

Times

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OF OMAN



51

YEARS OF
LEGACY

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HM THE SULTAN, BOTSWANA PRESIDENT GRACE SIGNING OF SEVERAL AGREEMENTS

The pacts covered mineral exploration, development and operation of two petroleum product storage facilities and the construction as well as financing of a solar photovoltaic power plant

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Duma Gideon Boko of the Republic of Botswana, graced the signing of several cooperation agreements between the two countries at Al Barakah Palace on Monday.

The signing ceremony took place within the framework of the working visit of the President of Botswana to the Sultanate of Oman.

The agreements covered the fields of mineral exploration, the development and operation of two petroleum product storage facilities and the development, construction as well as the financing of a solar photovoltaic power plant.

Abdulsalam Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of the Oman



Investment Authority (OIA), stated that these new agreements with the Botswana side embody Oman's economic diplomacy, for which Oman Investment Author-

ity serves as an executive arm.

He noted that their success opens the door to strengthening strategic relations with nations and establishing qualitative part-

nerships for the Authority and its companies abroad, while simultaneously contributing to attracting foreign investments into local sectors.

Al Murshidi added that

the relationship with Botswana represents a model of mutual trust between the two parties, having evolved at a rapid pace from initial meetings in July 2025 and

the subsequent establishment of diplomatic relations to mutual visits that have been translated into investment agreements and projects. **>A4**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Oman's aviation ecosystem expands

1 Oman Airports, Oman Air, and SalamAir revealed during a media briefing in Muscat that they achieved positive performance in 2025. This performance was driven by revenue growth, enhanced operational efficiency, and the expansion of destination networks. **>A2**

WORLD Mission for navigation in Strait of Hormuz

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Net electricity generation in Oman rises by 17.4%

A7

TRAVEL OPTIONS

Oman keeps air and port traffic moving amid regional tensions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As regional geopolitical tensions disrupted airspace and strained travel networks recently, Oman moved swiftly to stabilise aviation and port operations, ensuring uninterrupted supply chains and providing critical travel options for thousands of passengers, said Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Maawali, the Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology.

Speaking to mediapersons at a press conference on Monday, Al Maawali said, "This was achieved by safeguarding the continuity of regional supply chains and facilitating passenger air traffic through an increase in flights, while accommodating a large number of airlines and private jets."

Adrian Hamilton-Manns, SalamAir's Chief Executive Officer, highlighted the airline's extensive response during the period, noting close coordination with Oman Airports and Oman Air.

"We introduced charter flights beyond our regular network, ar-



ranged bus transfers from the UAE, and operated flights to new destinations we had not previously served," he said.

Hamilton-Manns added that operations were conducted under strict safety and security measures, particularly as some flights operated in or near sensitive areas.

"Our flight operations, safety and security teams worked tirelessly under challenging conditions, with close coordination from civil aviation authorities," he said.

Con Korfiatis, CEO of Oman Air, said that Oman Air played a critical role in facilitating travel as neighbouring countries temporarily closed their airspace, triggering a surge in demand.

"People were crossing borders in search of available flights, and we played a pivotal role in supporting communities in need—whether to return home or to leave affected areas," he said.

The airline assisted tens of thousands of passengers during the

peak repatriation period, which witnessed an unprecedented spike in demand.

"We had to act quickly to mobilise aircraft and crew, while also expanding operations to new destinations. It created immense operational and commercial pressure," Korfiatis said.

Despite the challenges, Oman Air maintained around 80 per cent of its network without interruption and significantly increased the number of additional flights.

"We supported passengers through multiple measures, including cross-border transport, additional sales points at airports and borders, and close cooperation with embassies, travel agents and tour operators," he added.

Korfiatis described the situation as unprecedented, noting that airport scenes at times resembled peak travel periods in major global hubs.

"That reflects the scale of the situation. It was a privilege to be part of such an effort, and I thank everyone involved for their dedication," he said. **See also >A2**



Oman’s aviation ecosystem enters a new phase of growth, global expansion

The performance was driven by revenue growth, enhanced operational efficiency and expansion of routes

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Airports, Oman Air, and SalamAir revealed during a joint media briefing held yesterday in Muscat that they achieved positive performance in 2025. This , reflecting the entry of the Sultanate of Oman's aviation ecosystem into a new phase of growth and strengthening its presence on the regional and international aviation map. The three companies emphasized that their strategic roadmap for the 2026–2030 period focuses on building an integrated aviation ecosystem that supports sustainable growth and enhances global connectivity, contributing to solidifying the Sultanate of Oman's position as an emerging regional hub in the aviation and tourism sectors. Eng. Said Hamoud Al Maawali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Tech-



nology, stated in his speech during the briefing that the aviation sector is a key pillar for achieving the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 and undertakes a crucial role in enhancing the competitiveness of the Omani economy regionally and globally. He clarified that the government is working with a strategic vision to rebuild the aviation sector and boost its competitiveness. He stated that the transformation plan, since its inception in September 2023, has brought about a qualitative shift in cost control, performance improvement, productivity enhancement, and financial revenue optimisation. He confirmed that Oman Air achieved

operating profits in 2025 for the first time in approximately 15 years and successfully reduced the level of government-guaranteed debt by roughly OMR 92 million since the beginning of the transformation plan in September 2023. Al Maawali pointed to the improvement in operational efficiency and the strengthening of international confidence in Omani capabilities. Oman Airports expanded regionally by providing operational and consultancy services for the Karbala Airport project in Iraq. Furthermore, Transom expanded internationally by delivering air cargo, ground handling, and hospitality services in Tanzania. Meanwhile, Oman Air joined

the “Oneworld” alliance, granting it access to over 900 global destinations, and five new destinations were launched. Regarding the Muscat Airport City project, he explained that work has commenced on this project as a cornerstone for transforming the Sultanate of Oman into a regional air logistics hub, in cooperation with several entities. Several projects are currently in the establishment and construction phases, such as storage and air cargo facilities. He noted that the project will broaden the economic scope of the aviation sector beyond flights and passengers, providing an integrated environment that combines logistical, commercial,

and tourism services within a single interconnected ecosystem. He added that the government's acquisition of SalamAir comes within the framework of a strategic direction aimed at reorganising the aviation sector and enhancing its competitiveness on sound foundations. He affirmed that both Oman Air and SalamAir will continue to operate independently, administratively and financially, retaining their respective fleets and commercial activities. The performance of both companies will remain subject to the oversight of the Civil Aviation Authority to ensure competitiveness and consumer protection.



Travel destinations for each company will be managed and promoted while adhering to their respective classification frameworks: SalamAir as a low-cost carrier and Oman Air as a full-service carrier. This is in addition to working toward integration to expand the national air connectivity network and increase the number of destinations and passengers. Saud Nasser Al Hubaishi, Chief Operating Officer at Oman Airports, stated that the company recorded growth in passenger traffic, reaching approximately 15.2 million passengers across various airports in the Sultanate of Oman, alongside a 4 percent increase in air cargo volumes.

ANNUAL MEDIA BRIEFING

Oman to develop domestic aviation network linking governorates

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman is making efforts to establish and develop a domestic aviation network connecting the governorates, said Eng. Said Hamoud Al Maawali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology. During the media briefing, the Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology also said efforts are also ongoing to establish and develop a domestic aviation network connecting the governorates, as well as to build and upgrade several domestic airports, particularly in tourist areas such as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Masirah Island, Sohar, and other locations across the governorates of Oman. He emphasised that these airports and the domestic aviation network will enhance internal air connectivity, open new horizons for the tourism sector, and bring essential services closer to citizens, in addition to paving the way for future connecting routes with nearby regional and international areas. The Minister added that the focus in the upcoming phase is on enhancing financial sustainability, increasing growth, and expanding regionally and internationally. The aviation sector is expected to undertake a vital role in enabling the growth of economic diversification sectors, such as tourism and logistics, and in strengthening Oman's position as a regional and international destination for travel and tourism, as well as a gateway for logistical services. He also announced that work



ENG. SAID HAMOUD AL MAAWALI, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

is underway to establish the first integrated aircraft maintenance workshop. **Salalah-Muscat fares** Regarding prices on the Salalah-Muscat route, he indicated that Oman Air fares for Muscat-Salalah reached OMR 54 during the Khareef Dhofar season and OMR 64 year-round. As for SalamAir's new fares for the Muscat-Salalah route, they reach OMR 9.99 for a one-way trip without luggage, OMR 18.99 as the lowest one-way fare with a 20-kilogram bag, OMR 27.99 as the lowest round-trip fare without luggage, and OMR 35.99 as the lowest round-trip fare with a 20-kilogram bag. Saud Nasser Al Hubaishi, Chief Operating Officer at Oman Air-

ports, stated that the company recorded growth in passenger traffic, reaching approximately 15.2 million passengers across various airports in the Sultanate of Oman, alongside a 4 percent increase in air cargo volumes. This performance is an indicator reflecting the growing demand for travel and the enhanced efficiency of operational processes. He added that Oman Airports continued to support the expansion of its route network by attracting new airlines and deepening partnerships with existing carriers. In addition, the company advanced the development of strategic destinations in coordination with Oman Air, contributing to connecting Oman with more regional and international markets.

Oman Air posts first positive results in 15 years; SalamAir grows strong

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air, which launched a comprehensive transformation programme in 2023, reported an EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) of OMR 3.2 million for 2025, positive for the first time in 15 years. Con Korfiatis, CEO of Oman Air, explained that the company achieved positive results within the comprehensive transformation programme launched in 2023. The airline reported an EBITDA of approximately OMR 3.2 million for 2025, positive for the first time in 15 years. The airline also successfully achieved an OMR 27 million reduction in bank loans, marking the first decline in debt levels since 2009. He noted that the company carried nearly 5.8mn passengers in 2025, an increase of 7 percent over 2024, achieving an 82 percent load factor and a year-on-year growth in direct (point-to-point) travel traffic of 34 percent. He emphasized that these results were achieved thanks to strategies optimizing the network and maximising fleet utilization efficiency. The CEO of Oman Air stated that the airline witnessed significant expansion in international destinations in 2025 through the launch of direct routes to Amsterdam, Baghdad, Copenhagen,



CON KORFIATIS, CEO of Oman Air

and Taif, in addition to a new direct route connecting Salalah and Moscow. This is alongside the announcement of 5 additional routes for 2026. He explained that the airline currently serves 45 destinations with a fleet of 33 aircraft, which is planned to grow to 39 aircraft by 2029. Adrian Hamilton-Manns, CEO of SalamAir, stated that the company continues to reinforce its role as the national low-cost carrier, recording strong operational and financial performance in 2025. The airline transported more than 3.4 million passengers and operated over 22,000 flights across a network comprising more than 40 destinations, maintaining an on-time per-



ADRIAN HAMILTON-MANNS, CEO of SalamAir

formance rate of 83 percent. He pointed out that SalamAir generated approximately OMR 137 million in revenue during 2025, reflecting its role in supporting the aviation and tourism sectors, and enhancing air connectivity through expansion into new markets in Africa, Asia, and Europe. The SalamAir CEO explained that the airline's expansion plans included entering emerging markets in Africa, Asia, and Europe, introducing destinations such as Port Sudan, Nairobi, Kigali, Vienna, and Medan. This was alongside executing plans to expand the fleet to 18 aircraft in 2026 and 25 aircraft by 2028, to support plans for growth and expansion of the operational network.

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING

Housing Ministry showcases its projects and initiatives

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning organised a meeting on Monday for media professionals and journalists at the Ministry's headquarters to introduce its projects, initiatives, and the comprehensive development of flexible and more efficient digital services that meet the needs of beneficiaries. The meeting included visual presentations showcasing the housing empowerment system's transition from traditional procedures to proactive services. The “Choose Your Land” platform was also highlighted, which has helped reshape housing options by allowing citizens to select lands or residential units electronically according to precise criteria

within a secure and transparent digital environment. This platform enabled more than 90,000 beneficiaries to select their lands or housing units during the period from 2021 to 2025 through a diverse package of housing options. Among the services provided by the Ministry is “Acquire Your Land,” which allows for the purchase of prime lands at subsidised prices ranging between 20 percent and 40 percent without waiting for a turn, benefitting more than 1,600 people. “Plan Your Land” is an exceptional option that allows for the planning of lands near the beneficiaries' residences, utilized by 914 beneficiaries. Additionally, “Exchange Your

Land” is a flexible service that allows for the exchange of government lands within the same wilayat, which has benefitted 127 people. Regarding the “Sorouh” projects, the Ministry provided residential units within integrated neighbourhoods for 797 beneficiaries and sought to provide lands within integrated environments in its layouts for 317 beneficiaries. Furthermore, future city projects, which offer residential units within modern smart cities, have benefited 460 beneficiaries. Sultan Haitham City stands as one of the most prominent urban projects in the Sultanate of Oman, with investments exceeding OMR2.4 billion, alongside the

implementation of infrastructure packages valued at OMR205 million, comprising eight main packages. The project has seen significant implementation progress, with site preparation and leveling works 100 percent complete. Completion rates for bridges have reached approximately 75 percent, infrastructure nearly 40 percent, and power stations 94 percent. **1,700 housing units** Additionally, sales have exceeded 1,700 housing units, reflecting the increasing demand for the project. In A'Thuraya City, where executive works commenced in 2025, projects worth RO 45 million have

been awarded, and development agreements exceeding RO 265 million have been signed. As for the Al Jabal Al Aali project, it represents an integrated model for tourism and urban development with investments reaching OMR650 million through six development agreements. Approximately 60 percent of the project has been awarded to developers amid high investment demand. The Ministry is also working on the Al Khuwair Downtown masterplan, where two investment memoranda of understanding were signed with investment values exceeding OMR150 million each, with the Turkish Artas Holding and the OGCC International Foundation.

The Ministry works to enhance social stability and improve the quality of life by implementing social housing programs aimed at supporting eligible families and enabling them to obtain suitable housing, within a developmental approach that balances social and economic dimensions. During the period from 2020 to 2025, more than 8,000 families in various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman benefited from social housing programmes. The meeting also included a tour of the Ministry's building, during which participants learned about the roles of the various directorates and their contributions to facilitating and simplifying procedures for beneficiaries. **ONA**



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IN PICTURES

HM THE SULTAN RECEIVES PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA

His Majesty the Sultan welcomed the President and his accompanying delegation, wishing them a pleasant stay and fruitful visit

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik received President Duma Gideon Boko of the Republic of Botswana at Al Barakah Palace on Monday, on the occasion of his working visit to the Sultanate of Oman. At the outset of the meeting, His Majesty the Sultan welcomed the President and his accompanying delegation, wishing them a pleasant stay and fruitful visit. In turn, the President expressed his profound delight over this visit. Then, a session of official talks was held, chaired by His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Botswana. During the talks, the two sides explored avenues of co-

operation between the two countries across various fields, with a view to achieving their mutual interests. The session was attended from the Omani side by HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office, Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority, Eng. Salim bin Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, Mulhim bin Basheer Al Jaraf, Deputy Chairman of Oman Investment Authority for Investment and Muneer bin Ali Al Muneeri, Deputy Chairman of Oman Investment Authority for Operation. Meanwhile, it was attended from the Botswana side by the Head of Military Intelligence Adviser to the President on Military Affairs, the Minister of Presidential Investments, the Special Representative of the President and a number of officials. It is worth mentioning that the President of the Republic of Botswana arrived in the Sultanate of Oman last night. He was received upon arrival at the VIP hall of Muscat International Airport by the Chairman of Oman Investment Authority, along with several officials. -ONA



FACTS SIGNED

Agreement with Oman to enable Botswana to achieve self-sufficiency

< FROM A1 He further clarified that groundbreaking for these projects will occur immediately following yesterday's signing of these agreements. These agreements are part of a long list of other projects to be considered successively, particularly in clean energy sectors like wind and solar power, fuels and hydrocarbons, as well as mining, logistics, food, and financial services. This, he noted, opens opportunities for Omani companies operating in these sectors to export their products and services abroad. The signing of an agreement between OQ, the global integrated energy group, and Botswana Oil to evaluate strategic cooperation prospects aims to enhance fuel security and support the development of an integrated supply and storage infrastructure in Botswana and its surrounding region. This follows the investment co-operation agreement concluded on 25 November 2025, as it establishes a structured framework for cooperation in technical, commercial, and regulatory fields. Under this agreement, both parties will work to develop identified opportunities to reach an economic feasibility study and formulate an agreed-upon commercial structure, including the evaluation of refined product supply arrangements. OQ and Botswana Oil will assess the feasibility of creating an integrated platform combining coastal import and storage solutions with inland strategic stocks—a model intended to solidify security of supply and improve supply chain efficiency to meet Botswana's long-term fuel needs. This cooperation is based on OQ's extensive capabilities across the energy sector value chain, from trading and logistics to infrastructure development and product supply, to support the structuring of potential projects and ensure their economic feasibility, including the development of storage and distribution facilities that enhance the economic sustainability of the projects. The initial phase of work will focus on verifying technical and commercial assumptions, determining strategic stock requirements, and evaluating alternative supply models, in parallel with establishing the necessary commercial and regulatory foundations to move forward with these opportunities. This will be done with strict adherence to health, safety, and environmental standards, and the definition of governance frameworks, tariff principles, volume obligations, and risk distribution. Ashraf Hamad Al Maamari, CEO of OQ Group, stated that the



signing of the agreement with Botswana Oil reflects OQ's partnership-based approach to developing the energy sector. He pointed out that as a leading global group in energy investments, OQ harnesses its comprehensive expertise in the integrated energy value chain to serve this cooperation, expressing his look-

ing forward to working with partners in the Republic of Botswana to evaluate practical and scalable solutions that contribute to enhancing fuel security and transform into sustainable, feasible investment opportunities. For his part, Latelang Chakalisa, Acting CEO of Botswana Oil, explained that fuel security

is a priority for the Republic of Botswana, and this cooperation with OQ allows for the utilization of its international expertise to evaluate integrated supply and storage solutions while formulating commercial and regulatory frameworks. The signing by O-Green, a subsidiary of Oman Investment



Authority, of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) aims to develop a 500 MW solar photovoltaic plant, supported by integrated battery energy storage systems (BESS) of 500 MW in the city of Maun, Republic of Botswana. The "Maun" project is the first initiative to enter final commercial implementation within the 3,000 MW expanded energy co-operation framework established between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Botswana in November 2025, embodying a fundamental shift from the strategic planning phase to the actual execution of projects on the ground. This project represents one of the largest investments in the history of renewable energy in Botswana and a decisive step in the country's efforts to secure 50% of its electricity needs via sustainable sources by 2030. In this context, President Duma Gideon Boko emphasised that the energy agreements signed with the Sultanate of Oman carry major strategic significance, as they will enable Botswana to achieve self-sufficiency and transition from a power-importing nation to an exporter. Mustafa Mohammed Al Hinai, CEO of O-Green, said that this project practically embodies Botswana's desire to achieve self-sufficiency and transform into an energy-exporting nation through

an advanced and reliable clean energy infrastructure. He added that this initiative lays the foundation for an integrated energy platform that enhances Botswana's position as a regional hub for energy trade and expands the horizons for sustainable economic growth. Once operational, the plant will contribute to doubling Botswana's current effective generating capacity, while the integration of battery energy storage technologies will enhance the reliability of the national grid and support demand management during peak times, ensuring the provision of renewable and sustainable energy supplies around the clock. Furthermore, the cooperation agreement between Minerals Development Oman (MDO) and the Exploration Investment Company Botswana (EICB) in the field of mining exploration aims to enhance the strategic partnership in the areas of exploration and geological evaluation of mineral wealth in the Republic of Botswana, leading to the joint development of a producing mine. The cooperation includes the exchange of expertise and geological data, technical capacity building, and the study of joint investment opportunities in a number of strategic minerals, thereby contributing to supporting sustainable development, knowledge transfer, and enhancing added value in the mining sector. -ONA

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF EDUCATION

More than 350 outstanding students honoured in Dhofar Governorate

SALALAH: The Directorate General of Education in Dhofar Governorate on Monday held a ceremony to honour over 350 outstanding performers who excelled in educational activities during 2025.

The ceremony was held at at Sultan Qaboos Youth Complex for Culture and Entertainment in Salalah under the auspices of Dr. Intisar Abdullah Al Ambusaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Educational Support Programmes.



Those honoured included outstanding students, winners in educational activities competitions held in Oman and abroad, members of adjudicating committees and supervisors.

The areas of competition choral chanting, musical performance, drama and theatrical shows, poetry, writing short stories novels, oratory, classical Arabic, reading competitions, visual presentations, drawing and fine arts.

-ONA



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MoC signed for care of cleft lip patients

The cost of treatment for a single patient is estimated at approximately OMR5,000 over the programme's duration, with a total estimated cost of OMR1,250,000 over the five years



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health on Monday signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with Oman Dental College (ODC) to provide specialised care for patients with cleft lip, as part of efforts to enhance partnership and integration between health and

educational institutions in the Sultanate of Oman.

The agreement aims to provide non-surgical treatment and orthodontic care for at least 50 patients annually over a five-year period for cases involving cleft lip or cleft palate.

These services will be provided free of charge and include dental examinations, preventive care, restorative treatment, and simple tooth extractions, in addition to orthodontic evaluation

and treatment.

The cost of treatment for a single patient is estimated at approximately OMR5,000 over the programme's duration, with a total estimated cost of approximately OMR1,250,000 over the five years.

The memorandum seeks to utilise the academic and clinical capabilities of Oman Dental College, the first specialised dental education institution in the Sultanate of Oman.

The college contributes to quali-

fying professional medical cadres in oral and dental medicine and provides advanced specialised services in oral and maxillofacial surgery for complex cases, including congenital deformities such as cleft lip and palate.

Furthermore, the memorandum intends to support the delivery of non-surgical treatment for cleft lip patients by offering orthodontic services and preventive and therapeutic care, while enhancing coordination with Khoula Hospital for cases requiring surgical intervention or advanced medical care.

The agreement was signed on behalf of Khoula Hospital by Dr. Rashid Mohammed Al Alawi, Director General of the General Directorate of Khoula Hospital, and on behalf of Oman Dental College by Professor Dr. Mohammed Issa Al Ismaili, Acting Dean of the College.

This step is part of Khoula Hospital's ongoing efforts to expand cooperation with academic institutions, contributing to the improvement of healthcare quality and the provision of integrated care that enhances the quality of life for patients. -ONA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Patient's safety friendly initiative launched in Oman



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health, represented by the Quality Assurance Centre, on Monday launched the "Patient Safety Friendly Hospital Initiative."

The initiative included the hospitals of Diba, Jalan Bani Bu Hassan, Masirah, Al Mazyunah, Taqah, Izki, and Al Jabal Al Akhdar, in a step aimed at strengthening the safety and quality system within health institutions across the various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman.

The launch of the initiative was held under the auspices of Dr. Ahmed Salim Al Mandhari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Planning and Health Regulation.

The launch programme included the implementation of several training sessions and introductory workshops targeting

focal points and facilitation committees concerned with patient safety in the participating hospitals. These sessions focused on reviewing the standards for applying the initiative's framework and the mechanisms for its practical and methodological execution, ensuring the achievement of the highest levels of institutional readiness.

The launch featured specialised scientific and practical content presented by specialists from the Ministry of Health.

During these sessions, the accredited standards were explained and application requirements were clarified, contributing to raising the readiness of health institutions to adopt this initiative and enhancing the level of patient safety and the quality of healthcare services provided. -ONA

THREE-STORY BUILDING

Endowment building inaugurated for charitable team

SAHAM: An endowment building for the Ataa Saham Charitable Team, operating under the Social Development Committee in the Wilayat of Saham, was inaugurated on Monday in the North Al Batinah Governorate.

The ceremony was held under the auspices of Dr. Laila Ahmed Al Najjar, Minister of Social Development.

The three-story building features a ground floor dedicated to an exhibition area and commercial shops, while the first and second floors are allocated for residential apartments. Spanning a total area of 3,013 square metres, the project was completed at a total cost of

OMR540,191.

In his speech, Sheikh Dr. Sultan Abdullah Al Battashi, Wali of Saham and Chairman of the Social Development Committee in the Wilayat, stated that the building enhances financial sustainability and bolsters the charitable activities carried out by the Ataa Saham Charitable Team.

He emphasised that the project serves as a permanent endowment, established on the principle of the importance of charitable endowments as sustainable investment arms for philanthropic work.

He highlighted the integrated approach adopted by the Social Development Committee in coop-

eration with various community institutions. This synergy aims to achieve projects with a lasting impact on charitable work, fostering social movement and solidarity among individuals and institutions. He noted that the endowment building stands as a model for sustainable investment.

The inauguration featured a visual presentation detailing the construction phases of the endowment building, which was implemented over a 24-month period. This was followed by a tour of the facility to review its components. The project is expected to generate an annual revenue of OMR42,720.

-ONA



DHOFAR UNIVERSITY

Sustainability Week organised



SALALAH: Dhofar University in the Wilayat of Salalah is organising a "Sustainability Week" under the theme "Linking culture with innovation; Empowering youth to achieve sustainability." More than 27 schools and colleges are taking part in the event.

Dr. Mawih Kareem Al Ani, Dean of the College of Commerce and Administrative Sciences at Dhofar University, said that "Sustainability Week 2026" constitutes a platform to raise awareness about innovation in the field of sustainability.

Dr. Mawih pointed out that the

event brings together academics, students and interested parties to discuss various issues, including leadership in the field of environment, sustainable development and the role of higher education in building a more sustainable future.

The event includes panel discussions, exhibitions, competitions and the review of student initiatives.

The event seeks to enable young people to contribute to shaping a more sustainable future in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040. -ONA



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Health invites specialized companies to participate in the following Tenders: -

Tender Ref.	Description	Last date for Collection of tender Document	Bid Submission Closing Date on/ Before 02:00 pm Thursday	Eligibility	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)
1336/2026/ MOH/NIZH-12	MAINTENANCE WORKS IN BLOCK 16- NIZWA HOSPITAL	23/April/2026	21/May/2026	Specialized Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set

• Tenders should be submitted on line on <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>.

• Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender.

• For any Clarification, you may contact via Telephone: 24402200 , Email id etenderhd@ita.gov.om

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- Smart Government & Digital Public Services
- Smart Infrastructure, IoT & Smart Mobility
- Cybersecurity, Data Privacy & Digital Trust
- Fintech, Digital Banking & Blockchain
- Industry 4.0 & Robotics
- E-commerce & Digital Retail
- HR Tech & Digital Skills Development



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS



Ali Al Jabri
Acting Deputy CTO For Payment Systems,
Central Bank of Oman



Muadh Al Omair
Acting CEO,
Infoline



Saud Al Zakwani
Vice President,
Information Digital Solutions and Continuous Improvement,
OQ Exploration & Production



Tariq Al Barwani
Founder & President,
Tech Oman

Panel Discussion: "From innovation to impact: Building a resilient digital economy in Oman"

PANELISTS



Dr. Haitham Al Hajri
CISO,
Head of Cyber & Information
Security,
Oman Housing Bank



Eng. Hassan Al Lawati
Chief Technology Officer,
ESBAAR AI & Drones



Dr. Adhari Al Zaabi
Associate Professor,
College of Medicine and
Health Sciences,
Sultan Qaboos University



Abdullah Al Busaidi
Senior Manager,
Digital & Cyber Consulting,
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Change Starts With Listening

You've been at the helm of some of Oman's most significant corporate transformations. From a change management perspective, how do you distinguish between the core values that define a brand and the outdated habits that are blocking its growth?

Over a decade of experience of driving marketing transformation and repositioning brands across diverse industries. I have witnessed that change is difficult and the majority will resist it at first, people are so used to doing business as usual and when an outsider steps in, they tend to block anything new. Also, changing both the attitude and mindset of people is considered a challenge. Throughout my journey, I always made sure to spend more time understanding the way people do things and why! Also, learning how can a new way of doing things be introduced while ensuring the outcome is efficient, impactful and accepted.

Branding in general is subjective, not everyone will have the buy in of the brand story, the colors, the logo or the launch campaign. However, working with a clear strategic plan, new corporate and brand values, key deliverables on how to transform the change, with the right team unblocking the resistance of change will be achievable.

The core values of what kept a specific industry going for so many years may require revamping, rebranding or simply a shift in corporate culture. How I see it, a doctor can not operate on a patient without going through several medical tests and check-ups only then will the route cause be identified and treated.

It is common to come across people who will jump into the change train and hang on, no matter how fast the train is going and there are some who would rather step aside and watch the train pass by. Many times we come across the need to move people and assign them new roles, build new partnership and motivate them to be part of the transformation.

As leaders it is critical to set our emotions aside and focus on the purpose of change because old habits are known to block the willingness to progress and develop. Old ways of doing things tend to slow execution, create silos and diverts people to different direction, having old versus new.

There is a quote by Peter Drucker that keeps me in check whenever I am about to support a corporate transformation, he said "No matter how strong a strategy is, it will fail if the cul-



ture of the organization does not support it". This just explains how culture can drive behavior and support long-term success.

Marketing today sits between creativity, data, and responsibility. How do you personally decide when to push for bold storytelling and when restraint and clarity matter more... especially in a sector built on trust like banking? What's one myth about building strong brands in Oman that your experience has completely disproved?

Clarity is key at any point of time no doubt but how we say things always matters. I have experienced transforming industries with the support of consultants and on the other hand, I had an internal workforce team driving it along with the CEO of the company.

I must say the outcome of both is very different in terms of timeline and impact on deliverables.

Building a strong brand does not happen overnight, it is not a short-term project, it is not only driven by the Marketing and Communications department in silo.

The brand is not about the logo or just the story behind it, it is about the overall experience we share with people. When I say people, it must cascade to company employees, shareholders, partners and the community.

Just like any project, branding also requires us to follow several steps such as brand audit, stakeholder and market insights, brand mapping, brand strategy, brand architecture, brand nar-

TOP WOMEN LEADERS IN OMAN

rative, visual and verbal identity, internal alignment, change management, brand rollout and finally measurement. As you can see it is not one simple step, many tend to focus on the brand and nothing else.

When it is time for me to work on a rebranding journey, the first thing I ask the stakeholders why are we changing? The following are a few scenarios I have come across the years, there is no right or wrong, but the goal must be clear as to why are we doing it. Has the business shifted its mission or vision? In one of the companies, they decided to focus on expansion, this is where their logo seemed too traditional.

hence it was necessary for them to evolve and realign perception with the vision. There is a company that was transforming through change management and here we focused more on repositioning the brand identity without changing the name or brand. There are companies who shift their target segments, then they will need a refreshed logo that attracts that specific audience. What was common across all the different projects, I worked on ensuring that the logos are visible and clear on the digital platforms because today if the brand we design does not work on a screen, then we must consider the matter again.



Lina Al Abdulsalaam

Head of Marketing and Corporate Communications, Alizz Islamic Bank

Lina Al Abdulsalaam is one of the architects behind Oman's most consequential brand and institutional transformations. Over two decades, she has shaped how banks, financial institutions, and national developments understand themselves; not through surface rebrands, but by aligning culture, strategy, and purpose. Known for entering complex organisations at moments of resistance, she diagnoses before she prescribes, builds teams before symbols, and treats change as a human process, not a cosmetic one. Her leadership has quietly reset benchmarks for how trust, clarity, and long-term value are built in Oman's corporate and civic landscape.

In conclusion, I would say a strong brand is not just a cosmetic exercise, or just following what is the new trend in the market – it must be part of the overall strategy.

Many young women aspire to lead but hesitate to take up space or claim authority. What helped you find your voice early on, and what would you tell women who are capable but still waiting for permission?

We all have our individual journey in life where we learn, develop and grow throughout the path. If I reflect on where I was 20 years back, it is not where I am now. I still remember how I started my first assigned position in one of the largest banks in the country, I had no team, no title just a job description but none of that mattered to me at that time, all I wanted to do was to create my own team across various units within the same department and together achieve common goals that were assigned to us as a department. To me it was never about the credit as much as getting the job done successfully. I do not believe in just doing your day-to-day tasks, you should always go beyond to deliver. How else would you stand out from the crowd if you are just doing what you are supposed to do.

I learned a lot from other women who were not supportive during the start of my career, I am sure they had their reasons but that opened my eyes towards how I should treat fresh graduates through coaching and guidance because I was in their shoes once and I know



how it felt. I may be an introvert, but my strength comes from empathy, listening and putting my team first.

I am so proud to say that in Oman we are fortunate that women are free to work in various industries with no restrictions since the 70s, with pride I say my mom was part of the Air Force crew and many other women I grew up around held different leading positions. I am not saying it is an easy path but its possible, when there is a will there is a way as cliché this may sound but its true.

My advice to the women out there, we do not need to wait for a tap on the back saying well done or someone who will show you the way up the ladder. If you are in an organization that does not help you grow and develop then maybe its time to seek a new opportunity. One of my favorite lessons was from Dr. John Maxwell, the global leadership expert who visited Oman last year, he focused on High Road Leaders who seek Significant Success in this world and that has become my mission since.

Every person wants to be valued, respected, appreciated and understood. Therefore, we as women leaders need to add value by serving others! It is simply about giving more, putting others first, being generous and creating value in people's life. Taking a high road requires a positive mindset, where you place others ahead of yourself and your own personal agenda.

After the loss of my only brother, who dedicated his last years of his life to giving back to others, I realized I am no longer chasing my own career success,

I must add value and create an impact on other people's lives because their success is simply my success.

With so many demands on your time, how do you stay intellectually curious? What inspires you, and how do you deliberately make space to stay informed and ahead in a fast-moving world?

It is hard to juggle around and time is essence, but I say this to my kids all the time, we are extremely lucky to have access to information on the palm of our hand. I still remember the days where we had to research by reading books, visiting libraries and trying to dial into the connection of the slowest PC ever! There is no excuse but to move forward, now with the amount of information available from around the globe and various applications.

When I am in town, I get distracted because all we do is go through a checklist of things to do and other obligations.

Therefore, I ensure to either step away from the noise, at times I walk at the beach, seeing sunrise, camping or any chance to connect with nature. I believe during the week we either gain energy or release energy and it could be positive or negative, we need to head somewhere we can energize!

It is important for me to keep up with the latest trends, innovative ideas, meet people to exchange knowledge, see what the world is doing differently, latest technology, exploring new opportunities, social media, digital marketing, competition, market trends and the list goes on.

TWO-DAY EVENT

Conference explores means of enhancing innovation

MUSCAT: The first international conference on business sustainability, titled "Enhancing the Innovation and Investment Ecosystem in the Sultanate of Oman," commenced on Monday.

The two-day event is being held under the auspices of Nasser Khamis Al Jashmi, Chairman of the Tax Authority, at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences (UTAS) branch in Muscat in partnership with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

The conference aligns with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, which include supporting national efforts to strengthen the Sultanate of Oman's position as a sustainable investment destination. The conference addresses several key themes, including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), regulatory reforms, innovation, and long-term economic sustainability.

Dr. Khalid Salim Al Abri, Assistant Vice Chancellor of the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, stated in his speech that the scientific committee received 136 research papers, of which only 38 were selected, reflecting a high scientific standard and meticulous selectivity in content.

He added that the conference brings together a distinguished



group of researchers and experts from seven different countries, a scene that reflects the depth of the international dimension and confirms that contemporary economic challenges require a cross-border dialogue based on the exchange of expertise and the integration of visions.

He further noted that the conference's adoption of a hybrid model, combining physical and virtual attendance, underscores its flexibility and broad impact.

He mentioned that the conference was designed to serve as a high-level platform for dialogue and integration, covering core themes that address a critical stra-

tegic question: How do we build a sustainable investment ecosystem capable of competing globally and qualified to lead economic transformation?

He emphasized the university's commitment to developing its postgraduate system, noting that the College of Economics and Business Administration offers specialized Master's programmes, most notably the MBA in Leadership and Innovation and the Master's in Taxation.

This step reflects a conscious response to labor market requirements and the needs of the current economic stage, while enhancing national competencies in vital

fields directly linked to development and investment.

Regarding institutional achievements, Al Abri highlighted the qualitative progress made by the university's Muscat branch in the field of research, noting that the number of scientific papers indexed in the Scopus database has exceeded 1,000.

Approximately 30 percent of these papers focus on the fields of investment, economics, and business, indicating a clear alignment of scientific research with national priorities.

He added that the current academic year witnessed a qualitative leap in external research funding, which neared OMR500,000, alongside the support and funding of the scientific incubator in collaboration with the university's partners from the industrial sector. This strategic move strengthens the link between knowledge and application and contributes to transforming scientific research into sustainable economic value.

The first day of the conference featured participation from several institutions, including Muscat Stock Exchange and the World Bank. Additionally, an accompanying exhibition showcasing a number of student projects was inaugurated.

-ONA

NCSI DATA



Electricity generation in Oman rises by 17.4%

MUSCAT: Total electricity generation in the Sultanate of Oman recorded a significant increase of 17.4 percent during the first two months of 2026, reaching 6,565.1 gigawatt-hours (GWh) compared to 5,590.6 GWh during the same period in 2025, according to preliminary data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

The statistics showed an increase in net electricity production—which includes purchases by Oman Power and Water Procurement Company and the Rural Areas Electricity Company, categorised by region—by 17.3 percent to reach 6,333.8 GWh by the end of February 2026, compared to 5,401.6 GWh during the corresponding period last year.

Regarding water production, total output in the Sultanate of Oman until the end of February

2026 recorded a slight decrease of 1.2 percent, totaling 78,444.0 million cubic metres, compared to 79,426.0 million cubic metres during the same period in 2025.

At the governorate level, Dhofar Governorate led the list of governorates experiencing growth in production, with an increase of 1.7 percent to reach 12,435.6 million cubic metres, compared to 12,224.0 million cubic metres in the same period last year.

Conversely, Muscat Governorate recorded a decrease of 3.7 percent, with production reaching 30,717.4 million cubic metres compared to 31,881.7 million cubic metres. Water production in the remaining governorates also saw a slight decline of 0.1 percent, reaching 35,291.0 million cubic metres compared to 35,320.3 million cubic metres during the same period of 2025. - ONA

SPORTS

Salt, Patidar lead RCB’s record charge as MI fall short in chase



The 131-run partnership set up Bengaluru's 240, which proved just enough despite Rutherford's late surge for the hosts

MUMBAI: Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) pulled off a commanding and rare batting-first victory at the Wankhede Stadium, overpowering Mumbai Indians by 18 runs after posting a record-breaking 240 for 4, powered by a brutal top-order assault from Phil Salt and Rajat Patidar.

Salt's 78 off 36 balls and Patidar's blistering 53 off just 20

deliveries—his fastest IPL fifty—added a staggering 131 runs in just 56 balls, setting the tone for RCB's highest-ever total at the venue.

Despite Virat Kohli's controlled 50 off 38 and Tim David's late 34* off 16, the early carnage left MI constantly behind the game.

In reply, Mumbai Indians fought hard to reach 222 for 5, led by Sherfane Rutherford's unbeat-

en 71 off 31 balls, and useful contributions from Hardik Pandya (40), Ryan Rickelton (37), and Suryakumar Yadav (33). But RCB's spinners—Suyash Sharma and Krunal Pandya—struck at key moments to break momentum just when MI threatened to take control.

Salt, Patidar set Wankhede ablaze

Even after losing the toss on a typically dew-laden Wankhede surface, RCB refused to play cautiously. Kohli struck the first boundary of the innings with a six, but Salt immediately seized control, hammering 47 off 22 in the powerplay.

He dismantled Mitchell Santner with a fearless assault, including three sixes in a single over, while



MI were forced to use Jasprit Bumrah for two overs inside the power-play. Despite that, RCB raced to 71 without loss in six overs.

Patidar then shifted the innings into overdrive. His assault on Mayank Markande included three consecutive sixes, one of them a reverse sweep, as he tore into MI's spin options. When Shardul Thakur missed his lengths at the death, Patidar capitalised brutally, taking a 10-ball over for 23 runs as RCB surged past 160 inside 13 overs.

Salt eventually fell for a well-made 78, caught off Thakur, but the platform was already devastating.

While Kohli anchored with a steady 50, RCB's scoring momentum never dipped thanks to Patidar's acceleration. Even after his dismissal to Santner, RCB

maintained pressure through David's late hitting.

Bumrah bowled tightly at the death, conceding just 35 in his four overs, but lacked wickets for a fifth consecutive IPL outing.

MI's explosive start

Mumbai's chase began with intent, racing to 48 without loss in four overs, with Rickelton leading the charge. But Krunal Pandya slowed the tempo with a disciplined spell, while Suyash Sharma's double strike—removing Rickelton and Tilak Varma in his first over—shifted momentum sharply.

Rohit Sharma's injury retirement further dented MI's rhythm, and at 72 without loss after seven overs, the required rate had already climbed steeply.

Hardik's cameo and Suryakumar briefly kept hopes alive, but Krunal's dismissal of Suryakumar and Suyash's earlier breakthroughs ensured MI were always chasing the game.

Rutherford fights

Rutherford's explosive 71* off 31 balls gave MI a late surge, but the target proved too steep. RCB's spinners bowled eight overs for just 73 runs and picked up three crucial wickets, decisively outperforming MI's spin unit.

Brief scores: Royal Challengers Bengaluru 240/4 (Salt 78, Patidar 53, Kohli 50, David 34*; Thakur 1-32) beat Mumbai Indians 222/5 (Rutherford 71*, Hardik 40, Rickelton 37, Suryakumar 33; Suyash 2-47, Krunal 1-26). - Agencies

THREE VENUES

ILT20 Season 5 from Nov 22-Dec 20

DUBAI: The fifth season of the UAE's ILT20 league will begin on November 22 this year and run till December 20, featuring the usual 34 matches - 30 matches in the league stage and the four playoffs - at the three primary cricket centres in the region: Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah. The final will be played in Dubai, as has been the case in the four previous seasons.

The window for the ILT20 had been switched prior to the last season, when it was played in December-January instead of January-February - it's even earlier this season - to avoid overlaps with the many other leagues that take place around the same time, including the SA20, which is scheduled to begin after January 10 next year.

"We are delighted with Season 4's success," David White, the ILT20 chief executive said in a statement on Monday. "The broadcast numbers, spectators' interest and participation of the biggest T20 stars made the tournament a massive success as the quality of the



league grew further.

"The DP World ILT20 continues to make massive strides and our strategic partnerships with Saudi Arabia Cricket Federation and Kuwait Cricket are already making a big impact. This year, these partnerships will be consolidated further through our development tournaments, which will be played in both countries prior to Season 5."

Like ahead of the fourth season,

there will be an auction for the six teams - defending champions Desert Vipers, Gulf Giants, MI Emirates, Dubai Capitals, Sharjah Warriors and Abu Dhabi Knight Riders - to finalise their squads ahead of the upcoming season. "We are already gearing up for this year's auction," White said. Apart from Desert Vipers, Gulf Giants, MI Emirates and Dubai Capitals are past winners of the tournament. - Agencies

IPL

RCB’s David fined for ‘disobeying umpire’s instructions’ twice

BENGALURU: Tim David, the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) batter, has been fined 25% of his match fee and has also accumulated one demerit point for a Level 1 code of conduct breach in his side's win over Mumbai Indians (MI).

According to an IPL release, David breached Article 2.4, which relates to "disobeying an umpire's instruction during a match" on two occasions.

The first incident occurred when the umpires changed the ball after 17.2 overs in RCB's batting innings. The release stated that David "wanted to have a look at the ball and did not hand it over despite being repeatedly asked to do so."

TV visuals at the time showed David closely inspecting the changed ball and juggling it with one hand. Kannur Swaroopanand, one of the two on-field umpires in Sunday's game, could be seen



trying to stop David from juggling the ball. The other on-field umpire Virender Sharma then joined in to retrieve the ball.

The second incident occurred after 19.2 overs, when, according to the IPL's statement, David "again did not hand over the ball to the umpires, amounting to repeated failure to comply with the instructions or directives of the umpires." This is David's first infraction of the season and he ac-

cepted the match referee's decision after the game.

Meanwhile, MI captain Hardik Pandya has also been pulled up for maintaining a slow over-rate. This was MI's first offence of the season and Hardik was fined INR 12 lakh.

RCB are at No. 3 on the points table following Sunday's 18-run victory at the Wankhede Stadium. Mumbai are eighth with three losses in four. - Agencies

SANYA IN CHINA

6th Asian Beach Games: Oman to compete in five sports



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman will participate in the sixth Asian Beach Games (ABG), scheduled to be held in Sanya, China from April 22 to 30, competing in five sports: beach football, beach volleyball, beach handball, beach athletics, and modern triathlon (aquathlon).

In a press release, the Oman Olympic Committee (OOC) said that all arrangements related to

Oman's participation, including registration of athletes, coaches, and officials, finalisation of team selections, and logistical coordination covering travel, accommodation, and technical preparations have been completed.

The official Oman delegation will be headed by Taha Suleiman Al Kishry, accompanied by OOC board member Khalifa Al Jabri, chef de mission Ishaq Al Balushi, delegation administrator Salim



Al Rawahi, team doctor Sameh Ibrahim, physiotherapist Samir Al Hamdani, media representative Fahad Al Zuhaimi, and photographer Faisal Al Balushi.

Oman's beach soccer team will compete from April 22 to 30 at Yuhai Road Beach, featuring 12 players supported by seven technical and administrative staff members.

The national beach handball team will participate from April 21 to 30 at the western gate of the

Tianya Haijiao Tourist Area, comprising 10 players and five technical and administrative staff.

In beach volleyball, Oman will be represented by two players, one coach, and one administrator, with competitions scheduled from April 23 to 29 at Haihong Square in Sanya Bay.

The modern triathlon (aquathlon) event will take place along the Sanya Bay waterfront from April 23 to 25, with Oman fielding



one athlete and one coach.

Meanwhile, the national beach athletics team includes five men and two girls competing in the 60m sprint, long jump, high jump, and 4x60m relay, supported by three technical and administrative staff members. Their events will be held at Phoenix Island Arena from April 23 to 26.

This participation reflects Oman's commitment to maintaining a consistent presence in conti-

mental sporting events, enhancing the competitive readiness of national teams, increasing athletes' technical exposure, and strengthening the country's sporting profile at the international level.

The ABG, organised under the umbrella of the Olympic Council of Asia, will feature 45 nations across Asia. The Games include 14 sports and 15 disciplines, comprising 61 events in total, highlighting the diversity of beach sports in Asia.

OMAN OIL PRICE RISES
MUSCAT: The official price of Oman crude oil for June delivery settled at \$105.83 per barrel on Monday. This marks a rise of \$5.64 compared to Friday's closing price of \$100.19 per barrel. The monthly average price for Oman crude oil for April delivery stood at \$86.15 per barrel. — **ONA**

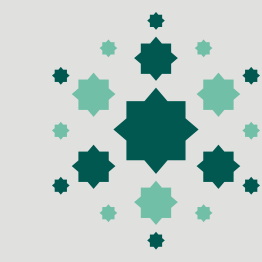
MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 8,212.04 points, up by 0.40% from previous close. The Shariah Index ended down by -0.05% at 663.52 points. Raysut Cement, up 42.25%, was the top gainer while, Al Madina Investments, down 9.52%, was the top loser. **>B2**



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CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN

OMR2.1mn raised via treasury bills

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR2.1 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Monday. The value of the allotted treasury bills include OMR0.6 million for a maturity period of 91 days. The average accepted price reached OMR99.050 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR99.050 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 3.81044% and 3.84699%, respectively.

Additionally, treasury bills amounting to OMR1.5 million for a maturity period of 364 days was also allotted. The average accepted price reached OMR96.210 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR96.210 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 3.80041% and 3.95012%, respectively.

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



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

It may be noted that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 4.25% while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is 4.75%.

Furthermore, Treasury Bills promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the Government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. — **ONA**

CEO STEPS DOWN

Al Mouj Muscat announces major leadership transition

MUSCAT: Al Mouj Muscat's Chief Executive Officer, Nasser Al Sheibani, has stepped down after nearly two decades of service. His leadership has played a defining role in shaping one of Oman's most distinguished integrated lifestyle destinations.

Nasser has been part of the Al Mouj Muscat journey since 2007, contributing from its earliest development phase through to its evolution into a fully established, award-winning mixed-use destination. Since becoming Chief Executive Officer in 2015, he has led the organisation through a period of sustained growth and transformation, overseeing the delivery of more than 3,300 residential units across apartments, villas, and townhouses, alongside four hotels, 96 retail outlets, and 61 community amenities.

Under his leadership, Al Mouj Muscat expanded its masterplan with landmark developments including Golf Beach Residences, Murooj Lanes, Azura Beach Residences, and the Business Park, while maintaining a strong commitment to placemaking, with green spaces now accounting for 37% of the overall development. The destination has attracted buy-



ers from more than 90 countries, with over 8,000 residents representing 90 nationalities now calling Al Mouj Muscat home.

During his time, the organisation also delivered significant commercial and operational growth, including revenue growth of more than 150%, customer satisfaction levels of 92%, and a Customer Experience Index of 940 out of 1,000. Al Mouj Muscat has further contributed more than OMR3.7 million to community initiatives spanning education, sport, environmental stewardship, and social development, while supporting the creation of over 2,200 jobs, with an Omaniisation rate of 67% and 40% female representation in senior leadership roles. Saif Al Yaarubi, Chairman of

the Board of Al Mouj Muscat, said: "On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Nasser Al Sheibani for his outstanding leadership and long-standing contribution to Al Mouj Muscat. Nasser has been at the heart of this organisation since its early days, playing a defining role in its development and success. His vision, commitment, and steady leadership have helped establish Al Mouj Muscat as one of the region's most respected integrated lifestyle destinations. We are especially grateful for the legacy he leaves behind and the foundations he has laid for the future."

Reflecting on his tenure, Nasser Al Sheibani said: "Leading Al Mouj Muscat has been one of the greatest privileges of my career, but what has made it truly meaningful is the people. Together, we have built something far beyond a development; we have built a community. We have achieved a great deal as a team, navigating challenges, delivering milestones, and shaping a destination we can all be proud of. None of this happens without dedication, belief, and a shared sense of purpose."

He added, "As I step away, I do so with enormous confidence in what

lies ahead. The strength of this organisation has always been its people, and I have no doubt that Al Mouj Muscat's best years are still to come."

Looking ahead, the Board has appointed Ahmed Al Massan as Acting Chief Executive Officer. Ahmed joined Al Mouj Muscat in 2008 and has served as Chief Financial Officer since 2018, where he has played a key role in strengthening the organisation's financial performance, governance, and long-term strategic planning.

His leadership has contributed to the company's operational resilience and sustained growth over the years. With deep institutional knowledge and extensive experience within the organisation, Ahmed brings continuity and stability as Al Mouj Muscat enters its next chapter. Al Mouj Muscat remains firmly focused on delivering its long-term vision of a world-class integrated lifestyle destination and contributing to Oman's broader economic and tourism development goals. This next phase builds on a strong foundation and continues the journey of shaping a vibrant and sustainable community for generations to come.

TO SHARE 2025 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Sohar International organises MSX investor session



MUSCAT: Sohar International convened an MSX investor session on Monday (13 April, 2026), as part of its ongoing commitment to maintaining transparent and consistent engagement with the investment community.

The session focused on presenting the bank's audited financial results for the year ended 31 December 2025, while also providing a broader perspective on its strategic direction and priorities for the period ahead.

Held in coordination with the Muscat Stock Exchange and conducted virtually via Zoom, the session brought together shareholders and financial analysts for an in-depth discussion on key operating dynamics and market positioning.

The session was led by Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, Chief Executive Officer, with Majid Nasser Al Busaidi, Chief Risk Officer; Craig Barrington Bell, Chief Financial Officer; Fahad Akbar Al Zadjali, Head of Sohar Islamic; and Azzan Mohammed Al Jahwari, Head of Strategy Management, participating as panellists.

The discussion included a detailed presentation of the audited results, followed by an interactive Q&A session that enabled direct dialogue on key metrics, performance drivers, and underlying business trends.

Commenting on the signifi-

cance of the session, Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, Chief Executive Officer, Sohar International, stated, "Engagements of this nature extend beyond the presentation of financial results and reflect a deliberate approach to strengthening understanding between the bank and its investors. Sessions such as these provide a structured platform to connect performance with the decisions, frameworks, and priorities that shape the institution's direction."

"At Sohar International, we maintain a long-term perspective across risk, capital, and growth, supported by disciplined execution and clear communication. As the operating environment continues to evolve, we remain focused on delivering measurable value to our shareholders while staying aligned with Oman's broader economic trajectory and the continued advancement of its financial sector," he further added.

The discussion outlined the bank's performance across key financial and operational indicators, including trends in core operating income, asset quality, capital adequacy, and evolving risk priorities.

It also placed these outcomes within the bank's broader operating direction, highlighting how Sohar International continues to convert strategic focus into tan-

gible progress through targeted investment in digital capabilities, ongoing enhancement of organisational effectiveness, and a more deliberate approach to customer delivery, as reflected in the bank's financial performance for the year.

The session was structured to enable broad participation across the investment community, with access facilitated through a streamlined digital registration process incorporating both a dedicated QR code and a login link. The format supported real-time interaction, allowing stakeholders to raise queries and engage directly with the bank's leadership. This approach reflects Sohar International's continued focus on maintaining open and consistent engagement with its stakeholders, reinforcing confidence through responsiveness and access to management.

As a forward-looking institution, Sohar International remains committed to sustaining its performance momentum while strengthening its institutional capabilities.

The bank is positioned to capture emerging opportunities within a shifting financial landscape while maintaining a steady operating profile.

In doing so, it plays an active role in supporting Oman's economic development and contributing to the resilience of the broader financial sector.

Renaissance Services acquires Socat as part of new growth strategy



Photo (standing from left to right): Andrew Dawson, CEO, Renaissance Services; Erwan Harb, Managing Director, Socat; and Juma Al Khamisi, CFO, Renaissance Services

MUSCAT, Renaissance Services, Oman's leading integrated facilities management (IFM) and accommodation solutions company, has announced the completion of its acquisition of Socat LLC, the Omani arm of the French multinational Sodexo, as part of a strategic growth initiative. The acquisition further consolidates Renaissance's market leadership and expands its service capabilities across the Sultanate.

Socat's client base includes commercial and institutional facilities, and this strategic acquisition enhances Renaissance's operational footprint and adds new value-based facility management (FM) capabilities to the Company's portfolio.

Speaking on the occasion, Samir J Fancy, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Renaissance Services, said, "Facilities management is a critical enabler of Oman Vision 2040, supporting the efficiency, sustainability and resilience of the Sultanate's infrastructure

and economic assets. As Oman's largest IFM provider, Renaissance is committed to strengthening the scale and depth of capabilities required to support this national agenda."

The Socat acquisition represents the first transaction under Renaissance's previously announced inorganic growth strategy and is expected to support long-term value creation for shareholders by further strengthening the Company's market position and service offerings. The Company continues to actively evaluate additional acquisition opportunities in Oman and within the region that complement its core strengths and align with its long-term strategic growth objectives in the facilities management and allied support services sector.

Juma Al Khamisi, Chief Financial Officer, Renaissance Services, added, "The acquisition of Socat strengthens our diversification and enhances the resilience of our balance sheet through stable,

long-term cashflows. It will expand our private-sector presence and positions us for scalable growth."

Erwan Harb, Managing Director, Socat LLC, said, "Over the years, Socat has established itself as a high-performing and agile player in Oman's catering and facilities management market, driven by strong operational discipline and a clear focus on client value. Joining Renaissance marks a natural next step in our journey, enabling us to scale faster, expand our private sector footprint, and bring more competitive and innovative solutions to the market."

Renaissance Services, which is publicly listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX), is a leader in integrated facilities management, accommodation and support services in Oman. It serves prestigious clients across multiple sectors including oil and gas, defence, healthcare, gated communities, waste management and utilities at over 100 sites.

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Raysut Cement, up 42.25%, was the top gainer while, Al Madina Investments, down 9.52%, was the top loser, at the end of trading session

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 8,212.04 points, up by 0.40% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by -0.05% at 663.52 points. Raysut Cement, up 42.25%, was the top gainer while, Al Madina Investments, down 9.52%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while OQBI were the most active in terms of turnover.



A total number of 5,704 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR67.71 million, with more than 221.72 million shares changing hands. Out of 74 traded securities, 38 advanced, 20 declined, and 16 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net sellers for OMR1,360,000 while foreign investors were net buyers for OMR1,006,000, followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR354,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 12,929.72 points, up 0.23%. Prices of Al Batinah Development Company, Financial Corporation, DIDIC, Bank Dhofar, Takaful Oman were up by 15.66%, 10.00%, 3.29%, 1.49%, 1.33% respectively. Prices of Al Madina Investments, Al Anwar Investment, Oman & Emirates Investment, Al Ma-

dina Takaful, Al Sharqia Investment were down by 9.52%, 3.05%, 2.52%, 1.56%, 0.86% respectively. Industrial Index closed at 10,199.06 points, up 0.87%. Prices of Raysut Cement, Oman Fisheries, Oman Chromite, Oman Packaging, Oman Flour Mills were up by 42.25%, 20.83%, 7.81%, 5.63%, 4.40% respectively. Prices of A'Saffa Foods, Galfar Engineering, Al Maha Ceramics, Jazeera Steel Products were down by 2.78%, 1.04%, 0.34%, 0.24% respectively. Services Index was down by -0.65% before closing at 3,244.18 points. Prices of Salalah Port Services, Oman National Engineering, Barka Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, OQ Exploration & Production were up by 9.92%, 2.61%, 1.77%, 1.49%, 1.27% respectively.

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	8,226.07	8,185.30	8,212.04	8,179.21	32.83	0.40
FINANCIAL INDEX	12,951.98	12,873.40	12,929.72	12,899.57	30.14	0.23
Industry Index	10,202.91	10,065.58	10,199.06	10,110.97	88.10	0.87
Services Index	3,272.54	3,243.12	3,244.18	3,265.40	-21.23	-0.65
MSX Shariah Index	665.42	661.00	663.52	663.85	-0.33	-0.05
MSX TR INDEX	12,701.50	12,638.56	12,679.84	12,629.15	50.70	0.40
FINANCIAL TR IDX	15,861.88	15,795.46	15,864.57	15,827.58	36.99	0.23
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	12,891.45	12,801.45	13,062.41	12,949.58	112.83	0.87
SERVICES TR IDX	4,372.96	4,333.66	4,335.06	4,363.43	-28.36	-0.65
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,209.68	1,209.68	1,209.68	1,209.68	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
221,729,215	67,714,570	5,704	38,094,649,411	38	20	16	74

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, APRIL 13

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	3,518	6,558	6	1.860	1.890	1.860	1.890	1.860	0.030	1.613	1.890	1.860	1.890	0.100	189,000,000
OM0000000972	Q GAS NETWORKS	11,928,861	3,239,617	698	0.270	0.273	0.269	0.272	0.268	0.004	1.493	0.272	0.272	0.272	0.100	1,177,929,706
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	1,092,000	96,070	78	0.088	0.089	0.086	0.088	0.087	0.001	1.149	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.100	12,523,500
OM0000000325	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	1,917,144	594,826	53	0.310	0.314	0.309	0.314	0.311	0.003	0.965	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.100	62,800,000
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	14,732	41,993	5	2.880	2.890	2.850	2.850	2.825	0.025	0.885	2.850	2.850	2.900	0.100	255,645,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	102,933	39,061	15	0.384	0.384	0.379	0.382	0.379	0.003	0.792	0.382	0.380	0.382	0.100	428,930,196
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	1,569,831	339,074	90	0.222	0.214	0.202	0.211	0.210	0.001	0.476	0.211	0.202	0.212	0.100	46,490,000
OM0000000398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	69,581,799	15,397,571	836	0.222	0.223	0.221	0.223	0.222	0.001	0.450	0.223	0.220	0.223	0.100	1,475,645,918
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	9,631,526	4,543,532	317	0.473	0.474	0.470	0.474	0.473	0.001	0.211	0.474	0.474	0.474	0.100	3,558,032,207
OM0000000306	OMAN TELECOM	4,675,103	7,183,813	236	1.531	1.544	1.531	1.538	1.535	0.003	0.195	1.538	1.688	1.538	0.100	1,153,500,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	162,000	57,510	12	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.000	0.000	0.355	0.352	0.355	0.100	37,275,000
OM0000002236	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	53,675	14,002	13	0.291	0.294	0.291	0.294	0.294	0.000	0.000	0.294	0.290	0.270	0.100	1,310,550
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	529,121	217,463	12	0.411	0.411	0.410	0.410	0.411	-0.001	-0.243	0.410	0.410	0.420	0.100	96,928,100
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	43,432	35,477	5	0.800	0.819	0.800	0.818	0.820	-0.002	-0.244	0.818	0.820	0.818	0.100	102,166,531
OM0000003968	QOEDDOO	97,517	35,859	14	0.368	0.370	0.367	0.368	0.370	-0.002	-0.541	0.368	0.367	0.368	0.100	239,547,477
OM0000000634	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,138,264	998,302	238	0.467	0.471	0.465	0.467	0.470	-0.003	-0.638	0.467	0.467	0.467	0.100	359,683,400
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	1,114,996	168,653	62	0.152	0.153	0.151	0.151	0.152	-0.001	-0.658	0.151	0.151	0.152	0.100	337,779,908
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO	498,778	58,400	35	0.118	0.120	0.116	0.116	0.117	-0.001	-0.855	0.116	0.116	0.119	0.100	10,440,000
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	127,912	16,305	17	0.128	0.128	0.126	0.126	0.128	-0.002	-1.563	0.126	0.127	0.128	0.100	22,650,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	93,794	17,355	14	0.211	0.213	0.206	0.206	0.211	-0.005	-2.370	0.206	0.205	0.209	0.100	139,028,611
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	850	730	2	0.865	0.865	0.841	0.841	0.865	-0.024	-2.775	0.841	0.841	0.870	0.100	100,920,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	227,200	46,593	34	0.211	0.211	0.203	0.205	0.211	-0.006	-2.844	0.205	0.203	0.205	0.100	146,453,300
Total	22	105,595,576	33,137,746	2,782												

Parallel Market

OM0000002911	FINANCIAL CORPORATION	152,900	8,410	2	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.050	0.005	10.000	0.055	0.052	0.055	0.100	3,851,648
OM0000002333	SALALAH PORT SERVICES	1,000	687	2	0.687	0.687	0.687	0.687	0.625	0.062	9.920	0.687	0.680	0.687	0.100	123,548,294
OM0000001020	OMAN CHROMITE	2,544	8,194	7	3.100	3.450	3.100	3.450	3.200	0.250	7.813	3.450	3.200	3.450	1.000	12,523,500
OM0000001608	OMAN PACKAGING	200	34	1	0.169	0.169	0.169	0.169	0.160	0.009	0.999	0.169	0.000	0.169	0.100	5,481,660
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	850	428	2	0.501	0.522	0.501	0.522	0.500	0.022	4.400	0.522	0.501	0.522	0.100	90,642,038
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTL DEVPMT & INVESTMENT	3,640,347	1,248,254	242	0.335	0.351	0.335	0.345	0.334	0.011	3.293	0.345	0.345	0.350	0.100	171,139,369
OM0000001152	OMAN NATL ENG & INVESTMENT	5,781	886	3	0.151	0.157	0.151	0.157	0.153	0.004	2.614	0.157	0.153	0.157	0.100	23,550,000
OM0000000870	BARKA DESALINATION	3,315	569	4	0.171	0.173	0.171	0.173	0.170	0.003	1.785	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.100	13,065,306
OM0000000908	QK BASE INDUSTRIES (SF2)	67,914,682	20,789,663	900	0.303	0.308	0.303	0.308	0.303	0.005	1.650	0.308	0.273	0.308	0.040	1,065,523,182
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	778,549	158,897	48	0.202	0.205	0.202	0.205	0.202	0.003	1.485	0.205	0.205	0.206	0.100	623,158,699
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	106,530	8,092	16	0.075	0.077	0.075	0.076	0.075	0.001	1.333	0.077	0.075	0.077	0.100	19,900,000
OM0000001580	MUSCAT FINANCE	35,100	28,678	17	0.075	0.077	0.075	0.077	0.076	0.001	1.316	0.077	0.075	0.077	0.100	23,650,267
OM00000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	15,668,801	7,485,441	501	0.472	0.480	0.472	0.477	0.471	0.006	1.274	0.477	0.477	0.480	0.010	3,816,000,000
OM00000009569	JABAL REIF	3,900	403	2	0.103	0.104	0.103	0.104	0.103	0.001	0.971	0.104	0.103	0.105	0.100	18,096,000
OM00000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	3,976	417	2	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.104	0.001	0.962	0.105	0.104	0.105	0.100	68,495,939
OM00000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	90,669	11,334	11	0.125	0.126	0.124	0.126	0.125	0.001	0.800	0.126	0.123	0.126	0.100	35,745,039
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	20,395	11,101	13	0.547	0.547	0.541	0.544	0.540	0.004	0.741	0.544	0.525	0.544	0.100	179,994,751
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	47,554	19,355	31	0.410	0.410	0.406	0.409	0.406	0.003	0.739	0.409	0.407	0.409	0.100	20,590,032
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	1,610	1,216	1	0.755	0.755	0.755	0.755	0.750	0.005	0.667	0.755	0.000	0.769	0.100	71,725,000
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	102,200	17,991	8	0.181	0.181	0.176	0.176	0.175	0.001	0.571	0.176	0.176	0.177	0.100	28,160,000
OM0000002230	AHLI BANK	13,793,700	2,650,000	20	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.192	0.001	0.521	0.193	0.183	0.200	0.100	82,416,460
OM00000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	215,000	41,925	2	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.194	0.001	0.515	0.195	0.190	0.200	0.100	390,534,950
OM0000010823	OMAN GATEWAY FUND	1,162	1,308	9	1.120	1.135	1.120	1.135	1.130	0.005	0.442	1.135	1.122	1.135	0.000	31,036,858
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	157,385	16,535	29	0.107	0.107	0.108	0.104	0.105	0.005	0.000	0.105	0.104	0.106	0.100	8,525,000
OM0000000384	FINANCIAL SERVICES	10,298	2,144	5	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.000	0.000	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.100	9,950,000
OM0000000426	OMAN REFRESHMENT	855	1,251	31	1.310	1.310	1.310	1.310	1.310	0.000	0.000	1.310	1.300	1.310	0.100	6,800,000
OM0000001806	MUSCAT INSURANCE	10,000	5,800	4	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.580	0.000	0.000	0.580	0.560	0.580	1.000	6,394,527
OM0000001889	SALALAH MILLS	279	185	1	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.000	0.000	0.700	0.700	0.785	0.100	43,724,145
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	120,472	9,766	7	0.083	0.083	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.000	0.000	0.081	0.080	0.088	0.100	17,070,000
OM0000003000	AL MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	161	200	1	1.240	1.240	1.240	1.240	1.240	0.000	0.000	1.240	1.220	1.240	0.100	85,560,000
OM00000003295	NATIONAL DETERGENT	300	210	1	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.000	0.000	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.100	14,000,000
OM0000000707	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	4,628	1,038	1	0.313	0.313	0.313	0.313	0.313	0.000	0.000	0.313	0.313	0.313	0.100	16,353,333
OM0000001010	ASYAD SHIPPING	1,760,102	546,169	285	0.313	0.313	0.307	0.309	0.309	0.000	0.000	0.309	0.309	0.309	0.000	1,609,510,000
OM0000000505	ALMAHA CERAMICS	63,084	18,020	21	0.285	0.280	0.281	0.280	0.291	-0.001	-0.344	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.100	15,500,000
OM0000000868	THE PEARL REIF	123,603	21,971	20	0.178	0.178	0.176	0.177	0.178	-0.001	-0.562	0.177	0.176	0.177	0.100	104,684,328
OM0000004745	SEMBOCOR SALALAH	665,093	149,382	17	0.227	0.227	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.005	-2.803	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.100	211,914,977
OM0000000568	ALMAHA CERAMICS	620,735	129,262	17	0.227	0.227	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.005	-2.804	0.227	0.227	0.227	0.100	211,914,977
OM0000000181	OMAN EMIRATES HO	8,674,175	461,045	17	0.082	0.087	0.055	0.155	0.155	0.028	-0.004	-0.216	0.155	0.155	0.100	18,800,027
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	67,540	15,247	13	0.227	0.227	0.224	0.224	0.230	-0.006	-2.609	0.224	0.224	0.225	0.100	44,718,374
OM0000001772	ALANWAN INVESTMENT	368,730	70,761	40	0.181	0.197	0.181	0.191	0.197	0.000	-3.046	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.100	57,023,610
OM0000007407	GHOFAR GENERATING	237,525	21,366	34	0.093	0.093	0.087	0.090	0.093	0.003	-3.226	0.090	0.090	0.092	0.100	20,001,600
OM0000001692	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	757,445	28,004	38	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.042	-0.004	-0.524	0.098	0.000	0.008	10,000,000
Total		1,102,074	369,993	2,648												



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- Laundrymen – 2 Nos.
- Arabic / International Cuisine Cooks – 2 Nos.

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 - Experience in reputed hotels preferred
- Cooks must have:
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Indian male M.Com with finance 26+ yrs experience in Oman as a senior accountant having valid Oman D/L. Looking for senior position in Finance/Accounts. Contact: 99733304

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male, Bcom, MBA finance, 15 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs in accounts. Have valid Oman D/L. Mob: 97436925

Male, 46 yrs, manager (handling accounts & operations) 22 yrs of exp. (20 yrs in Oman) seeks suitable placement. Contact: 91410602

Indian, male, B.Com, 2 yrs' experience seeking Accountant position. Can join immediately. GSM: 76425989

ADMINISTRATION

Indian male, 16 yrs experience in Oman seeks job for admin, secretary or any suitable post. Holding Oman D/L. Mobile: 77304055.

Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 78439875

ADMINISTRATION

Indian male MBA (International Business) graduate seeking opportunity in import, export, logistics executive roles. Knowledge in documentation, logistics & shipment coordination. Available for Immediate joining. Contact: +968 91627207, Mail: hamimumz@gmail.com

Office manager to MD, CEO or COO's office/ executive secretary available, experience 20 yrs Oman based, availability 1 month notice period, valid until July. Contact: 92080631

Indian male, 4 yrs Oman experience in oil & gas (sales & logistics). Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 78992297

IT

Experienced IT Support professional with 8+ years of expertise in ITSM. Immediate joiner. Contact: +968 76461900 (+91) 9952190495, WhatsApp

MCA graduate seeking a suitable job opportunity in Oman. Available in Muscat. Contact: 91488059

ENGINEER

Senior electrical project engineer, 15+ yrs experience with Nama electricity projects, looking for suitable openings. Mob: +968 9470 5758

Sales & service engineer (Indian), 3+ yrs technical sales & operations Oil & Gas. Valid D/L. Mob.: 98211984

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

AutoCAD Draughtsman with 14 years of experience in architectural and interior drawings. Skilled, detail-oriented, and ready to join immediately. Contact: +968 9675235, Email: Shiginsam24@gmail.com

LOGISTICS

Logistics operations coordinator seeking new opportunity. Mobile: 97869393

Indian male graduate, 12 yrs experience in warehouse management & logistics. Looking for a senior position. Contact: 97254050

MANAGER

Sri Lankan - Senior quantity surveyor / project manager with 16 yrs Oman and GCC experience seeking position in a reputed firm. Call 96039602

MANAGER

Project manager (Civil) Indian, 18 yr GCC experience, valid D/L and transferable visa, can join immediately. Contact: 97723786

Project manager Civil seasoned professional with strong consultancy and construction expertise. Open for suitable opportunities. Contact: 93455363 | WA +966 56 373 2589 (WhatsApp)

MEP construction manager, Gulf experience 28 years, own visa, Oman DL. Mob. No: 79809590

Accounting manager, Indian (M), 43 yrs, 18+ yrs in Oman, D/L & NOC. Contact: 76432203

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian male procurement executive with 11 yrs of experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L available in Muscat for immediate joining. Contact: 92345877

Procurement engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading. Whatsapp: +96895839964

SALES/MARKETING

Indian, MBA, 20yrs of experience in Sales (FMCG / retail) with D/L seeks suitable placement. Contact : 95548480

Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in sales and marketing. Contact: 94566786

Sales & logistics coordinator (Oil & Gas, 4 yrs Oman exp.); total 11 yrs GCC exp. Indian male, holding Oman D/L. Contact: 78992297

Indian male, BBA, 20 yrs experience in sales & marketing in Oman. Holding valid Oman driving license seeks suitable placement. Contact No : 93011232 Email: jitinjoshua920@gmail.com

Indian male with a BCA degree and one year of experience in sales and marketing. GSM: 95387638

DRIVER

Looking driver job have car also. Contact: 98586920

Driver with 10 yrs experience (manual license) seeks job. Contact: 77319484

Multinational mission to restore navigation in Strait of Hormuz’

Macron said that France and the UK will convene a conference in the coming days with countries willing to contribute to a “peaceful multinational mission” to safeguard maritime traffic through the vital chokepoint

PARIS: French President Emmanuel Macron on Monday announced that France and the United Kingdom will jointly lead a multinational initiative aimed at restoring free and secure navigation in the Strait of Hormuz amid uncertainties over the virtual control of the strategic waterway between the US and Iran.

In a post on X, Macron said that the move is part of broader diplomatic efforts to address escalating tensions in the Middle East and ensure long-term regional stability and emphasised that the mission

would be “strictly defensive” and separate from any parties involved in ongoing hostilities.

Macron stated that France and the UK will convene a conference in the coming days with countries willing to contribute to a “peaceful multinational mission” to safeguard maritime traffic through the vital chokepoint, which is crucial for global energy shipments.

“Regarding the Strait of Hormuz, we will organise with the United Kingdom, in the coming days, a conference with countries ready to contribute alongside us to a peaceful multinational mission aimed at restoring freedom of navigation in the strait. This strictly defensive mission, distinct from the belligerents, will be deployed as soon as the situation allows,” Macron said in his post.

He also linked the initiative to wider regional concerns, including Iran’s nuclear and ballistic activities and what he described as destabilising actions in the region, despite a two-week ceasefire in place between the US-Israel coalition forces and Iran after over a month of conflict in the region.

The French President further said the effort is part of a broader push for diplomatic resolution of conflicts in West Asia, including restoring stability in Lebanon while respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity.

“No effort must be spared to swiftly achieve a solid and lasting resolution to the conflict in the Middle East through diplomatic means. A resolution that would enable the region to be endowed with a robust framework allowing each party to live in peace and security.



To achieve this, all substantive issues must be addressed with lasting solutions, whether concerning Iran’s nuclear and ballistic activities or its destabilising actions in the region, but also to enable the resumption, as quickly as possible, of free and unhindered navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and to ensure that Lebanon returns to the path of peace in full respect of its sovereignty and territorial integrity,” the post added.

Macron reiterated that France is ready to play a “full part” in the initiative, adding that the mission would be deployed once conditions allow.

This remark by the French President comes amid escalat-

ing geopolitical friction after the US Central Command (CENTCOM) is set to enforce restrictions on maritime traffic linked to Iranian ports.

According to CENTCOM, the measures are being implemented under a directive from US President Donald Trump and will apply uniformly to vessels of all nationalities operating in and out of Iranian ports in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

CENTCOM

CENTCOM clarified that while the measures target port activity associated with Iran, freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz for vessels transiting between non-Iranian ports would remain unaffected.

In response, Iranian authorities strongly criticised the US move, warning that maritime security across the Arabian Gulf and the Sea of Oman would be jeopardised if Iran’s security interests were threatened.

A spokesperson for Iran’s Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, quoted by state media IRIB, said that Tehran considers safeguarding national sovereignty in its territorial waters a “natural and legal duty”, adding that maritime security must be ensured collectively by all regional actors.

Iran also reiterated that it would continue to enforce control over access through the Strait of Hormuz, stating that vessels linked to hostile entities would not be permitted passage, while others would be allowed transit under regulations set by Iranian authorities. — ANI

INTERESTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

China calls for unimpeded passage in Hormuz amid Trump’s threat

BELJING: China on Sunday called for unobstructed navigation through the Strait of Hormuz as US President Donald Trump threatened a total blockade.

“Safeguarding the security, stability, and unimpeded passage in the Strait of Hormuz serves the common interests of the international community,” Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said on Monday, as reported by Xinhua.

When asked about Trump’s tariff threats if China is found supplying arms aid to Iran, Guo said that tariffs have no winners.

“China’s position is very clear: tariff wars have no winners,” he said, as cited by Global Times.

The threats come at a criti-

cal time as Trump is anticipated to visit Beijing in mid-May for a high-stakes summit with President Xi Jinping. The diplomatic mission was initially planned for early April, but was delayed by the US President, who stated at the time that his presence was required in Washington “to oversee the Iran war.”

Earlier on April 8, the Chinese government reaffirmed its commitment to regional stability following acknowledgements of its role in facilitating diplomatic breakthroughs in the Middle East, as reported by China Daily. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning stated that Beijing remains dedicated to fostering a peaceful resolution to ongoing

tensions in the region.

The spokesperson’s comments came as a direct response to international developments involving the United States and Iran. According to the report, Mao Ning addressed the media after US President Donald Trump credited Beijing with influencing the diplomatic shift, specifically noting that “China had helped bring Iran to the negotiating table.”

In a post on X, the Russian Foreign Ministry said, “On April 14-15, FM Sergey Lavrov will pay an official visit to China & hold talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. They are expected to discuss a broad range of bilateral issues, along with pressing international & regional matters.” — ANI



AFGHANISTAN

Polio vaccination campaign launched

KABUL: The Afghan government launched the first nationwide polio vaccination campaign of the current year 2026 on Monday to cover around 12.6 million children under five in the post-war nation, the private media outlet Tolonews reported.

However, it reported that the campaign has been postponed in the central Bamiyan, Daykundi and Ghor provinces due to cold weather.

The Afghan Ministry of Public Health on Saturday called upon parents to bring their children to the vaccination sites during the four-day anti-polio campaign.

Wild poliovirus remains an endemic in Afghanistan. — ANI

MARATHON NEGOTIATIONS

US-Iran talks: What prevented a deal and what’s next?

ISLAMABAD: Both sides blamed the other for the breakdown of peace talks in Islamabad, Pakistan on Sunday after a marathon session failed to deliver a deal to end the war sparked six weeks ago by US-Israeli attacks on Iran.

US officials said the negotiations fell apart because Iran would not commit to abandoning its nuclear programme. Iranian leaders, however, blamed Washington for the breakdown, without detailing the specific disputes.

“We need to see an affirmative commitment that they will not seek a nuclear weapon, and they will not seek the tools that would enable them to quickly achieve a nuclear weapon,” Vice President JD Vance said after the discussions.

Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, Iran’s parliamentary speaker and head of its delegation, said the responsibility now lies with Washington. “It is time for the United States to decide whether it can gain our trust,” he stated.

No deal on Hormuz or Iran’s nuclear programme

The Islamabad meeting marked the first face-to-face talks between the two countries in more than a decade and the highest-level engagement since Iran’s 1979 Islamic Revolution. The discussions followed a ceasefire agreed to earlier in the week.

Iran’s Tasnim news agency reported that what it called “excessive” US demands had blocked



progress. Other Iranian outlets said there was consensus on several issues, but deep divisions remained over Iran’s nuclear program and control of the Strait of Hormuz. Following the collapse of talks, US President Donald Trump announced that the US Navy would blockade the strait.

A spokesperson for Iran’s Foreign Ministry described the atmosphere as marked by mistrust, adding that reaching an agreement in a single session was never realistic.

Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar urged both sides to preserve the ceasefire agreed to on Tuesday, calling it “imperative” for continued efforts find peace.

“We leave here with a very simple proposal, a method of understanding that is our final and best offer. We will see if the Iranians ac-

cept it,” Vance said, before leaving for a nearby airport and flying out of Pakistan.

Several points unresolved

US-Iran talks remain stalled over a variety of issues, and analysts believe the sticking points are difficult to resolve. “The conflict was structural, not tactical. The US sought limits on Iran’s nuclear program, regional de-escalation, and secure navigation, framing these as security needs,” Fati-meh Aman, Iran-Pakistan expert and senior fellow at the Atlantic Council, told DW. “Iran demanded sanctions relief, recognition, and protection, negotiating for status rather than just limits. Their core objectives did not align.”

“The two sides came together but had a different understanding of how they would like to proceed

whether on the nuclear aspect or the Strait,” said Farwa Aamer, director of South Asia initiatives at the Asia Society Policy Institute in New York. “The marathon talks made way for a dialogue but reaching a common understanding may need longer term process.”

According to Aman, Washington wanted concessions first, while Tehran wanted relief first. With little trust and competing leverage, neither side moved. “The talks failed because their end goals, not just tactics, were fundamentally incompatible,” asserted Aman.

Can the ceasefire hold?

And yet, analysts are cautiously optimistic that the ceasefire will hold and that strikes will not resume, with potential backchannel diplomacy helping to sustain the truce.



“The ceasefire is holding, but it is fragile,” said Aman. “It is not based on a political agreement. It reflects a temporary pause shaped by caution and short-term calculations. Both sides are managing the situation rather than resolving it.”

Talks in Islamabad began Saturday, days after a fragile ceasefire was declared, as the six-week war, having killed thousands and unsettled global markets continued. Aamer is also relatively optimistic: “It is important that the truce holds, mediation channels remain intact, and both sides continue the diplomatic process,” she said.

Vance did not clarify in Islamabad what would happen after the two-week ceasefire expired, or whether the ceasefire would continue.

“The risk is gradual erosion,” said Aman. “Local incidents, miscalculations, or actions by allied groups could test the limits of restraint. Without a follow up diplomatic process, the ceasefire remains exposed. It may hold in

the short term, but it lacks long-term stability.”

More talks

Analysts believe immediate US-Iran talks are now unlikely, given heightened tensions and recent setbacks. However, diplomacy is not over, as both sides still have strong incentives to resume negotiations.

“More talks are likely, but not immediately,” said Aman. “Neither side wants to appear as conceding after a failed round. There will likely be a pause as both reassess their position and leverage. If talks resume, they are unlikely to begin with the most difficult issues. They will likely start with narrower, technical steps that reduce risk without requiring major concessions.” For Aamer, quiet diplomacy and mediation may remain at play to enable future rounds. “But it would be contingent on how the United States and Iran determine their immediate next steps,” she concluded. — DW

PONTIFF

Pope Leo: I am not afraid of Trump administration

VATICAN: The pontiff stressed that his increasingly strong anti-war statements are not attacks on any one person.

“The things I say are not meant as attacks on anyone,” Pope Leo XIV said on Monday as he flew to Algiers for a four-day African tour.

“I am not a politician. I am inviting all people to look for ways of building bridges of peace and reconciliation of looking for ways to avoid war any time that’s possible.”

Asked about criticism from US President Donald Trump over the US-Israel war with Iran,, Leo answered that he was “not afraid of the Trump administration.”



What happened between the Pope and Trump?

President Trump, members of his administration, and many of his most ardent supporters have invoked Christianity as a justification for strikes on Iran.

At Palm Sunday mass on March 29, Leo, without mentioning any names, said in his sermon: “This is our God: Jesus, King of Peace, who rejects war, whom no one can use to justify war...(Jesus) does not listen to the prayers of those who wage war, but rejects them, saying: ‘Even though you make many prayers, I will not listen: your hands are full of blood.’”

Can Pope Leo move President Trump on the Iran war?

This past Saturday, he more directly referenced the US-Israel led war in Iran, denouncing the “horror and inhumanity” and pleading with leaders to pursue diplomacy instead.

“Enough of the idolatry of self and money!” the pontiff said. “Enough of the display of power! Enough of war!”

It was this latest statement that seemed to prompt Trump’s latest outburst against the leader of the Catholic Church on his Truth Social platform. He said Leo was “terrible” at foreign policy and implied

that he had been elected as the first American pope solely in order to deal with Trump.

The president also said Leo was not “doing a very good job” and that “he’s a very liberal person,” while also suggesting the pontiff should “stop catering to the Radical Left.”

Leo appeared unruffled when giving his latest statements on the matter, telling reporters on the plane to Algeria that he “will not shy away from announcing the message of the gospel.”

“The message of the gospel is very clear: ‘blessed are the peacemakers.’” -dw

Magyar claims victory in Hungary elections

Peter Magyar's centre-right Tisza party secured 138 seats in the 199-member parliament, winning 53.6 per cent of the vote



BUDAPEST : Hungary’s long-serving Prime Minister Viktor Orban has conceded defeat in the parliamentary elections after partial official results indicated a decisive victory for Peter Magyar and his Tisza party, marking a significant political shift in the country after 16 years of continuous rule by Fidesz.

With 97.35 per cent of precincts counted, official results reported by Al Jazeera showed that Magyar’s centre-right Tisza party secured 138 seats in the 199-member parliament, winning 53.6 per cent of the vote. In contrast, Orban’s nationalist Fidesz party managed to secure 55 seats with 37.8 per cent of the vote, reflecting a sharp decline in support compared to previous elections.

Following the announcement of the early results, Orban accepted the outcome, effectively conceding defeat as it became clear that his party would not be able to form a majority government. The re-

sults are being widely seen as one of the most significant electoral reversals in Hungary’s recent political history.

In his victory speech delivered before thousands of supporters gathered in central Budapest, Magyar said his government would seek to reposition Hungary more firmly within the European mainstream and strengthen ties with Western allies.

He emphasised that Hungary’s future direction would be closely aligned with European institutions and values.

“Hungary will once again be a strong ally representing Hungarian interests, because our country’s place is in Europe,” Magyar said, Euro News reported.

Outlining his immediate foreign policy priorities, Magyar said his first official visits would include Warsaw and Vienna, followed by a trip to Brussels. There, he said, he

would work to secure the release of billions of euros in suspended European Union funds.

“We will bring home the EU funds that are due to the Hungarian people,” he said.

Magyar also pledged institutional reforms, including Hungary’s entry into the European Public Prosecutor’s Office, saying it would strengthen accountability and restore democratic safeguards.

“We will restore the system of checks and balances. We will join the European Public Prosecutor’s Office. We guarantee the democratic functioning of our country,” he added.

According to Euro News, Magyar also called on President Tamas Sulyok and other senior officials appointed during Orban’s tenure to step down, accusing them of political bias and urging immediate institutional changes.

“I call on the President of the Republic to immediately ask the winner to form a government and then leave office. I call on all the puppets who have been in power for the past 16 years to do the same,” he said.

He specifically referred to heads of major Hungarian institutions, including the judiciary, audit office, competition authority, and media regulator, demanding they step down without delay.

“Let them leave, leave. Don’t wait until we send them away,” Magyar added.

He further appealed for a smooth transition, warning against any attempts to limit the powers of the incoming administration. “If a serious decision or question arises regarding our nation during the hopefully short period of transition, please feel free to call me, you know my phone number,” Magyar said. -ANI

SECURITY SITUATION

Over 900,000 Indians evacuated from West Asia: Foreign Ministry

NEW DELHI: As the security situation evolves in West Asia and the Gulf region, a senior External Affairs Ministry official said on Monday that wide-scale efforts are underway to ensure the safety and movement of the Indian community in the region, with over 900,000 people having been brought back to the country.

The details were provided by Aseem R. Mahajan, Joint Secretary (Gulf) at the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), during an inter-ministerial briefing here in the national capital on Monday.

Mahajan informed that the dedicated special control room in the Ministry remains operational and is working in coordination with the Indian missions.

“Our missions and posts are operating round-the-clock helplines and pro-actively assisting our citizens. They remain in close contact with the local governments,”

He also shared flight updates and said that since February 28, around 9 lakh 27 thousand people have returned to India.

“Around 100 flights are expected to operate from the UAE to India today. Flights are operating from various airports in Saudi Arabia and Oman to different destinations in India. With the Qatar airspace partially open, Qatar Airways is expected to operate around eight to 10 flights to India today”, he said.

He added, “Bahrain’s airspace is open. Gulf Air has announced that it plans to commence limited flight operations from Bahrain to

India. Gulf Air is currently operating non-scheduled commercial flights from Dammam Airport in Saudi Arabia to various destinations across India. We continue to facilitate the travel of Indian nationals from Bahrain, through Saudi Arabia, to India. “

The MEA also continues evacuation assistance from conflict-affected parts of West Asia. He said, “ Our Embassy in Tehran has so far, facilitated the movement of 2,230 nationals from Iran to Armenia and Azerbaijan for onward travel to India. This includes 987 Indian students and 657 Indian fishermen.”

He further said that in Israeli airspace remains partially open while Iraqi airspace is open. He added, “Israeli airspace is partially open, with restricted flight operations. We continue to facilitate the travel of Indian nationals from Israel, through Jordan and Egypt to India. Iraq airspace is open. Iraqi Airways has started flights to India yesterday.”

He added, “We continue to facilitate the travel of Indian nationals from Iraq--via Jordan and Saudi Arabia--back to India.”

However, Kuwaiti airspace remains closed, and airlines including Jazeera Airways and Kuwait Airways are operating non-scheduled services via Dammam in Saudi Arabia.

He said, “Kuwaiti air-space remains closed. Jazeera Airways of Kuwait and Kuwait Airways continue to operate non-scheduled commercial flights from Dammam to destinations in India.” -ANI

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Global leaders hail Peter Magyar’s sweeping victory

BUDAPEST: Global congratulations poured in on Monday after Peter Magyar’s Tisza party secured a decisive victory in Hungary’s parliamentary elections, with partial official results indicating a major political shift after 16 years of continuous rule under Viktor Orban’s nationalist party Fidesz.

In a post on X, French President Emmanuel Macron said he held a meeting with Magyar to congratulate him on the victory, describing it as a win for democratic participation and European values, adding that both countries would work towards a stronger and more sovereign Europe.

“I just held a meeting with Peter Magyar to congratulate him on his victory in Hungary! France salutes a victory of democratic participation, of the Hungarian people’s attachment to the values of the European Union, and for Hungary in Europe. Together, let us advance a more sovereign Europe, for the security of our continent, our competitiveness, and our democracy,” Macron stated in his post.

From Canada, the office of Prime Minister Mark Carney extended congratulations to Magyar and his Tisza Party, expressing optimism about future cooperation.

The statement, posted on X, noted that Canada looks forward to working with the incoming government to strengthen bilateral ties and advance shared priorities, including economic prosperity and global security.

“Prime Minister Carney con-



gratulates Peter Magyar and the Tisza Party on their election victory in Hungary. Canada looks forward to working with the next government to strengthen bilateral ties and advance shared priorities on economic prosperity and global security,” the post read.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni also congratulated Magyar, while acknowledging outgoing leader Viktor Orban for his years of leadership.

Meloni, in a post on X, said Italy values its strong relationship with Hungary and expressed confidence that cooperation would continue in a constructive spirit.

“Congratulations on the clear electoral victory to Peter Magyar,

to whom the Italian government wishes good work. I thank my friend Viktor Orban for the intense collaboration of these years, and I know that even from the opposition he will continue to serve his Nation. Italy and Hungary are nations bound by a deep bond of friendship and I am certain that we will continue to collaborate in a constructive spirit in the interest of our peoples and the common challenges at the European and international level,” the post read.

Magyar’s victory is being widely seen as a turning point in Hungarian politics, potentially reshaping the country’s domestic policies as well as its relations within the European Union.

After conceding defeat in the parliamentary polls, Hungary’s long-serving Prime Minister Viktor Orban congratulated Magyar, whose party won the election by a landslide.

“Prime Minister Viktor Orban has just called to congratulate us on our victory,” Magyar said in a post on X. According to Al Jazeera, with 97.35 per cent of votes counted, Peter Magyar’s centre-right Tisza Party won 138 seats in the 199-member parliament, securing 53.6 per cent of the vote.

In contrast, nationalist leader Viktor Orban’s Fidesz obtained 55 seats with 37.8 per cent support, according Al Jazeera, citing official results. -ANI

PM Modi congratulates for landslide win in polls

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated Peter Magyar after the Tisza Party secured a decisive victory in Hungary’s parliamentary elections, marking a major political shift after 16 years of rule by Fidesz.

Congratulating Magyar in a post on X, the Prime Minister highlighted strong bilateral ties between India and Hungary, noting that he is looking forward to working closely with the incoming leadership to strengthen the relations between the two nations and advance the broader India-European Union strategic partnership for mutual prosperity.

“Heartiest congratulations to Peter Magyar and the Tisza Party on your resounding election victory. India and Hungary are bound by deep-rooted friendship, shared values and enduring mutual respect. I look forward to working closely with you to further strengthen our bilateral cooperation and to

advance the vital India-EU Strategic Partnership for the shared prosperity and well-being of our peoples,” the prime minister stated in his post.

Domestic policies

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SPORTS

BEREKUM CHELSEA CLUB

Ghanaian Premier League footballer killed in suspected armed robbery attack on team bus

ACCRA: In a tragic incident, Dominic Frimpong of Ghanaian Premier League club Berekum Chelsea was killed after the team's bus was attacked by a group of suspected armed robbers, the Ghana's football association said on Monday, local news agency reported.

The incident happened on Sunday as Berekum Chelsea was returning from their game against

Samartex in Samreboi in southern Ghana, the club said in a statement. "Masked men wielding guns and assault rifles started shooting at our bus as the driver tried to reverse. The players and staff fled into nearby bushes to take cover," the statement read.

The club said one of the players was badly injured and receiving medical attention at a nearby

hospital. The Ghanaian Football Association (GFA) later confirmed that 20-year-old winger Dominic Frimpong was reportedly killed in the incident.

"This tragic incident is not only a huge loss to Berekum Chelsea but also to Ghana football as a whole. Dominic was a promising young talent whose dedication and passion for the game embodied the

spirit of our league," the governing body said in a statement.

The GFA added it would strengthen security measures for clubs traveling for domestic competitions.

In 2023, another Ghanaian Premier League team's bus, Legon Cities, was attacked by suspected armed robbers, though no injuries were reported. — Agencies



Man City hammer Chelsea to close gap on leaders Arsenal



Pep Guardiola's City are now only six points behind the Gunners with a game in hand, setting up a key showdown against the leaders at the Etihad Stadium on April 19

LONDON: Manchester City issued a huge statement of intent in the race for the English Premier League title with a 3-0 win at Chelsea on Sunday.

Pep Guardiola's team moved to

within six points of leaders Arsenal ahead of next weekend's top of the table clash (April 19) between the two teams. City also have a game in hand.

Nico O'Reilly, Marc Guehi

and Jeremy Doku all scored in a blistering second-half performance at Stamford Bridge as City took full advantage of Arsenal's shock defeat to Bournemouth on Saturday.

"We know that we still have everything in our hands," Doku said.

Having beaten Arsenal in the League Cup final and thrashed Liverpool in the FA Cup quarter-finals, City are hitting form at just the right time.

Their bid for a seventh English title under Guardiola appeared to be fading after successive draws with strugglers West Ham and Nottingham Forest in their previous two league matches.

Second-placed City have the chance to cut the gap at the top to three points with victory against Arsenal at the Etihad.

Guardiola called for respect for Arsenal when looking ahead to that title showdown.

"They have been the best team in this country, in Europe, so far. Beating Arsenal once is so difficult, imagine beating them twice in a few weeks," Guardiola said.

"I would like to say to my fans — respect Arsenal a lot, they are an extraordinary team. Come to join us from minute one because the players will do the maximum."

Rayan Cherki was the inspira-

tion at Stamford Bridge — setting up goals for O'Reilly six minutes after halftime and Guehi in the 57th.

Doku rounded off the win in the 68th.

The result didn't help Chelsea's bid to qualify for the Champions League, leaving them four points behind fifth-placed Liverpool.

Liam Rosenior's team has won just one of its last seven league games.

Meanwhile, Tottenham's survival fight took another blow after a 1-0 loss to Sunderland left them rooted in the relegation zone.

In coach Roberto De Zerbi's first game in charge, Spurs fell to a 16th

league loss of the season. Their 14-game winless run in the league dates back to January 1.

Nordi Mukiele's deflected shot sealed the game at the Stadium of Light and plunged Tottenham's campaign deeper into crisis.

An injury to Cristian Romero made a bad day worse for Spurs, who next face Brighton, one of De Zerbi's former clubs.

Tottenham are two points adrift of safety with six games to go. Their plight wasn't helped by relegation-fighting Nottingham Forest drawing 1-1 with Aston Villa.

Crystal Palace came back from 1-0 down to beat Newcastle 2-1 at Selhurst Park. — Agencies

ITALIAN SERIE A

Inter overcome Como; Napoli held by Parma

ROME: Inter Milan fought back from two goals down for a 4-3 victory at Como on Sunday and extended their Italian Serie A lead to nine points with six rounds remaining. Marcus Thuram and Denzel Dumfries each had braces for Inter, who took advantage of second-place Napoli being held 1-1 at Parma earlier to increase their advantage.

Alex Valle and Nico Paz scored for Como late in the first half before Thuram started the comeback with a goal in first-half added time.

Lucas Da Cunha pulled one back with a penalty for Como in the 89th. The teams will meet again in the second leg of the Italian Cup semi-finals later this month after a 0-0 first leg.

It was another encouraging sign for Inter after a 5-2 victory over Roma last weekend ended their three-match winless streak.

Cristian Chivu is attempting to win Serie A during his first season in charge at Inter after replacing the departed Simone Inzaghi.



Como dropped from fourth to fifth, putting them just outside the Champions League places.

Napoli concede after 33 seconds

Napoli conceded a goal after 33 seconds in a draw that may end their chances of successfully defending the Serie A title.

Scott McTominay equalised on the hour mark for Napoli after Gabriel Strefezza scored early on

with a play that began with a long ball from Parma goalkeeper Zion Suzuki.

The result ended a five-match winning streak for Napoli. Parma moved nine points above the relegation zone in 14th.

Also, Bologna beat Lecce 2-0 with goals from Remo Freuler and Riccardo Orsolini and Genoa beat Sassuolo 2-1 with goals from Ruslan Malinovskyi and Caleb Ekuban. — Agencies

SPANISH LA LIGA

In-form Muriqi scores brace as Mallorca defeat Rayo Vallecano

MADRID: Vedat Muriqi moved closer to Kylian Mbappé at the top of Spanish La Liga's scoring charts this season with a brace on Sunday as relegation-threatened Mallorca beat Rayo Vallecano 3-0.

The Kosovo striker scored four minutes apart near the end of the first half for his 20th and 21st goals of the season in the league, and within two of Mbappé's 23 goals.

The Real Madrid forward was held scoreless in the team's 1-1 draw against Girona on Friday and hasn't scored in the competition since February. Muriqi has scored three goals in his last two matches with Mallorca. He also scored in the team's 2-1 win over Madrid last weekend.

"I'm very proud," the 31-year-old Muriqi said. "We've done a very good job and now we're out of the relegation zone."

Jan Virgili was the other scorer on Sunday for Mallorca, who have won three of their last four matches to move to 15th place, two points from the drop zone.

Rayo, who have one win in five matches, stayed a point ahead



in 13th place. Also, Villarreal strengthened their hold on third place with a 2-1 win at Athletic Bilbao. Sergi Cardona and Alfon scored first-half goals for the visitors. Gorka Guruzeta scored late for midtable Athletic. The result left Villarreal with 61 points, four more than fourth-placed Atletico Madrid, who lost 2-1 at Sevilla on Saturday.

And, fifth-placed Real Betis were held 1-1 at midtable Osasuna while Oviedo won 3-0 at sixth-placed Celta Vigo to leave last place with their third win in four matches.

On Saturday, Barcelona routed Espanyol 4-1 at home to increase their lead over second-placed Real Madrid to nine points after 31 rounds. — Agencies

FRENCH LIGUE 1

Lille trounce Toulouse; Lyon snap winless run

PARIS: Lille maintained their strong push for an automatic Champions League place with a 4-0 triumph at Toulouse in French Ligue 1 on Sunday.

Lille moved up to third and one point ahead of fourth-placed Marseille, with the top three entering the lucrative Champions League directly next season and the side in fourth going through qualifying.

Lyon climbed into fifth place and one point behind Marseille after beating Lorient 2-0 at home to snap a nine-game winless run in all competitions.

Lille were leading 1-0 through right back Thomas Meunier's goal when American defender Mark McKenzie was sent off early in the second half for pulling back forward Matias Fernandez-Pardo as he ran through on goal.

Lille dominated after that red card, with left back Romain Perraud and Fernandez-Pardo scoring before veteran striker Olivier Giroud added a late penalty.

In Sunday's other game, Nice drew 1-1 at home to fellow struggler Le Havre. Both sides are hovering just above the relegation zone. - Agencies

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA



Cologne triumph in relegation duel, Stuttgart ease past Hamburger 4-0

BERLIN: Cologne eased their German Bundesliga relegation worries on Sunday, Stuttgart took another step toward Champions League qualification and Freiburg defeated Mainz 1-0 away in a duel between European contenders.

Host Cologne enjoyed a 3-1 win over 10-man Werder Bremen that left the visiting team just outside the drop zone.

It was the Billy Goats' first win under interim coach René Wagner after a 2-2 draw against Eintracht Frankfurt on his debut last weekend.

Wagner was handed the reins for the rest of the season after Cologne fired Lukas Kwasniok as coach on March 22. Bremen's League qualification and Freiburg forward was through on goal.

Cologne moved five points above the relegation zone, while Bremen are just three points clear of danger with five rounds remaining.

The bottom two, Wolfsburg and Heidenheim, are now seven and

nine points adrift respectively.

Stuttgart eased to a 4-0 win at home over Hamburger SV to reclaim third place from Leipzig on goal difference.

Germany forward Deniz Undav missed a late penalty minutes before substitute Bilal El Kham-nouss completed the scoring in the 86th. Angelo Stiller, Chris Führich and Maximilian Mittelstädt were the other scorers as Stuttgart stayed four points clear of fifth-place Bayer Leverkusen.

The top four qualify for the Champions League. - Agencies



Rory’s repeat: McIlroy lifts Masters title

A year after winning his first Masters to complete a career Grand Slam, the World No.2 pulled off a wire-to-wire triumph to become the fourth back-to-back champion

AUGUSTA: Rory McIlroy overcame early stumbles and a late scare to win the Masters on Sunday, capturing his sixth major title to become only the fourth back-to-back champion at Augusta National. The World No. 2 from Northern Ireland made a double bogey at the fourth and a bogey at the sixth, but responded with four birdies in the next seven holes and hung on after woeful late tee shots to win a second green jacket and a record top prize of \$4.5 million. McIlroy became the first consecutive Masters champion since Tiger Woods, firing a final round one-under-par 71 to finish on 12-under-par 276 and defeat top-ranked Scottie Scheffler by one stroke. A year after winning his first Masters to complete a career Grand Slam and snap a 10-year major win drought, McIlroy pulled off a wire-to-wire triumph. “I just can’t believe I waited 17 years to get one green jacket and you know I get two in a row. It’s just

sort of the way,” McIlroy said. “I think all of my perseverance at this golf tournament over the years has really started to pay off.” Augusta National chairman Fred Ridley placed the green jacket on McIlroy, a role usually reserved for the prior year’s Masters winner. McIlroy seized a 36-hole Masters record six-stroke lead only to play the weekend at level par. “It was a tough weekend. I did the bulk of my work on Thursday and Friday,” McIlroy said. “But just so, so happy to hang in there and get the job done.” McIlroy, third-from last in driving accuracy for the week, saved par at 15 from trees but sent his tee shot at the 18th over right trees to a spot near the adjacent 10th fairway. With a victory at risk, McIlroy curled a dramatic approach around the pines and into a green-side bunker, then blasted onto the green to 12 feet and two-putted for bogey to secure the triumph. “It’s nice to have that two-shot cushion instead of the one like I had last year,” said McIlroy, who

needed a playoff to win in 2025. McIlroy, 36, yelled with joy and lifted his arms into the air after the triumph and hugged daughter Poppy and wife Erica after walking off the 18th green where she embraced his parents. Scheffler, a four-time major winner seeking his third Masters victory in five seasons, was on 277 after shooting a 68 to complete a bogey-free weekend. “Over the weekend I put up a good fight, did a lot of good stuff in order to give myself a chance and ultimately came up a couple shots short,” Scheffler said. England’s Tyrrell Hatton and 45-year-old Justin Rose and Americans Russell Henley and Cameron Young shared third on 278. Rose, the 2013 US Open champion, settled for another near miss after three runner-up Masters finishes. McIlroy sank a seven-foot birdie putt at the par-three 12th after an impressive tee shot, then added an 11-foot birdie putt at the par-five 13th to seize a three-stroke lead. “I think the tee shot on 12 and then the tee shot on 13, just to give me the option to go for the green in two,” were the day’s key shots. “I made a really good committed swing off the 13th tee, and that enabled me to go for the green in two and to make a birdie there, following the birdie on 12. That was massive,” he said. Four pars and the closing bogey followed to produce the victory. - Agencies

PARIS MARATHON

Crippa, Shure claim victories in style

PARIS: Italy’s Yemaneberhan Crippa won the Paris marathon on Sunday, while Ethiopia’s Shure Demise claimed victory in the women’s category in a new course record. The Ethiopian-born Crippa, 29, clocked a personal best of 2hr 05min 16sec for the win in the French capital. Bayelign Teshager of Ethiopia

finished second, just five seconds off Crippa, with Kenya’s Sila Kiptoo rounding off the podium (2:05:26). The women’s race saw 30-year-old Demise smash the course record by more than a minute. She won in 2:18:33, ahead of compatriot Misgane Alemayehu (2:19:06) and Kenya’s Magdalayne Masai (2:19:18). - Agencies



SCOTTISH RECORD-HOLDER

Dobbin calls it a day

GLASGOW: Scottish 200m record holder Beth Dobbin on Monday announced her retirement following “a three-year battle with a serious and life-changing health issue”. The 31-year-old ran at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, reaching the semi-finals, and won 4x400m relay bronze for Scotland at the 2022 Commonwealth Games. Dobbie also competed at three European Championships and two World Championships. In 2018, she smashed a Scottish record that had stood for 34 years and was crowned British champion, while her best time of 22.50 seconds came at the 2019 Anniversary Games in London. - Agencies

RECLAIM WORLD NO.1 RANKING

Sinner beats Alcaraz to clinch Monte Carlo Masters crown

MONTÉ CARLO: Jannik Sinner beat Carlos Alcaraz in straight sets to win the Monte Carlo Masters for the first time on Sunday and reclaim the world No.1 ranking from his Spanish rival. The Italian downed Alcaraz 7-6 [5], 6-3 to capture his third ATP 1000 title of the year after completing the “Sunshine Double” last month with victories in Indian Wells and Miami. The 24-year-old Sinner joins Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal as only the third player to win four successive ATP 1000 titles. He also triumphed in Paris at the end of last season. “We came here trying to get as many matches as possible, getting good feedback before other big tournaments coming up. Today was a high level from both of us,” Sinner said. “It was a bit windy, a bit breezy. Different conditions from what the tournament has brought. The result is amazing. Getting back to No.1 means a lot for me... I am very happy to win a big title on this surface, I haven’t done it before and it means a lot to me.” Alcaraz had won his past 17 matches on clay, dating back to last season when he lifted titles in Rome and at Roland Garros. It was the first meeting between Sinner and Alcaraz since the Italian prevailed at the ATP Finals in November. Sinner, who is now 7-10 in his career against Alcaraz, will return to the top of the rankings on Monday for the first time this year. He



has won his last 17 matches and becomes the first man since Djokovic in 2015 to win the first three ATP 1000 titles of the season. “It is impressive what you are achieving right now,” Alcaraz said to Sinner during the trophy ceremony. “Just one man had won the ‘Sunshine Double’ and Monte Carlo and you are the second.” Alcaraz had won his past 17 matches on clay, dating back to last season when he lifted titles in Rome and at Roland Garros.

Alcaraz won a sensational rally to break Sinner’s serve early in the second set, but the second seed continued to put pressure on his opponent and rallied from 3-1 down, taking the last five games to clinch the biggest clay-court title of his career. He jumped out to a 2-0 lead when Sinner pushed a forehand long in blustery conditions, but the Italian broke back in the following game as he gradually found his rhythm.

The Spaniard fought off a break point in the fifth game and three more at 4-4, but Sinner’s greater consistency paid off in the tie-break, which he secured when Alcaraz hit a double fault down set point. Alcaraz won a sensational rally to break Sinner’s serve early in the second set, but the second seed continued to put pressure on his opponent and rallied from 3-1 down, taking the last five games to clinch the biggest clay-court title of his career. - Agencies

ATHLETICS

Australian teenager Gout faster than Bolt at 18

SYDNEY: Eighteen-year-old Australian Gout ran 200m faster than sprinting great Usain Bolt managed by the same age as he raced to a national title in Sydney on Sunday. The teenager clocked a superb time of 19.67 seconds to set a world under-20 record. It was the first time that Gout had gone under the 20-second mark legally, after a wind-assisted 19.84 last season, and is the leading time in the world this year. Gout previously had the quickest-ever time by a 16-year-old,

setting a national record of 20.06 when he burst on to the scene in 2024. Sunday’s mark in Sydney put him ahead of Jamaican eight-time Olympic champion Bolt’s time of 19.93 back in 2004. Bolt was aged 17 when setting what was then a world junior record and never bettered that time as a teenager, before setting a string of senior world records later in his career. United States sprinter Erriyon Knighton’s 19.49 run in 2022 remains the fastest time by an U20

athlete, though it was not ratified as a world U20 record. Knighton was nevertheless the holder of the U20 record with an official time of 19.69, set in June 2022, until Gout went quicker. Aidan Murphy, who was second to Gout on Sunday, also beat the 20-second mark with a time of 19.88. “This is what I’ve been waiting for,” said Gout, who was born in Queensland to parents from South Sudan. “We have such incredible athletes in Australia and me being

able to race these athletes, we push each other to the limits. Two Australians sub-20. I mean, this is amazing. “There’s a big weight off my shoulders knowing I ran it legally, and I have the speed and my body to run times like that. So, it definitely feels great, and ready for more.” Gout has indicated that he will skip the Commonwealth Games, which begin in Glasgow on 23 July, to focus on the World Under-20 Championships in Oregon in early August. - Agencies



ROUND-UP

Global Finance names Bank Muscat Best Consumer Digital Bank in Oman

The recognition of the Bank came post rigorous evaluations and discussions with specialists in this field from around the world

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate of Oman, has been honored with the Best Consumer Digital Bank in Oman award at the Global Finance World Digital Banks awards.

These awards recognise the pioneering roles of institutions in providing top-tier and innovative digital banking services that aim to enhance the experience of customers.

The recognition of the Bank came post rigorous evaluations and discussions with specialists in this field from around the world.

Bank Muscat continues to enhance its digital ecosystem by in-



roducing innovative, customer-centric solutions that simplify and enrich everyday banking experiences.

The recent initiatives such as the instant personal loans, seamless e-KYC onboarding, card courier services, and fully digital card application processes reflect the Bank's focus on convenience, speed, and accessibility.

On this occasion, Abdullah Hamood Al Jufaili, Assistant General Manager of Digital Banking at Bank Muscat, said: "We are pleased to have won this prestigious award from, which reaffirms our commitment to satisfying customers' current needs and keeping pace with global trends. The Bank's commitment to modern digital developments aligns with

the Sultanate's efforts to encourage the creation of a digital society and keep pace with global technological progress. The Bank is implementing a strategic plan to enhance its leading role in this field by launching several projects and initiatives that contribute to providing the best digital services to our valued customers. Currently, many customers rely on the Bank's

various digital platforms and mobile banking application, which allow them to access the banking services offered to them smoothly and quickly. Bank Muscat continues to make further efforts to improve benefits and facilities to enhance the banking experience for customers and meet their current aspirations and needs."

To further reaffirm its commitment to offering seamless and time-saving digital services, Bank Muscat has recently announced the launch of an instant digital loan service through the Mobile Banking application.

This initiative represents a significant milestone, underscoring Bank Muscat's commitment to digital excellence and sustainable innovation.

The new service enables eligible customers to avail personal loans with disbursal of the approved amount instantly, without the need to visit branches or complete paper-based procedures.

Upon application verification through one-time password (OTP), the financing amount is credited directly to the customer's account through simple and seamless process within the application.

Bank Muscat is continuously committed to implementing its customer-centric strategy and

employing digital transformation concepts in line with Oman Vision 2040, seen in the Bank's ongoing launch of a diverse package of banking services and products for various customer segments through its digital platforms. These services are also available at the Bank's branch network distributed across the Sultanate, which currently stands at approximately 190 branches including Meethaq Islamic Banking branches. The Bank also offers the solutions and services around the clock through over 900 devices, including ATMs, cash deposit machines, and self-service kiosks.

Given the significant impact of digital transformation and changes on the range of banking services provided to customers, Bank Muscat constantly upgrades its digital platforms to increase operational efficiency. Within this framework, the Bank offers customers a range of distinguished and enhanced online and mobile banking services and solutions tailored to customer needs. For example, customers can use these platforms to conduct various transactions, including applying for credit or prepaid cards, money transfers, investment solutions, insurance products, bill payment, checkbook requests, account opening services and other services.

ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPATION



Ambassador's Schoollympic 2026 concludes

MUSCAT: The Ambassador's Schoollympic 2026, a flagship sporting initiative of the Indian Schools in the Sultanate of Oman, concluded on a grand and inspiring note, celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship, unity, and youthful excellence. The mega event witnessed the participation of over 3000 students representing all Indian Schools across the Sultanate, making it one of the largest inter-school sporting events in the region. The Schoollympic embodies the core objectives of fostering sportsmanship, inclusivity, and healthy competition among students of all age groups. It encourages young minds to step beyond classrooms and discover their potential on the field.

The event was successfully hosted across multiple venues, including Indian School Al Seeb, Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir, Indian School Bousher, and Indian School Muscat, ensuring wide accessibility and participation across different regions.

The glittering Valedictory Ceremony was graced by distinguished dignitaries including His Excellency Shri G. V. Srinivas, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, Syed Ahmad Salman, Chairman- Board of Directors, Indian Schools Oman, Abdul Wahid Al Murshadi, CEO of Sohar International, and Yasser Mahdi, Regional Manager, Oman Air, along with several eminent guests and stakeholders from the education and corporate sectors. The competition saw remarkable performances across various disciplines and age categories, highlighting the depth of talent within the Indian schooling community in Oman. A total of 690 medals were awarded to deserving students, recognizing excellence, perseverance, and sporting spirit.

Indian School Muscat emerged as the Overall Champion, while Indian School Bousher secured the Runners-Up position, both demonstrating exceptional consistency and competitive spirit throughout the event.

His Excellency Shri G. V. Srinivas, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, commended

the Board for organizing such a noble initiative, bringing students from all Indian Schools under one unified platform—an achievement of remarkable scale and significance. He lauded the Board for its magnanimous efforts and also expressed his appreciation to the parent fraternity for their understanding and wholehearted support in encouraging their children to participate in this endeavor.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chairman of the Board, Syed Ahmad Salman, remarked, "The Ambassador's Schoollympic is a noble initiative that provides a vibrant platform for young talents across the Sultanate to showcase their abilities. This event is not merely about winning or losing, but about participation, discipline, teamwork, and the joy of sport. The enthusiasm displayed by students has made us immensely proud." He further added "This unique initiative reflects our commitment to holistic education, where physical development and character building go hand in hand with academics. The energy and passion witnessed across venues reaffirm that the future of sports within our student community is bright." Mr. Syed Ahmad Salman, Chairman, asserted that bringing together students from diverse schools and backgrounds under one sporting banner fosters unity and mutual respect. He remarked that the scale and success of this edition have truly set a benchmark for the years to come

The Ambassador's Schoollympic 2026 stands as a testament to the vision of promoting sportsmanship, inclusivity, leadership, and holistic development, providing students across different age categories with an opportunity to excel, collaborate, and grow through sports.

The Board of Directors, Indian Schools Oman, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all participating schools, sponsors, organizers, Physical Education teachers, volunteers, and supporters whose collective efforts ensured the grand success of this prestigious event.

BYD APP

Control Your Drive. Anytime. Anywhere

MUSCAT: The automotive experience in Oman is reaching new heights of convenience with the integration of the BYD App, a sophisticated cloud-connected platform that acts as a direct link between the driver and the vehicle. Designed to offer a unique smart experience, the app ensures that your BYD is always within reach, regardless of where you are in the Sultanate. By merging advanced technology with user-centric design, BYD is transforming the vehicle from a simple mode of transport into a fully connected digital companion that caters to the modern, fast-paced lifestyle of Omani drivers.

One of the standout features of the BYD App is its comprehensive remote control capability, making daily vehicle use easier and more convenient than ever.

Through a few taps on a smartphone, users can remotely lock or unlock doors, manage driver and passenger seat ventilation or heating, and even use the "flashing lights and whistle" function to locate their car in a crowded mall parking lot.

This level of control ensures a worry-free experience, allowing owners to manage their vehicle's essential functions with unprecedented ease and flexibility.

Recognizing the unique climate of the region, the BYD App offers a specialized Preset function that



allows for remote climate management. Before stepping out into the Omani heat, users can remotely turn the air conditioning on or off, set the desired cabin temperature, and select the internal circulation mode. This ensures that the vehicle is a cool, welcoming sanctuary from the moment you open the door. Furthermore, the Individual Center within the

app allows for the management of personalised settings, ensuring that every interaction with the car is tailored to the specific preferences of the driver.

Even when you are thousands of miles away, the BYD App allows you to take care of your car at any time. The platform provides real-time updates on vehicle health and status, including battery power

levels, tyre pressure, mileage and the security of doors and windows. For those utilising electric charging, the app displays the current charging status and the predicted time to reach a full recharge. This constant connectivity provides immense peace of mind, ensuring that owners are always informed and their vehicles are always ready for the next journey across the Sultanate.

As a global pioneer, BYD is the world's leading manufacturer of New Energy Vehicles (NEVs) and sustainable mobility solutions. Since launching the world's first mass-produced plug-in hybrid in 2008, the company has established itself as the global NEV leader, with a market presence in more than 110 countries and regions. Having celebrated the production of its 15 millionth NEV in December 2025, BYD continues to set records, selling 4.6 million vehicles globally in 2025 alone. With its global headquarters in Shenzhen, China, BYD remains committed to innovation and the advancement of eco-friendly transportation solutions worldwide.

In Oman, BYD vehicles are distributed by World Auto Business LLC. For more details, to check stock availability, or to schedule a test drive, please call 72225925. You can also visit www.bydoman.com, YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram.

IN COLLABORATION WITH AL TAWASUL INSTITUTE

Alizz Islamic Bank conducts training programme on Sign Language to boost inclusivity and customer experience

MUSCAT: As part of its ongoing commitment to enhancing customer experience and promoting inclusivity, Alizz Islamic Bank successfully conducted a comprehensive Sign Language training programme in collaboration with Al Tawasul Institute. The initiative aims to equip bank staff who are customer facing with essential communication skills to better serve customers with hearing impairments.

This programme reflects the Bank's dedication to delivering inclusive banking services that cater to the diverse needs of the community.

The training focused on building practical and theoretical knowledge of sign language, while raising awareness to twenty five employees from branches and the head office about the importance of accessibility and equal service for customers with special needs.

The employees that participated in the programme, gained hands-



on experience to improve their ability to communicate effectively using sign language. This initiative is expected to further enhance service quality and strengthen meaningful engagement with all customer segments.

Commenting on the initiative, Ms. Lina Al Abdulsalaam, Head of Marketing & Communications at Alizz Islamic Bank said: "At Alizz Islamic Bank, we believe inclusivity is not optional but in fact our

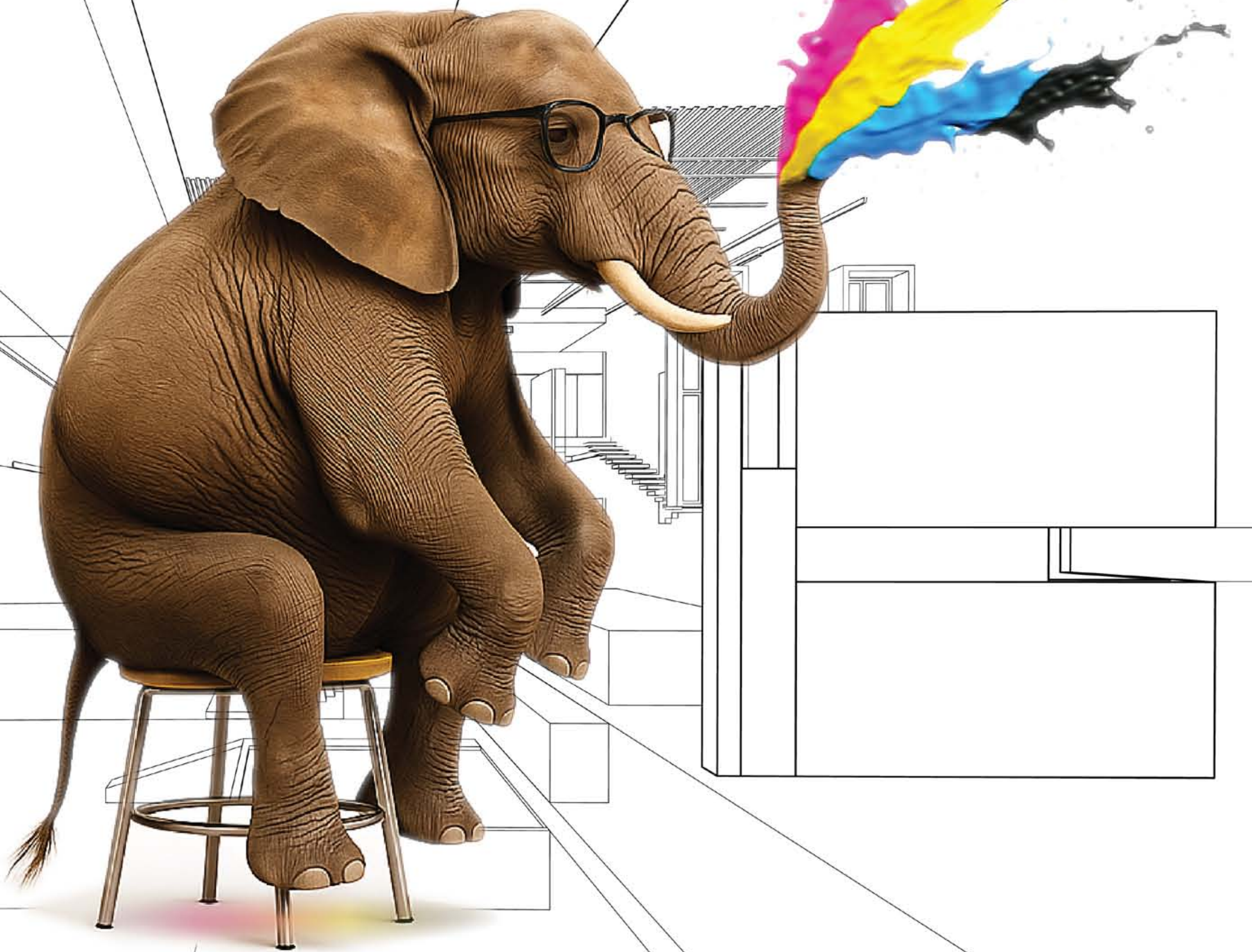
responsibility. This programme reflects our commitment to equipping our employees with the skills needed to serve all customers with excellence. Enhancing our ability to communicate with special needs customers is a meaningful step toward delivering accessible and inclusive banking experience."

This initiative aligns with Alizz Islamic Bank's broader commitment to corporate social responsibility and financial inclusion,

ensuring that all customers have equal access to banking services in a supportive and inclusive environment.

The collaboration with Al Tawasul Institute underscores the importance of strategic partnerships in creating a lasting social impact and reaffirmed the bank's dedication to launching impactful initiatives that enhance employee capabilities and elevate customer service standards.

We make your Business bigger than your problems.



We get you ahead on

- Booth production
- Event conceptualisation
- Event management

Wait, there's more

- Large format digital printing
- Flex banners
- Vinyl stickers
- Back drops with metal frames
- Wooden standalones
- Backlit flex banners