Chairman of Tender Committee not later than 3:00 pm on the bid submission date. Bid Bond must be obtained from a Bank registered in the Sultanate of Oman and it should be addressed in favour of Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services). The bid along with all required documents shall be uploaded through Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) e-tendering page not later than 3:00 pm on the date specified above.

For more details refer to Tender Page of our website www.owwsc.nama.om or Email to: tender@owwsc.nama.om



[X](#) [@](#) [f](#) [in](#) [v](#)
@nws_oman



1442
Call Center

Foreign Minister meets top officials on the sidelines of UNGA meeting

During the meetings, they reviewed the relations and cooperation between the two countries and means of enhancing them in various fields

NEW YORK: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister met here on Wednesday with Zbigniew Rau, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland.

The meeting, held at the headquarters of Oman's permanent mission to the United Nations (UN), comes on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, which is held in New York.

Sayyid Badr underscored the two countries keenness to enhance the existing relations and cooperation in various fields of interest.

The two sides also exchanged views on various regional and international matters of mutual interest.

Moreover, Sayyid Badr also met with Geir Pedersen, UN Special

Envoy for Syria.

During this meeting, the two sides exchanged views on efforts exerted to reach consensus regarding the Syrian crisis and to achieve aspirations of the people of Syria.

Further, the Foreign Minister met here today with Zambry Abdul Kadir, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.

The two ministers reviewed the relations and cooperation between the two countries and means of enhancing them in various fields. They also touched on developments on the regional and international arenas.

Meanwhile, Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister met with Fuad Hussein, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Iraq.

During this meeting, the two sides exchanged views on regional matters. They also highlighted priorities in the international sphere.

The two sides underlined the importance of committing to international law and the UN charter and maintaining the sovereignty and independence of countries in support of peace and stability regionally and internationally. They also expressed their keenness to develop bilateral cooperation.

Moreover, the meetings were attended by Dr. Mohammed Awad Al Hassan, Oman's Permanent Representative to the UN and several officials from both sides. -ONA



Over 924,000 tourists visit Khareef Dhofar by end of August 2023



DHOFAR: The number of visitors to Khareef Dhofar season (monsoon) since the beginning of the season till 31 August 2023 reached 924,127 visitors, up by 17% compared to the corresponding period in 2022 when the number stood at 792,980, according to the data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSD).

The data indicate that the number of Omani visitors increased by 16.4% to reach 656,119. GCC visitors reached 156,953 compared to 134,309 during the

same period in 2022. Meanwhile, visitors from other nationalities stood at 111,055, constituting a rise when compared to 95,017 visitors in the previous year.

As many as 714,520 visitors arrived to the Governorate of Dhofar through land port, while 209,607 visitors arrived through air flights, which comprised a rise by 36% to the number of arrivals through air flights during the corresponding period in 2022.

Moreover, 57% of Dhofar Khareef season's visitors arrived during the month of August. -ONA





Download the App NOW!



25% OFF
Dolphin Watching

PRESIDENT FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER

Germany has reached ‘a limit’ on migration

SICILY: Germany is facing difficulties in taking in more migrants, President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said on Wednesday.

“Germany, like Italy, is at the limit of its capacity,” Steinmeier said in an interview with Italian Newspaper Corriere della Sera, pointing out that Germany had received a third of all EU asylum requests in the first half of 2023.

The president acknowledged that both Italy and Germany had “heavy loads to bear” and called for a “fair distribution” of migratory burdens within Europe.

Steinmeier is starting his three-day visit to Italy on Wednesday, where he will meet with Italian President Sergio Mattarella and visit the southern Italian island of Sicily.

Italian authorities have recently started transferring some migrants to Sicily from the smaller island of Lampedusa, which is being overwhelmed by record arrival numbers.

To limit the number of people coming to Europe, Steinmeier said that “stronger controls and surveillance at our external borders” were needed.

The German president stressed his belief that Italy must not be left alone on questions of migration and thanked the country for having shown “so much humanitarian responsibility.”

Italy’s right-wing government has been criticised for passing decrees that curb migrants’ rights and hinder nonprofit rescue missions at sea. — **DW**



Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box 770,
Postal Code: 112

Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zedjali
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali
Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

India issues advisory for those considering travel to Canada

Indian nationals and students in Canada are advised to avoid travelling to regions and potential venues in Canada that have seen growing anti-India activities



been particularly advised to exercise extreme caution and remain vigilant.

Indian nationals and students in Canada must also register with the High Commission of India in Ottawa or the Consulates General of India in Toronto and Vancouver through their respective websites or the MADAD portal madad.gov.in. Registration would enable the High Commission and the Consulates General to better connect with Indian citizens in Canada in the event of any emergency or untoward incident, as per the MEA.

This comes amid growing tensions between India, Canada after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Monday accused the Indian government of being be-

hind the fatal shooting of Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Designated terrorist

Najjar, who was a designated terrorist in India, was gunned down outside a Gurdwara, in a parking area in Canada’s Surrey, British Columbia on June 18.

The MEA said in view of growing anti-India activities and politically condoned hate crimes and criminal violence in Canada, all Indian nationals there and those contemplating travel are urged to exercise utmost caution.

Recently, threats have particularly targeted Indian diplomats and sections of the Indian community who oppose the anti-India agenda, as per the MEA release.

MEA said India’s High Commission, Consulates General in Canada will continue to be in contact with the Canadian authorities to ensure the safety and well-being of the Indian community in Canada.

Canadian PM Trudeau on Monday claimed that his country’s national security officials had reasons to believe that “agents of the Indian government” carried out the killing of Khalistan Tiger force chief Hardeep Nijjar. This was followed by the expulsion of an Indian Diplomat from Canada. On Tuesday India responded rejecting the allegations of the Canadian PM calling them ‘absurd’ and ‘motivated’. This was followed by the expulsion of a senior Canadian diplomat from India. — **ANI**

‘Those responsible must be held accountable’: US envoy

NEW DELHI: Amid the India-Canada diplomatic standoff, US Ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti has said that perpetrators should be brought to justice and that there should be a space for investigation before a judgement is made.

Speaking at Ananta Centre in New Delhi in a conversation with senior journalist Indrani Bagchi, Garcetti said, “Those who are responsible must be held accountable. We hope that traditional friends and partners will cooperate in getting to the bottom of it.”

He said, “We care deeply for Canada just as we care deeply for India. And I think that moments like this don’t define our relationship. But they certainly can slow down progress. And they’re gut checks for everybody to say how do we interact with

each other? What do we stand for? How do we enforce ideas like sovereignty and international law? And what are our responsibilities to one another? And I’m sure somebody’s going to ask that question.”

“So let me just kind of say more of a statement that obviously any allegations like this should be troubling to anyone. But with an active criminal investigation, I hope that we can make sure that perpetrators are brought to justice and that we can all allow the space for that information and that investigation to occur before anybody leaps to judgment.”

“And to me, that’s the most important role. I think to each one of us sovereignty is a very important principle,” he further added.

— **ANI**

MOVE FORWARD PARTY



Thailand: What next for reformist Pita after failed PM bid?

JAKARTA: In May, the progressive Move Forward Party won Thailand’s general election and Pita Limjaroenrat was prime minister-elect. However, four months later, Pita has been suspended from parliamentary duties by Thailand’s constitutional court, and last week, resigned as Move Forward’s leader.

After winning on a reformist platform, Pita’s Move Forward Party set out to form a government in a coalition alliance with other parties.

But Move Forward’s pledged reforms, including amending the lese majeste law, which criminalises criticism of the monarchy, led to Thailand’s 250-member military appointed Senate blocking their attempts to form a coalition government.

Pita was suspended by Thailand’s Constitutional Court in July over allegations he violated election law by holding shares in a media company while running for office.

Pita has so far denied the charges, but with a trial date yet to be announced, the reformist decided it was right for him to step down as leader of the Move Forward Party so the party could name his successor to serve as Thailand’s opposition in parliament. Thailand’s constitution requires the opposition leader to be a current member of parliament. Despite his suspension, Pita insists he will not disappear from working with the Move Forward Party.

“I assure you all that whatever

my status is, I have not disappeared but will continue to work with the progressive party [Move Forward] and its brothers and sisters with all my might and ability to drive the change agenda we desire together,” Pita stated in his resignation post on Facebook.

Thitinan Pongsudhirak, a political analyst in Bangkok, told DW Pita’s decision to resign indicates the Move Forward Party doesn’t rely on him being their leader.

“Move Forward identifies with Pita, but this party is very horizontal. It’s not hierarchical. It’s not a top-down party, nor is it operated or supervised by a certain personality. His resignation shows that the party is much bigger than the individual,” he told DW.

“Somebody will come up and that person will be the next enemy of the establishment forces, but it’s not about the leader. It’s about the party and what it stands for,” he added.

Over 75% of Thailand’s population voted in May’s elections. The polls were seen as crucial for Thailand because of its recent political history, which has been marred by coups, protest and exiles. But after the Move Forward Party was blocked from leading government by the Thai Senate, Thailand’s government was formed by the Pheu Thai Party in a coalition with military-aligned parties.

Move Forward has called the governing coalition a “distortion” of the election outcome. — **DW**

NEGOTIATIONS

Yemen’s rebels optimistic after Saudi Arabia peace talks

SANAA: A delegation of Yemen’s Iran backed Houthis returned to Sanaa on Tuesday after five days of talks in Saudi Arabia.

Riyadh on Wednesday praised the “positive results” of the negotiations with the rebels without releasing many details on the discussions to end the war tearing Yemen apart.

The mediation was the latest hopeful sign since the Riyadh-led coalition in 2015 launched a military invasion in Yemen.

Among the rebels’ demands were the payment of salaries for Houthi appointed civil servants, the release of Houthi prisoners and the launch of new routes from the airport in Houthi-controlled Sanaa.

The Saudi Foreign Ministry released a statement welcoming the “positive result of the serious discussions regarding reaching a road map to support the peace path in Yemen.”

The Houthi delegation also met Saudi Arabia’s defense minister Prince Khalid bin Salman, brother of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

“I emphasised the kingdom’s support for Yemen and reaffirmed our commitment to promoting dialogue among all parties to reach a comprehensive political solution under UN supervision,” Prince Khalid said on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Ali al-Qhoom, a member of the Houthi political council said that the talks were “serious and positive.”

He elaborated on X that “there will be a renewed round of negotiations” but did not mention any concrete achievements that came out of the meeting.

Yemen plunged into conflict when the Houthis took over the capital in September 2014, ousting the internationally recognized government and prompting the Saudi-led coalition to launch its offensive. — **DW**

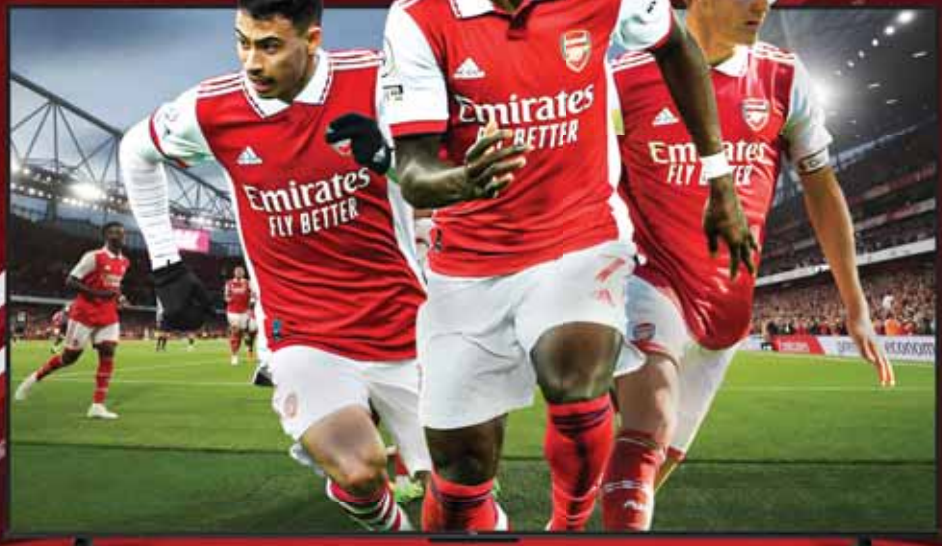


TCL

OFFICIAL REGIONAL PARTNER

INSPIRE GREATNESS

Available in
75" 65" 55"





Google TV



HDMI

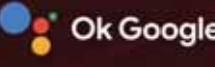
EDGELESS DESIGN



Dynamic Color Enhancement



Dolby AUDIO



Ok Google



جي نتكو
Genetco

C.R. No. 1009680
MUSCAT
96742452
Available at
Major Hypermarkets & Electronics Retailers

SALALAH
97924410, 94048494

www.genetco.net
@GenetcoOman
@GenetcoOman
Genetco Oman

SPORTS

ASIA CUP PERFORMANCE REWARDED

Siraj reclaims No.1 spot in ODI bowling rankings

DUBAI: India's pacer Mohammed Siraj is back as the No.1 ODI bowler in the world following his spectacular show in the Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka on Sunday.

This is the second time Siraj has been at the top of the table, having previously held the position between January and March 2023 before being displaced by Josh Hazlewood.

Siraj has climbed eight positions to the summit of the rankings following his Asia Cup haul of ten wickets at an average of 12.20. The highlight of that performance was the spell of 6 for 21 that dismantled Sri Lanka for 50 all out in the final. That spell - "like a dream", according to Siraj - included a four-wicket over, a feat only achieved three times in men's ODI history before.

Performances at the Asia Cup



also took Afghanistan spinners Mujeeb Ur Rahman (No.4) and Rashid Khan (No.5) into the top five. They took two wickets apiece in the group stage. Hazlewood (second) and Trent Boult (third) complete the top five.

Kuldeep Yadav, who took nine wickets at the Asia Cup with an average of 11.44 has dropped three places from sixth to ninth. Keshav Maharaj moves up from 25th to 15th after helping South Africa complete a 3-2 turnaround from 0-2 down against Australia. He took eight wickets in the series at 16.87 apiece, including 4 for 33 in the series decider.

Klaasen breaks into top ten
South Africa batter Heinrich Klaasen produced a blistering 83-

ball 174 against Australia in the fourth ODI, and as a result has jumped twenty places to No.9 on the ICC rankings for ODI batters. It was a record-breaking innings in the sense that no batter has ever scored as many runs in an ODI innings at the strike rate of Klaasen's (204) previously.

Over in England, Dawid Malan has moved to a career-best 13th in ODIs after top-scoring (277 runs) in the home ODI series against New Zealand. He averaged 92.33 with a strike rate of 105.72 and is currently the highest-ranked England batter. Ben Stokes jumped up to 36th after his blistering 182 at the Oval. The top three positions remain with Babar Azam, Shubman Gill and Rassie Van der Dussen following the latest update. - Agencies

**ARE YOU
TAKING LOAN?
BUY LIFE INSURANCE
TO PROTECT
THE MORTGAGE**



PROVIDING FLEXIBLE INSURANCE SOLUTIONS SINCE 1985
FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS, CHOOSE US

OMAN UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY SAOG
Post Box 1522, Ruwi, PC 112 Sultanate of Oman
24477300 | info@omanutd.com | www.omanutd.com



**Oman United
Insurance Co.**
SAOG

TO UNDERGO THUMB SURGERY

Injured Southee in doubt for World Cup

AUCKLAND: New Zealand all-rounder Tim Southee will undergo surgery on Thursday for the thumb injury he sustained against England last week but the selectors remain hopeful he could still be available for the World Cup.

Southee dislocated and fractured his right thumb attempting to take a catch at slip offered by Joe Root at Lord's.

A decision on his availability will be taken early next week.

"We've got our fingers crossed that the surgery goes well for Tim," head coach Gary Stead said.

"He'll have some pins or screws inserted in his right thumb and, providing the procedure is a success, it will be a matter of ensuring Tim can tolerate the pain and manage the actual wound when returning to train and play.

"Our opening game of the World Cup against England is not until Thursday October 5 in Ahmedabad, so that would be our logical target in terms of his availability.

"Tim's obviously a hugely experienced and important figure in our team and we want to give him every chance to be part of this World Cup campaign."

Southee is New Zealand's third-highest wicket-taker in ODIs with



214 at 33.60 and has played in three previous World Cups.

He was one of four specialist quicks named in New Zealand's squad alongside Trent Boult, Matt Henry and Lockie Ferguson.

Kane Williamson is also part of the squad as he returns from an ACL injury although when he becomes available is still uncertain.

New Zealand play two warm-up matches on September 29 against Pakistan and October 2 against South Africa.

Five of the World Cup squad are currently part of the ODI series in Bangladesh while the rest will depart for India next Tuesday. - Agencies

No.1
In Outdoor
Solutions

my
Garden

Think Outdoor, Think Danube Home

DESIGN SOLUTIONS | FROM START TO FINISH

250+
GARDEN
IDEAS

Design a
Sustainable
Garden

Our Reward Partner
Shop, Collect and Redeem.

أهلا
Ahlan

SCAN TO VIEW
THE E-CATALOGUE

DANUBE HOME
DESTINATION FOR HOME

AL KHUWAIR | MABELLAH | SOHAR | NIZWA | SALALAH | BARKA | SUR
Toll Free: 800-88876 Shop Instore & Online danubehome.com Follow us:

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by November 2023 reaching \$93.79, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.30 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$95.09. - OMA

MARKET BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,694.10 points, up by 0.14 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.38 per cent at 466.45 points. OIFC, up 2.70 per cent, was the top gainer while Dhofar Cattle Feed, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser.

Oman and Iran explore enhancing business, investment cooperation

During the meeting, they touched on investment opportunities and related information in a bid to attract Iranian investors to invest in Oman, especially in the fields of industry, tourism, mining, food security and logistics



Mine and Trade of the Islamic Republic of Iran and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed means of enhancing economic, business and investment relations between Oman and Iran, as well as boosting trade exchange. Further, they touched on investment opportunities and related information in a bid to attract Iranian investors to invest in Oman, especially in the fields

of industry, tourism, mining, food security and logistics. The two ministers also shed light on private-sector projects in the two countries.

Moreover, the meeting was attended by Dr Saleh Said Masn, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Ali Najafi Khoshroudi, Ambassador of Iran to Oman and officials from both sides. -OMA



MUSCAT: Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion met in his office with Abbas Aliabadi Minister of Industry,

BOARD MEETING



General framework of Opaz and its affiliated zones' 2024 annual plan approved

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Board of Directors of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) held its third meeting for the year 2023, chaired by Dr Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of the Board, at Opaz headquarters in Muscat.

During the meeting, the Board of Directors approved the general framework of Opaz's annual plan for 2024 and its affiliated zones, which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers.

The meeting touched on several subjects, including the regulation of the electricity sector in the Special Economic Zone

at Duqm (Sezad) between the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Zones and the Public Services Regulatory Authority. The Board also approved unifying usufruct fees for lands allocated to companies providing services in Sezad and directed Opaz Management to study the possibility of applying the same in all affiliated zones, in coordination with the zones' management.

The Board of Directors, further, discussed the requests submitted to extend the exemption period from paying usufruct fees for some local companies in the zones supervised by Opaz and actions were taken accordingly.

SOURCING OPERATIONS

Lulu Group opens sourcing, food processing and export hub in Italy

Times News Service

MILAN: To further boost its sourcing operations and to bring in high quality products for its large chain of hypermarkets, Abu Dhabi based retail giant Lulu Group yesterday officially opened its world-class sourcing, food processing & export hub in Italy.

Y International Italia, the sourcing division of Lulu Group was inaugurated by Guido Guidesi, Italian Minister of Economic Development in the presence of Yusuffali MA, Chairman and Managing Director of Lulu Group. Also present on the occasion were Roberto Rizzardo, Head of FDI Department of Invitalia, Valerio Soldani, Director of Italian Trade Agency, Naser Al Khaja, Charge d'affaires at the UAE Embassy in Italy, Dr Nasser Al Balooshi, Bahrain Ambassador to Italy, Cesare Trevisani, Chairman of Arab Chamber of Commerce of Italy, Mohamed Althaf, Director of Lulu Group, Allesandro Simone, Country Head of Lulu Group in Italy and other officials.

This move by the Lulu Group will further boost its sourcing operations not only from Italy but also from nearby European countries to ensure uninterrupted supply and price stability of food products.

Ideally located at World Trade



Center Malpensa Airport in Milan, the state-of-the-art facility will primarily focus on sourcing, processing, storing, packaging and exporting of top quality food products from Italy to more than 255 Lulu Hypermarkets spread across GCC countries, Egypt, India, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The focus categories will be varieties of cheeses, chocolates, fruit jams, sweet and puff pastries, organic pasta, infused extra-virgin olive oil, high-quality sea-salt from well-known Italian brands. Apart from packed food the centre will also source and export a wide range of fruits and

vegetables mainly apples, grapes, kiwi, olives, etc.

Chief Guest, Guidesi expressed his excitement about having Lulu Group's new project in Italy and assured the highest level of support and cooperation that will further enhance trade ties between Italy and the Arab world.

Speaking at the inauguration, Yusuffali MA, Chairman of Lulu Group said "As a key partner in the "food security" sector in the Middle East, it is our ongoing strategy to set up our own sourcing & food processing units around the world to ensure uninterrupted supply and ensure competitive pricing by

eliminating middlemen.

"Italy has some unique cuisines, a vast variety of fruits, vegetables and various commodities and we are working closely with the Italian Trade Agency to boost the export of these products to our hypermarkets. We will be working closely with all stakeholders to promote the Italian brands by organizing "Italian Food Festivals" across our hypermarkets" said Yusuffali.

"We will be initially exporting worth € 50 million and expect to reach € 200 million in 2 years. We are tying up with farmers' cooperative societies to source fruits & vegetables, which will surely have a very positive impact on the Agricultural sector of Italy. In addition, this project will also generate significant employment in Italy," added Yusuffali.

Headquartered in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, Lulu Group has an annual turnover of \$8 billion and employs over 65,000 people from 43 different countries ranked as the No.1 retailer in the Middle East & North Africa region and as one of the Top 50 fastest growing retailers in the world by Deloitte.

Lulu Group has similar food processing centres in the UK, USA, Spain, Turkey, Vietnam, Thailand, China and South Africa among others.

SECOND MEETING

Omani-British Strategic Advisory meeting aims to achieve investment and financial goals

LONDON: The Omani-British Strategic Advisory Group concluded its second meeting of the year in London. The meet aimed at enhancing relations between the two countries and achieving the joint financial, investment and economic goals.

The Omani side was chaired by Nassir Khamis Al Ghashmi, Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance and the General Supervisor of the National Programme for Fiscal Sustainability. Meanwhile, the British side was chaired by Lord Gerry Grimstone.

Al Jashmi underlined the importance of the Advisory Group's role in identifying areas of cooperation between Oman and the United Kingdom. He commended the progress made in various areas of cooperation since its establishment, stressing the need for further efforts towards more success.

The meeting discussed Oman's



approach towards clean energy and achieving zero neutrality in 2050, in light of the two countries' approach to building a firm base for a sustainable economy.

The two sides touched on the co-

operation mechanism to prepare for attending the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28), scheduled to be held next November in the

United Arab Emirates.

On the sidelines of the meetings, the Omani delegation went on a tour of some financial institutions, such as the British Growth Fund and the London Stock Exchange. -OMA

CORPORATE OFFICE



DHL Global Forwarding opens new future-ready office in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: DHL Global Forwarding is expanding its business operations in Oman with the opening of a new corporate office in the Qurum district of the capital, Muscat. This is DHL's fifth office in the Sultanate of Oman. The new office opening is part of the company's wider strategy to strengthen its footprint in the region.

The new office was inaugu-

rated by Sheikah Amal Suhail Bahwan, Vice Chairperson of Suhail Bahwan Group (Oman JV partner), together with Amadou Diallo, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding, Middle East, and Africa (MEA) and other guests.

Amadou Diallo, said: "DHL Global Forwarding is focused on developing in-country value by expanding the scope of our services in various parts of the MEA. The Oman office is one of the most state-of-the-art in the region."

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

OIFC, up 2.70 per cent, was the top gainer while Dhofar Cattle Feed, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,694.10 points, up by 0.14 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.38 per cent at 466.45 points. OIFC, up 2.70 per cent, was the top gainer while Dhofar Cattle Feed, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Bank Nizwa were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Oman Telecom were the most active in terms of turnover. A total number of 530 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR2.99 million, with more than 10.15 million shares changing hands. Out of 43 traded securities, 10 advanced, 18 declined, and 15 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for OMR263,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR181,000, followed by foreign investors for OMR82,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,604.84 points, up 0.05 per cent. Prices of Taageer Finance, Ahli Bank, Bank Nizwa were up by 2.20 per cent, 1.23 per cent, 1.03 per cent respectively. Prices of Al Madina Investments, Muscat Finance, Oman United Insurance, Al Anwar Investment, Al Madina Takaful were up by 8.82 per cent, 1.89 per cent, 1.83 per cent, 1.32 per cent, 1.18 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 5,673.19 points, down 0.64 per cent. Prices of Oman Cables Industry, Oman Chromite were up by 1.01 per cent, 0.17 per cent respectively. Prices of Dhofar Cattle Feed, Voltamp Energy, Raysut Cement, Gulf Mushroom Products, Galfar Engineering were up by 10.00 per cent, 8.48 per cent, 4.00 per cent, 1.79 per cent, 0.65 per cent respectively. Services Index was down by 0.18 per cent before closing at 1,609.98 points. — **United Securities**

AN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,694.10	4,673.57	4,694.10	4,687.58	6.52	0.14
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,615.05	7,581.34	7,604.84	7,600.97	3.88	0.05
Industry Index	5,712.66	5,673.19	5,673.19	5,709.90	-36.71	-0.64
Services Index	1,612.88	1,605.79	1,609.98	1,612.89	-2.90	-0.18
MSX Shariah Index	468.27	465.27	466.45	468.23	-1.77	-0.38
MSX TR INDEX	6,180.35	6,153.31	6,180.35	6,171.76	8.58	0.14
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,309.42	8,272.64	8,298.28	8,294.05	4.23	0.05
SERVICES TR IDX	1,781.34	1,773.51	1,778.14	1,781.35	-3.21	-0.18
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,102.54	6,060.38	6,060.38	6,099.60	-39.22	-0.64

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
10,150,044	2,994,086	530	23,673,962,429	10	18	15	43

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFR	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP	
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INVESTMENT	234,792	24,651	18	0.104	0.105	0.104	0.105	0.104	0.001	0.962	0.105	0.105	0.108	0.100	15,750,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	936,047	358,020	40	0.380	0.384	0.380	0.384	0.382	0.002	0.524	0.384	0.384	0.390	0.100	249,962,584
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	1,220,784	1,226,576	56	1.000	1.007	1.000	1.007	1.005	0.002	0.199	1.007	1.008	1.007	0.100	755,250,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	386,700	152,373	29	0.399	0.399	0.394	0.394	0.394	0.000	0.000	0.394	0.394	0.394	0.100	263,335,978
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	14,000	896	2	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.000	0.000	0.064	0.064	0.065	0.100	7,800,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	202,500	38,085	7	0.188	0.190	0.188	0.190	0.190	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.190	0.197	0.100	41,800,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	22,800	1,277	2	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.000	0.000	0.056	0.056	0.057	0.100	19,943,129
OM0000003000	AI MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	3,271	3,271	6	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.100	69,000,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	10,000	570	1	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.057	0.058	0.100	11,400,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	250,000	102,500	7	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.000	0.000	0.410	0.408	0.410	0.100	96,928,100
OM0000003368	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	1,065,663	110,659	47	0.104	0.104	0.103	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.104	0.103	0.104	0.100	569,660,404
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,672,172	474,639	80	0.282	0.285	0.282	0.284	0.285	-0.001	-0.351	0.284	0.284	0.284	0.100	2,131,816,766
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	82,980	6,970	6	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.085	-0.001	-1.176	0.084	0.084	0.089	0.100	14,700,000
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	54,600	3,665	11	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.068	-0.001	-1.471	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.100	13,375,585
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	6,220	1,678	2	0.270	0.270	0.269	0.269	0.274	-0.005	-1.825	0.269	0.269	0.280	0.100	26,900,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	13,398	2,882	3	0.220	0.220	0.210	0.210	0.220	-0.010	-4.545	0.210	0.200	0.216	0.100	12,852,897
Total	16	6,175,927	2,508,743	317												
Parallel Market																
OM0000003281	TAAGEER FINANCE	292,000	27,306	11	0.093	0.094	0.093	0.093	0.091	0.002	2.198	0.093	0.091	0.094	0.100	24,536,658
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	100,500	5,734	5	0.055	0.058	0.055	0.058	0.057	0.001	1.754	0.058	0.052	0.055	0.100	84,830,885
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	296,000	48,793	7	0.163	0.165	0.163	0.165	0.163	0.002	1.227	0.165	0.162	0.170	0.100	387,693,482
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	2,373,028	230,431	67	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.097	0.001	1.031	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.100	219,221,397
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	500	1,000	1	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	1.980	0.020	0.100	2.000	0.000	1.980	0.100	179,400,000
OM0000001020	OMAN CHROMITE	164	840	2	5.000	5.199	5.000	5.199	5.190	0.009	0.173	5.199	5.000	5.195	0.100	15,597,000
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	80	72	1	0.896	0.896	0.896	0.896	0.896	0.000	0.000	0.896	0.896	0.941	0.100	85,120,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	35,655	749	4	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.019	0.021	0.100	15,002,533
OM0000008447	OMAN RET FUND	41,859	3,432	4	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.082	0.089	0.100	38,637,284
OM0000009710	BARKA DESALINATION	1,090	129	1	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.129	0.000	0.000	0.129	0.000	0.129	0.100	3,742,338
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	172,551	50,538	43	0.292	0.294	0.292	0.293	0.293	0.000	0.000	0.293	0.293	0.294	0.100	225,668,600
OM0000003821	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	55,000	8,470	4	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.155	-0.001	-0.645	0.154	0.147	0.155	0.100	31,259,913
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	36,974	2,792	9	0.076	0.076	0.075	0.076	0.076	-0.001	-1.316	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	15,450,000
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	35,593	7,860	8	0.222	0.222	0.220	0.220	0.224	-0.004	-1.786	0.220	0.215	0.224	0.100	10,068,476
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	60,000	3,120	3	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.053	-0.001	-1.887	0.052	0.050	0.053	0.100	15,971,609
OM0000004735	SEMBORIP SALALAH	3,000	279	3	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.095	-0.002	-2.105	0.093	0.089	0.092	0.100	88,775,191
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	91,800	11,324	7	0.125	0.125	0.120	0.120	0.125	-0.005	-4.000	0.120	0.120	0.124	0.100	24,000,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	500	11	1	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.022	-0.001	-4.545	0.021	0.020	0.021	0.100	14,172,636
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	1,600	59	2	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.039	-0.002	-5.128	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.100	5,920,000
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	74,462	6,325	9	0.087	0.087	0.084	0.084	0.089	-0.005	-5.618	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.100	13,066,234
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	741	80	1	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.118	-0.100	-8.475	0.108	0.109	0.115	0.100	8,791,497
OM0000001982	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	6,475	201	2	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.034	-0.003	-8.824	0.031	0.031	0.034	0.100	2,635,000
OM0000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	15,000	810	1	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.060	-0.006	-10.000	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.100	10,674,554
Total	23	3,694,482	410,354	196												

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FIRM

Arcapita exits its US Student Housing Portfolio II

SOUTH CAROLINA: Arcapita Group Holdings Limited ("Arcapita"), the global alternative investment firm, announced its exit from ARC US Student Housing Portfolio II, which consists of a student housing community serving Clemson University, the second largest university in South Carolina, United States.

The portfolio was acquired by Core Spaces, a vertically integrated owner of student housing properties. This transaction marks Arcapita's second student housing exit in 18 months, for a total transaction value of more than \$175 million during this period.

Arcapita's student housing strategy has proven to be resilient against macro factors, such as the pandemic and global economic volatility. Due to Arcapita's targeted approach to campus selection, the portfolio witnessed both strong occupancy levels and rent growth driven by pent-up demand for an on-campus experience from both domestic and international students.



Over the three-year holding period, Arcapita and its operating partner implemented a business plan that was driven by unit and amenity renovations and enhanced marketing initiatives to achieve occupancy and rental growth. The renovations were delivered on budget and ahead of schedule, while the Portfolio's occupancy level and rent collection rate were maintained at near 100% throughout the investment holding period. As a result, net operat-

ing income grew at a CAGR of 9.4% since the acquisition.

Brian Hebb, Managing Director and Head of US Real Estate, said: "The positive performance of our rental housing and industrial real estate portfolio in recent years and throughout the pandemic has re-affirmed our investment strategy. Despite recent challenges, the US real estate market continues to demonstrate favourable investment conditions, especially on the back of an improving macro environment in

the world's largest economy."

Ahmed Al Shirawi, Managing Director and Deputy Head of Investors Relationship Management, said: "The success of our second student housing exit in 18 months is a reflection of the strength and resilience of our US real estate strategy. We continue to view student housing as a key component of our US rental housing focus, providing significant downside protection and compelling returns for our clients and investors."

INSIGHTFUL FORUM

Ominvest exchanges governance knowledge with experts in forum

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman International Development and Investment Co. SAOG (Ominvest), the leading investment company in the Sultanate of Oman listed in the Muscat Stock Exchange, participated in an insightful forum titled 'Strategic Project Management within the Concept of Good Governance' organised by the References for Conferences and Seminars Center, Salalah in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour.

The forums served as a platform for governance experts and professionals within the Sultanate of Oman and abroad to engage and exchange experiences and ideas, and further explore progressive approaches to governance across different industries and sectors. The forum also touched upon the effects of good governance in relation to strategic project management and sustainable development.



3 IN A ROW FOR SEEB



GOALS SCORED (FOURTH ROUND)

3-1

BIGGEST WIN MARGIN (FOURTH ROUND)

Former champions
Seeb continue their
winning streak while
Sohar keep their top
spot after the fourth
round of 2023-24
Omantel League

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Seeb's excellent start to the 2023-23 Omantel League season continued as the former champions registered a convincing 2-0 win over Al Rustaq on Tuesday night at the Al Rustaq Sports Complex.

A goal in each half ensured that Seeb maintained their winning streak with the third victory in a row in the top-flight league to close in on leaders Sohar with a game in hand.

Seeb's former Oman international Ali Al Busaidi drew the first blood in the 31st minute with a stunning long-ranger from the top of the box to beat the diving Rustaq custodian to go into the break with a 1-0 lead.

Coached by Brazilian Jorvan Vieira, Seeb established their supremacy soon after the resumption with Mohammed Ramadan leaping high to nod in the second goal following a cross from the left flank.

With three wins in a row, Seeb have collected nine points and trail leaders Sohar by just one point. The Batinah club have made a strong start to the season and have 10 points from four matches, following their convincing 3-1 win over bottom-placed Al Wahda in the fourth round on Sunday.

Omantel League action resumed on Sunday after August 31 following the international FIFA Days break and

ROUND FOUR RESULTS

Seeb-2 Al Rustaq-0
Dhofar-1 Bahla-0
Al Nasr-1 Ibri-0

Sohar-3 Al Wahda-1
Oman-1 Al Shabab-0



Sohar's ensured they are on top with a rampant victory.

Sohar have been the most aggressive team this season so far, finding the net of their rivals ten times. On the other hand, second-placed Seeb have displayed the tightest defence as they have yet to concede any goal so far.

Mohsin Jawhar put Sohar ahead as early as in the fifth minute at the Sur Sports Complex against Al Wahda and then scored his second goal eight minutes later when he converted a penalty kick. Sohar led 2-0 at the interval and soon after the break made it 3-0 through Abdullah Al Shibli. Al Wahda, which have so far conceded 11 goals in their four matches got a consolation goal when Hamed Al Mukhaini found the target.

Defending champions Al Nahda were not in action this week as they played the AFC Cup match against Lebanon's Al Ahed that

ended in the Oman club's defeat.

Record 11-time winners Dhofar returned to winning ways, having lost their previous encounter to Sohar, with a narrow 1-0 win over Bahla at the Al Saada Sports Complex in Salalah. Playing at home, the all-important goal for Dhofar was scored off a penalty kick in the last quarter of the match through Moataz Saleh.

The win was a winning start for new Dhofar coach and former Oman great Younis Aman as they climbed to fourth spot with six points with two wins and two defeats.

Oman have also six points after their 1-0 win over Al Shabab on Sunday at the Seeb Sports Complex.

Another Salalah heavyweights, Al Nasr, recorded their first win of the season, with a 1-0 win over Ibri at the Ibri Youth Sports Complex Club on Monday. The match was



OMANTEL LEAGUE TABLE- WEEK 4

CLUB	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Sohar	4	3	1	0	10	2	10
Seeb	3	3	0	0	5	0	9
Al Nahda	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Dhofar	4	2	0	2	4	4	6
Oman	4	2	0	2	3	6	6
Sur 3	1	2	0	5	4	5	
Bahla	4	1	1	2	2	3	4
Al Nasr	4	1	1	2	1	2	4
Al Rustaq	4	0	3	1	2	4	3
Ibri 3	1	0	2	2	4	3	
Al Shabab	4	0	2	2	1	3	2
Al Wahda	4	0	1	3	4	11	1

P: Played, W: Win, D: Draw, L: Loss, GF: Goals for, GA: Goals against, PTS: Points

Muscat International Unity Youth Cup to be held from October 12

The three-day football event is expected to feature 50 teams in five categories from leading private football academies in GCC region

Times News Service

MUSCAT: It will be a stage where the young talent will perform and try to outshine each other. Nearly 50 football teams with players from the age of nine to 17 years will feature in the Muscat International Unity Youth Cup, to be held in Muscat from October 12-14.

The tournament, jointly organised by Muscat Football Academy (MFA) and Premier Sports, in cooperation with Oman Football Association (OFA), is expected to attract all the leading private football academies from the region with confirmation already received from academies based in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait and Qatar.

At a press conference held at Grand Hormuz on Wednesday, Chuck Martini, MFA owner, said: "This would be a platform for youngsters to showcase their talent. We are delighted to get the



backing of the Oman Football Association for the first time. The three-day event will be held at two venues with the first two days action to be held at Cheltenham Muscat and the grand finale concluding with a full-day affair at the majestic Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex.

"It will be a dream come true for a lot of the youngsters to play and display their skills at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex. It is the venue where our national team heroes and many top international

teams have played. To play at the same venue on the final day will be something special."

The Unity Youth Cup will bring together young players from neighbouring countries including teams from Manchester City, PSG, Barcelona, Evolution and Juventus academies.

The tournament will feature five categories - under-9, under-11, under-13, under-15 and under-17. Except for the under-17 and under-15 competitions, which will be played in 11-a-side and nine-a-side



formats respectively, the other categories will be eight-a-side format.

This Unity Youth Cup is part of the grassroots development programme under the world football governing body, FIFA, and will bring out the best of talent in Oman, who will get an opportunity to compete against leading academies from the region.

Martini said: "The youth tournament will bring in hundreds of players and their parents from the neighbouring countries and we are committed to make it

a top-class event."

He added: "All the participating teams will be put up in one hotel, Grand Hormuz, and we are in talks with Mwasalat for transportation of teams to the venues."

Martini said: "Premier Sports is a company I have formed, and it has got the nod to conduct international youth tournaments from OFA and the Ministry of Tourism.

He added: "Majority of the private football academies in Oman have expressed interest to compete in this tournament. We

have not invited the Oman national U17 team as this event is restricted to private sector and private football academies."

The top-three teams in each category will be awarded besides individual awards to best player in each category, best goalkeeper and top goal-scorer.

Martini said he hoped that the Unity Youth Cup would be an annual affair and thanked OFA general secretary Mohammed al Yahmadi and OFA technical director Sghaier Zouita for their support.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Alvarez stars for City; Felix shines for Barca

LONDON: Holders Manchester City came from behind and Julian Alvarez scored two second-half goals as Pep Guardiola's men began the defence of their Champions League title with a 3-1 win against Serbian champions Red Star Belgrade in a Group G match at Etihad Stadium in Manchester on Tuesday.

European Cup winners themselves in 1991, Red Star threatened a famous win when Osman Bukari put them in front at the end of the first-half.

But City took less than 90 seconds to level after the restart as Alvarez raced onto Erling Haaland's return pass, rounded Red Star keeper Omri Glazer with a superb piece of deception and squeezed the ball home from a tight angle while still running at full speed.

Glazer spoiled an otherwise superb performance 13 minutes later when he went to punch Alvarez's free-kick away from danger but instead got only the faintest touch on the ball which did not divert it away from the far corner.

Rodri's last European goal was the historic effort that secured the trophy against Inter Milan in June.

The Spain midfielder ensured City took a successful first step towards this season's final at Wembley by scoring their third as he advanced unchecked into the Red Star box and guided a precise shot into the bottom corner.

The hosts deserved their win - by the final whistle they had amassed 77 percent possession and had an incredible 37 shots to Red Star's three.



Felix's hits a brace

In Barcelona, Joao Felix starred with two goals and an assist as the hosts coasted to a 5-0 victory in their opening 2023-24 Champions League Group H game against Royal Antwerp of Belgium on Tuesday. Xavi's side were three goals ahead after just 23 minutes thanks to strikes from Felix and Robert Lewandowski, plus an own goal from Jelle Bataille.

Lewandowski scored his 92nd Champions League goal to put Barcelona 2-0 up. Gavi added a fourth before Felix got his second after the break to give Barca's campaign the perfect start.

The La Liga champions were eliminated in the group stage of their past two Champions League campaigns.

Antwerp, who won the Belgian title last season to reach the Champions League for the first time, were unable to match the home side's passing and finishing.

Barcelona have not won the Champions League since 2015 but here produced football reminiscent of those glory days, albeit against limited opponents.

The opening goal certainly reminded of the times when Xavi roamed the Barca midfield with Mark van Bommel as his accompanying enforcer. For this game, they were instead in opposing dugouts - Van Bommel as Antwerp manager, Xavi in charge of Barca.

PSG down Dortmund

In Group F, Kylian Mbappe provided the breakthrough for Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) as they opened their Champions League campaign with a 2-0 victory over Borussia Dortmund.

Mbappe scored from the penalty spot on 49 minutes after his shot was handled by Nicklas Sule.

PSG doubled their lead when Moroccan defender Achraf Hakimi combined well with midfielder Vitinha.

The French side are in Group F with Newcastle and AC Milan who drew goalless at San Siro.

PSG felt they should have had a penalty before the break when a corner struck the hand of Sule, but were denied following a video assistant referee (VAR) review -



but the decision fell in their favour in the second half.

A shot from Mbappe struck Sule's hand from close range, with VAR affirming the on-field call of penalty. Mbappe took the spot-kick himself and beat keeper Gregor Kobel with a shot into the bottom right corner.

PSG made the three points safe before the hour in style. Vitinha played a perfect backheel to Hakimi before exchanging passes with the onrushing right-back.

Hakimi cut inside and finished with the outside of his boot against his former club, refusing to celebrate afterwards.

It ensured a win for manager Luis Enrique in his first Champions League game in charge of the French champions.

Also, in a Group E game, goalkeeper Ivan Provedel scored a 95th-minute equaliser as Lazio held Atletico Madrid 1-1 to a draw in their Champions League opener on Tuesday.

With just seconds remaining, Provedel went up for a late corner and glanced a fine header into the net from Luis Alberto's cross.

It prompted wild celebrations from the Lazio players, who raced to hug their unlikely goalscoring hero.

Pablo Barrios' deflected strike had given Atletico a first-half lead.

After Alvaro Morata hit the post, Provedel made several excellent saves to keep Lazio in the match before providing the crucial contribution at the other end of the pitch to earn the Italians a point in Group E.

Provedel becomes the fourth different goalkeeper to score a Champions League goal, after Jorg Butt (three between 2000 and 2009 - all penalties), Sinan Bolat (December 2009) and Vincent Enyeama (September 2010).

He is also only the second goalkeeper ever to score from open play after Bolat, who also scored a 95th-minute equaliser, with his coming for Standard Liege against AZ Alkmaar.

Other results: Group E: Feyenoord 2 Celtic 0; Group F: AC Milan 0 Newcastle United 0; Group G: Young Boys 1 RB Leipzig 3; Group H: Shakhtar Donetsk 1 FC Porto 3. - **Agencies**

SHORT-TERM JOB



Nagelsmann appointed Germany head coach

BERLIN: Former Bayern Munich coach Julian Nagelsmann has been appointed temporary head coach of Germany's national football team.

The 36-year-old became the four-time World Cup winners' youngest coach since 39-year-old Jurgen Klinsmann was appointed in 2004.

According to media reports, he will take charge of the UEFA Euro 2024 hosts until the end of that tournament next July.

Ten days ago, Hansi Flick left the Germany role after 25 games in charge due to several poor results in friendlies that followed a disappointing group exit at the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Former Germany striker Rudi Voller took charge of the team in a friendly against France last week, which Die Mannschaft won 2-1.

Nagelsmann has agreed a fixed-term deal with Germany as the former Hoffenheim, RB Leipzig and Bayern coach plans to continue his career with a club side next summer.

Reports talk of his contract with Bayern, running until 2026, having been terminated. Bayern are said not to be demanding any further compensation.

In 2021, the coach left RB Leipzig, signing a contract with Bayern that saw the Bavarian side pay a world record 25 million euros in compensation to his former club.

In March 2023, Nagelsmann was sacked from Bayern, with former Chelsea coach and 2021 Champions League winner Thomas Tuchel succeeding him. With the German association's reported favourite candidate Jurgen Klopp not available, several former German internationals such as Bastian Schweinsteiger, Philipp Lahm and Michael Ballack pleaded for Dutch icon Louis van Gaal as Germany's next coach. - **Xinhua**

HANGZHOU ASIAN GAMES

Oman's Al Adawi takes part in Asian Games torch relay

MUSCAT: Oman's experienced swimmer Issa Al Adawi took part in the ongoing 19th Asian Games torch relay on Wednesday.

Al Adawi carried the torch during the relay held in Quzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province along with other athletes ahead of the Asian Games opening ceremony scheduled to take place on September 23 in Hangzhou, China.

Al Adawi said: "I am happy to be a torch bearer of the Asian Games torch relay representing the Sultanate of Oman. Many athletes from the participating countries took part in the torch relay as the



official ceremony of the tournament approaches."

Oman's delegation comprise 44 athletes who will compete in seven disciplines at the Asiad. The Games will be spread across 56 venues, with a total of 481 gold up for grabs.

While the official opening ceremony of the Asian Games is scheduled for September 23, several sports like cricket, football, volleyball, and beach volleyball (qualification for knockouts) have already begun their competitions.

Oman is competing with two teams in the beach volleyball

discipline at this quadrennial multi-sport event.

Besides beach volleyball, Oman athletes will compete in hockey, athletics, swimming, weightlifting, sailing and shooting.

Shreiqi-Hosni lose

On Wednesday, Oman's pair of Haitham Al Shreiqi and Ahmed Al Hosni went down fighting 2-1 (16-21, 21-15, 9-15) to the Kazakhstan duo of Dmitriy Yakovlev and Sergey Bogatu in a Pool G match. Shreiqi and Hosni had won their preliminary round match against a South Korean duo on Tuesday.

كاسابيللا
casabella

٣٠٪ إلى ٧٠٪
30% TO 70%

تخفيضات DISCOUNT

على مجموعة واسعة من المنتجات
ON WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS

من ١٦ أغسطس حتى ٨ أكتوبر
AUGUST 16TH TILL OCTOBER 8TH

SHOP NOW



ROUND-UP

Attractive benefits on Kia’s new SUV range

Customers looking forward to owning any of their favourite Kia can choose from the Kia Sonet, Seltos, Sportage, Telluride, Sorento and Carens

MUSCAT: Now get closer to owning your dream Kia SUV with exclusive benefits. Service up to 5 years / 50,000 kms (Whichever is earlier), 1 Year Comprehensive Insurance and Attractive Instalments. (Conditions apply. Please visit any Kia showroom for details.) Customers looking forward to owning any of their favourite Kia can choose from the Kia Sonet, Seltos, Sportage, Telluride, Sorento and Carens. Kia Sonet is available with instalment starting from RO 79. The Sonet offers fun driving experiences with a powerful 1.5L engine that is paired to a CVT transmission. The Sonet SUV offer comfortable seating for 5 passengers. Making every drive rewarding is the Sonet’s impressive average of 17.5 kmpl. The interior of the Sonet is well laid-out, taking into consideration the end user’s experience and boasts intuitive infotainment and cluster interface.



The Sonet is available with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay feature, Audio Remote Control, Bluetooth and USB charger. Kia Seltos is available with instalment starting from RO 93. The stylish and attractive Seltos SUV sports a well-designed exterior with long hood, a strong, character line on the front bumper, and sharp lines pressed into the bodywork. Powering the Seltos is a 1.6-liter gasoline engine producing 121 HP paired to a six-speed automatic transmission (6AT). For more spirited driving experiences, the Seltos is equipped with a Drive Mode Select system that lets drivers adapt the car to their preferred style or the road conditions. Drivers can choose from ‘Normal’, ‘Eco’ and ‘Sport’ mode. Kia Sportage is available with instalment starting from RO 111. The Kia Sportage with its attractive design and stunning performance highlights a brand new era for heightened driving experiences. Powering the Sportage are powerful, responsive and efficient powertrain options. A 2.0 RVC 4WD with Nu 2.0 MPI churning 157 hp at 19.5 kg.m torque. This is paired to a 6-speed AT. The Sportage is also available as 1.6T 2WD SRF, 1.6T 2WD SPL and 1.6T 4WD SPL with Gamma 1.6T GDI with 176 HP and 27 kg.m. torque. These are paired to a 7-speed DCT. Kia Telluride is available with instalment starting from RO 192. The stunning Telluride SUV is a well-rounded companion with the perfect blend of style, power and capability. Powering the Telluride is a 3.8L GDI engine, with 291 hp and 36.2 kg.m. Torque which is paired to an H-MATIC 8-Speed Automatic Transmission. The Telluride takes driving experiences to all-new levels with a range of features that include Self Levelling Rear Suspension, Walk-in Button, Remote Engine Start, Remote Window Control, Smart Key with Button Start Terrain Mode System, and more. Kia Sorento is available with instalment starting from RO 138. The Sorento’s redefined exterior and attractive cabin set it apart as much more than a work of engineering efficiency. Powering the Sorento SUV are the 2.5L variant

and the 3.5L variant. The 2.5L engine with 177 hp and 23.7 kg.m. torque is paired to a 6-speed automatic transmission. The 3.5L Sorento has 268 hp and 33.8 kg.m. torque. This is paired to an 8-speed automatic transmission for smooth driving experiences. Adding to driving delights is the auto cruise control, drive mode select offering the driver choices to enjoy exciting driving experiences on varied terrains. Kia Carens is available with instalment starting from RO 96. The Kia Carens SUV is comfortable and spacious. It is powered with a 114 HP, 1497 cc MPI, Euro 4 engine with 14.7 kg.m. torque. This is paired to a CVT for smooth and thrilling drives. Conditions are applicable on instalments. Loan approval is based on the sole discretion of finance companies/banks. EMI is calculated per month for a tenure of 10 years. For more details please visit any Kia showroom. Reliable International Automotive (RIA), the distributor for Kia in Oman provides a rewarding ownership experience for customers.

ISLAMIC BANKING SERVICES

Maisarah sponsors IFN Oman Forum

MUSCAT: Reaffirming its position as a key player in the Islamic finance industry in Oman, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services has sponsored the 8th annual edition of IFN Oman Forum. The forum was organised by REDmoney. The full day event took place in Muscat recently and was attended by prominent bankers, industry experts, potential investors and leaders from around the region. Commenting on the forum, Kamal Uddin Hassan Al Maraza, General Manager & Chief Islamic Banking Officer at Maisarah said, “At Maisarah, we maintain corporate governance standards by following the latest methods of research and development, corporate social responsibility, and customer service. We also seek excellence by focusing on providing world-class banking services, developing innovative products, in addition to investing in technology with the aim of providing the best banking experience to our customers. Maisarah has a growing network of branches located in various governorates of the Sultanate. We also have a banking devices network of more than 300 ATMs, cash deposit machines, full function machines and multi- function Kiosks for both Maisarah and BankDhofar together.”



The IFN Forum 2023 brought together the brightest minds in the Islamic finance space to discuss essential developments and the ethical impact of Sharia compliant banking practices. Attended by key dignitaries, industry experts and potential investors, the forum highlighted a selection of fundamental topics, including; Sharia Compliant Funds and Collective Investment Schemes in Oman, Islamic Structured Finance and Capital Markets in Oman and Sharia Compliant Marketplace Financing and Digital Initiatives in Oman among other discussions. Over the years, Maisarah has maintained a prominent position as a leading financial service provider in Oman. The Islamic banking window of BankDhofar maintains standards of corporate governance, research and development, corporate social responsibility and customer service. Maisarah aims to distinguish itself with outstanding customer experience, investing in Fintech, developing innovative products and launching state-of-the-art financial solutions.

ing; Sharia Compliant Funds and Collective Investment Schemes in Oman, Islamic Structured Finance and Capital Markets in Oman and Sharia Compliant Marketplace Financing and Digital Initiatives in Oman among other discussions. Over the years, Maisarah has maintained a prominent position as a leading financial service provider in Oman. The Islamic banking window of BankDhofar maintains standards of corporate governance, research and development, corporate social responsibility and customer service. Maisarah aims to distinguish itself with outstanding customer experience, investing in Fintech, developing innovative products and launching state-of-the-art financial solutions.

REAL ESTATE ASIA AWARDS 2023



Al Mouj Sarai wins Luxury Residential Development of the Year award 2023

MUSCAT: Al Mouj Sarai, the ultra-elite collection of 28 sea-facing palaces launched by Al Mouj Muscat at the start of the year, has been crowned Luxury Residential Development of the Year – Oman Award at the celebrated Real Estate Asia Awards 2023. Set at the westernmost crest of Al Mouj, the win affirms Al Mouj Sarai’s status as the most desirable and glamorous address in the Sultanate, and arguably in the region, which set within the exclusive and gated Sarai neighbourhood, takes oceanfront majesty and seclusion to an unsurpassed level. This is the second consecutive year that Oman’s premium lifestyle destination has earned regional recognition in the prestigious awards program that celebrate the most innovative real estate developments and companies across the Asia Pacific region, with the awards presented at a glittering ceremony in Singapore. Overlooking both the Sea of Oman and Al Mouj’s Gold Anchor marina with mesmerising views,

Al Mouj Sarai are lavish six-bedroomed mansions set over three and four floors that through high-end design features and opulent interiors combined with bespoke amenities and an outstanding location, have redefined the meaning of luxury. Designed by award-winning international architects, each is a private sanctuary of wellness and tranquillity offering buyers a holistic living experience at the heart of the premium lifestyle destination where an abundance of world-class leisure, retail, entertainment and community amenities are close by. The annual awards programme recognises major breakthroughs, innovations as well as key players across the real estate industry and says Al Mouj Muscat’s CEO Nasser bin Masoud Al Sheibani: “It is a great honour to once again be recognised in these awards, and evidence that Al Mouj Sarai is truly remarkable. “The response from the market has been overwhelmingly positive,

demonstrating how we continue to design products that not only meet buyers’ aspirations but consistently surpass them.” There are two styles of Al Mouj Sarai palaces, Ocean Sarai and Marina Sarai and a choice of plots of between 2076 sqm to 3079 sqm. Ocean Sarai boasts uninterrupted views of the glistening sea and Marina Sarai offers the exhilaration of living at the tip of Al Mouj Marina complete with private jetty and superyacht mooring. Adds Nasser bin Masoud Al Sheibani: “Without question, Al Mouj Sarai is the shimmering jewel in Al Mouj Muscat’s crown, offering the region’s influencers and most eminent elite with incomparable homes to enjoy life without compromise. Inspired by their beautiful surroundings, they are the perfect example of self-expression as owners are free to customise wellness and lifestyle elements, and tailor façades, colour schemes and finishes, to create a liveable work of art that is distinctive as they are.”

STATE-OF-THE-ART

Bank Muscat continues to enhance corporate banking services with new Duqm corporate branch

MUSCAT: In line with its customer-centric vision and continuous endeavours to provide high-quality banking services to customers across the Sultanate, Bank Muscat recently opened a new corporate banking branch in the Wilayat of Duqm. The opening ceremony was held in the presence of Sheikh Bader Nasser Al Farsi, Wali of Duqm, Ilham Murtadha Al Hamid, General Manager, Corporate Banking, Bank Muscat, senior officials from the bank and customers. The opening of the new branch is in line with the emergence of Duqm as a key business and industrial hub in Oman and also the future prospects for rapid development in this strategic part of Oman. The new Corporate Banking branch features state-of-the-art technology and the highest levels of security and safety required for various banking transactions. It is characterised by a spacious and comfortable design and layout, and is manned by well qualified and experienced Omani cadres. It will provide a wide range of banking products and services, including loans for global trade services, project financing, debt financing through direct loans and syndicated loans. Speaking on the occasion, Ilham Murtadha Al Hamid, General Manager, Corporate Banking, Bank Muscat, said: “We are pleased to open our new Corporate branch in the Wilayat of Duqm, which is one of the most important upcoming cities in the region and currently witnessing



unprecedented economic growth. Bank Muscat will be delighted to play its part in the enormous developments happening in Duqm, and will be offering a range of banking services and facilities to both government institutions and corporates in the Governorate of Al Wusta.” With the latest addition in Duqm, the bank now has 5 Corporate Banking branches across the Sultanate including two branches in Muscat and one each in Sohar and Salalah. Corporate banking branches offer a range of important services including corporate loans and capital financing to expand projects as well as bid bonds,

performance bonds, advance payment bonds, financial bonds, and performance guarantee bonds. The bank also provides letter of credit services for the purchase of equipment and machinery, stand-by letters of credit, and a range of other services to corporates and institutions. The new branch will be open on all weekdays from 8am to 2pm. Specialist advisors will be available at the branch to provide customers with the best solutions for their corporate banking needs and the new branch will provide a quantum leap in the nature of banking solutions and facilities available to corporates and institutions in Duqm.

mai alkaline
pH 9.1 to 9.5
Alkaline Ionized Drinking Water

Hydrate Smartly

- ✓ Ultra-hydrating
- ✓ Revitalizing
- ✓ Energizing
- ✓ Electrolytes

800 71 222
9275 5522

OmanOasis OmanOasisOfficial OmanOasisWater



centrepoint

MID SEASON OFFERS

خصم* ٢٠% - ٧٠%

20%
TO
70%
OFF*

*On select items

centrepointstores.com



SEND USD WORLDWIDE FOR BUSINESS, EDUCATION, FIXED DEPOSITS & MORE

OMR 4 SERVICE FEE

SIMPLE | SECURE | SWIFT



SEND MONEY TO ANY BANK ACCOUNT IN UAE FOR CORPORATES AND INDIVIDUALS

OMR 2.5 SERVICE FEE

SIMPLE | SECURE | SWIFT



**PURSHOTTAM KANJI
EXCHANGE**



شركة برشوتام
كانجي للصرافة

Download it **NOW!**



+968: 91787829 | 99849289 | 91787829

www.pkexchange.com

FLAT
40%
OFF*

*On Selected items

max

maxfashion.com

in store | online | mobile

Thai Weekend in Muscat

by the Royal Thai Embassy

21 – 23 September 2023

05.00 pm – 10.00 pm at

مسقط جراند مول
MUSCAT GRAND MALL

Enjoy Thai street food, cultural performances
and Thai hospitality.

Register on-site to
WIN tickets to Thailand and much more!

#Thaifestmuscat
#Amazingthailand



JOIN US AT

مسقط جراند مول
MUSCAT GRAND MALL
Close to you

ANANTARA
HOTELS, RESORTS & SPA

السلام
SalamAir

PIYAVATE
REHABILITATION
& PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTER (THAILAND)



PTTEP

amazing
THAILAND
READY TO GO

CENTARA
MUSCAT HOTEL
OMAN

فلاي دبي
flydubai