



Khoud Souq, Qurum Beach, Khuwair Commercial Area, Qurum Commercial Area, and Al Maha Street.

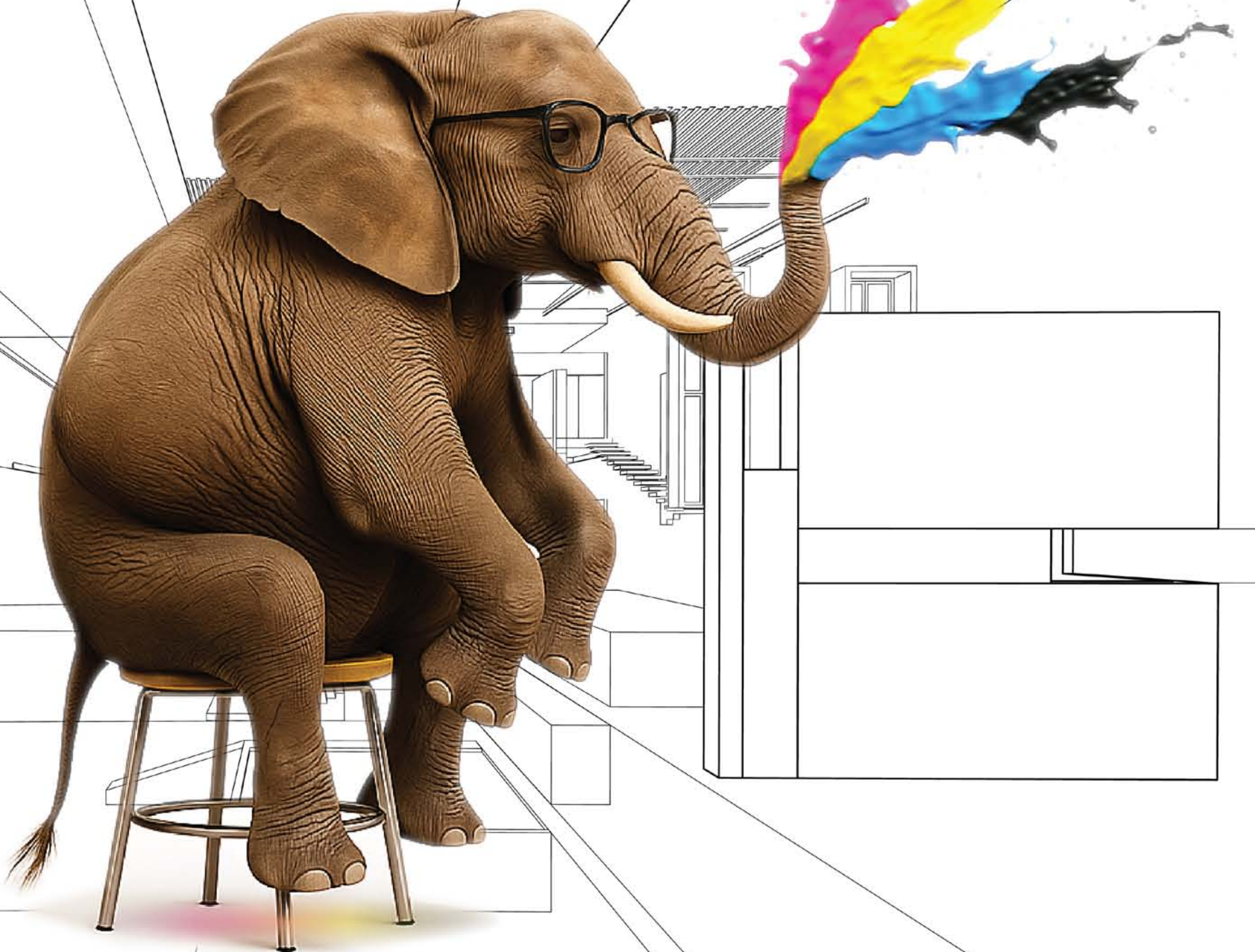
These sites were identified for their heavy traffic flow and high parking turnover during peak hours.

Muscat Municipality said the surveys represent an important step towards data-driven decision making.

The results will help shape future traffic policies, including improvements to parking facilities, more efficient traffic circulation and the potential expansion of public transport options.

The municipality added that community participation will be vital to ensure the study reflects real travel behaviour across Muscat. Road users are encouraged to cooperate with survey teams and take part in the survey over the coming weeks.

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Isha.....	7:26pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:38am

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‘A Travel Ticket to Oman’: An exciting journey for children through Oman’s culture, history

Through his work, the author aims to present a collection of historical stories directed at children and adolescents using a compelling narrative style that connects the past with the present

MUSCAT: Omani history represents a cultural treasure rich with stories and tales that need to be reintroduced to new generations in an accessible and engaging language.

From this perspective comes the book “A Travel Ticket to Oman: Tales from Omani History” by author Ahmed bin Nasser Al Rashdi, published by the Omani Red Fox Library.

Through this work, the author aims to present a collection of historical stories directed at children and adolescents using a compelling narrative style that connects the past with the present.

Author Ahmed bin Nasser Al Rashdi explained that reproducing and writing vivid scenes and stories from the history of Oman for children and young people is an urgent necessity.

Library shelves lack books that convey Omani and Arab children the culture and civilisation of Oman. Although there are some titles and publications by Arab writers about Oman, they often lack accurate information, and the illustrations included do not truly reflect its environment, nature, and heritage.

He noted that the main motivation for writing this book came from questions he received from parents and teachers searching for books on Omani history tailored for children, so they could read and summarize them for cultural competitions. This inspired the idea for the book, and he began developing plans to complete and author it.



He pointed out that he collected and documented the historical stories he read about Omani personalities and maritime and terrestrial environments, among other topics included in the “Omani Encyclopedia for Young People.”

He chose to reinterpret tales of Omani sultans and their cultural achievements, such as the establishment of the Sultanate Printing Press, the printing of books, and the construction of culturally significant transcontinental ships, through this book.

He emphasised that large and voluminous history books have seen declining readership due to the preoccupation of educators in both homes and schools with visually captivating technological and social media distractions.

These books now primarily attract researchers and specialised scholars. He stressed the importance of making history accessible to school students, children, and adolescents through engaging and dazzling publications in both style and presentation, or through radio, television, YouTube, podcasts, and other tools that resonate with contemporary children.

Telling stories of a bright history filled with goodness and glory gives children cultural confidence, instills loyalty and belonging to



their homeland, and empowers them to defend it with awareness, eloquence, and courage in the future, as they become aware of their cultural significance.

The author affirmed that most of the book’s stories are linked to the achievements of Omani sultans, highlighting their cultural role in spreading Omani culture. It was also essential for these stories to be connected with other countries to emphasize that Oman is a nation of peace that has culturally and civilisational engaged with civilisations and peoples worldwide.

Examples include the story of Sultan Taimur bin Faisal Al Said’s

visit to Japan in 1937, where he printed the divan of the royal family poet Saeed bin Muslim Al Majizi in Osaka, and the story of Sultan Barghash bin Said bin Sultan, who drew inspiration for the Sultanate Printing Press project in Zanzibar during his stay in Egypt as a guest of its ruler Khedive Ismail Pasha in 1875, when he visited the Amiri Press in Cairo.

Another story recounts the late Sultan Qaboos Rose, when the World Rose Society in the Netherlands decided to honour his legacy by naming a rose variety after him in recognition of his efforts in promoting peace and protecting the



tan Qaboos visited in 1972, promising to return.

Other narratives could be voiced by the newspaper Al-Falaq or the book “The Refinement of Eyes and Minds in the Journey of the Sultan of Zanzibar.”

The author noted that the “Omani Encyclopedia” was the primary source he relied on for writing this book, describing it as a magnificent and great volume and a rich cultural treasure.

He also referenced works and articles by Nasr Al Busaidi, as well as websites such as the “Jewel of Muscat Ship” site, which features images and stories of sailors’ adventures on the ship, in addition to oral narratives from radio programs and YouTube channels. This year-long research journey through these sources aimed to provide enriching reading content for school students in Oman and the Arab world.

Regarding the role this book plays in introducing new generations to Omani history, the author emphasized that its impact extends beyond distribution in bookstores within and outside Oman or marketing at Arab book fairs. It also includes translating it into other languages and activating it through reading workshops and sessions in libraries, clubs, schools, and cultural centers. He also highlighted the potential to expand its impact through interactive workshops that bring these stories to life in theatrical performances or cartoon productions, enhancing the presence of Omani history in the consciousness of the youth in an enjoyable and vibrant manner. -ONA

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT

Discussion on risk management

MUSCAT: The National Risk Register convened the fourth meeting of its sector’s heads at the Royal Academy of Management (RAM) in Muscat on Monday.

The meeting reviewed several topics, including examining the short, medium, and long-term outcomes of the National Risk Register within the framework of its tasks related to enhancing readiness and preparedness, building national capacities, and formulating policies to achieve the objectives of national risk management, mitigating its effects, and leveraging it as a tool for planning national projects to ensure optimal resource allocation, enhance resilience, and ensure business sustainability, as well as identifying



gaps. The meeting also discussed methodologies for deriving opportunities from the risks in the register and mechanisms to contribute to spreading a culture of risk management at various community levels, particularly those resulting from natural emergency situations.

It is worth noting that the National Risk Register works to provide a forward-looking and

future-oriented picture based on a rigorous methodology for risks in a number of fields to enhance Oman’s capabilities in resilience, impact mitigation, and recovery.

The meeting was attended by Their Excellencies, sector heads, and a number of senior officers from military and security agencies concerned with national risk management. -ONA

OMAN VISION 2040

Forum focuses on investment

AL SUWAIQ: North Al Batinah branch of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) today organised a forum on investment in the field of food security.

Titled “Secure Investment for Sustainable Food”, the forum was aimed to promote investment in food security in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

The forum discussed means of supporting economic diversification by localising quality projects based on modern technologies, in a manner that enhances in-country value.

An exhibition showcasing the products and services of more than 20 establishments specialized in food security sector was



held on the sidelines of the forum.

The forum also included sessions on the role of the private sector, civil society institutions and non-government organizations (NGOs) in supporting food security projects, research, innovation and technology for consolidating a sustainable food security system.

The forum was held under the auspices of Mohammed Sulaiman Al Kindi, Governor of North Al Batinah, in the presence of Faisal Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of OCCI Board of Directors, government officials, private sector representatives, entrepreneurs and business owners. -ONA

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Oman welcomes UPU resolutions on Palestinians rights



Oman pointed out that the Palestinian people are still deprived of their basic human rights

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has welcomed the adoption of a series of resolutions by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) Congress, held on Monday in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

These resolutions reinforce the rights of the Palestinian people to postal services. Oman emphasised that this step embodies the spirit of justice and fairness and reflects international solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The conference approved three main pillars, which were supported by Oman and a number of other member states.

These included: Upgrading the membership of the State of Palestine in the Union, ensuring it has equal rights and obligations as other member states; Full implementation of previous UPU agreements and resolutions regarding Palestine's right to postal exchange via the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; and providing technical and financial support to rebuild postal infrastructure in the Gaza Strip.

In Oman's address to the conference, Nasr Badr Al Busaidi, Chairman of Oman Post, affirmed that the UPU was founded on the principle of delivering mail to every person without discrimination or exclusion.

He pointed out that the Palestinian people are still deprived of this fundamental human rights.

He stated, "The Palestinian postal service, which is supposed to be a bridge for communication, has become a scene of suffering: offices are demolished, workers are targeted, letters do not arrive, and families wait for news and medicine. Depriving Palestinians of their mail is depriving them of the simplest meanings of life and dignity."

He clarified that the strength of the Union lies in its justice and equality for all peoples, and he called on the international community and conference members to take a clear stance that restores the Palestinian postal service's role as a bridge for communication and hope.

Oman commended the supportive positions shown by the participants, affirming that these historic resolutions not only secure the rights of the Palestinian postal service but also strengthen the role of the UPU as a UN organisation that guarantees comprehensive postal services and humanitarian access. -**ONA**

HM sends greetings to Mexico

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo of the United Mexican States on his country's Independence Anniversary.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his heartfelt sentiments and best wishes to Mexico in achieving further progress and accomplishments.

His Majesty also wished the bilateral relations of cooperation further growth and expansion in various fields that serve mutual benefits. -**ONA**



Over 12,000 invasive birds eliminated in South Al Batinah

AL RUSTAQ: Field teams from the Environment Authority (EA), in South Al Batinah Governorate, eradicated 12,597 invasive birds over the past two months.

National campaign

With the active participation of members of the local community, the EA teams used standard measures in their operation to ensure the safety of other wildlife organisms. The EA is conducting the second phase of a national campaign that targets invasive births, including the Myna starling and the Indian Crow.

The campaign forms part of national efforts to protect natural resources, achieve biodiversity and realize sustainable development goals in the Sultanate of Oman.

It is being carried out by the Environment Authority with the cooperation of government departments and the local community. -**ONA**



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Israeli aggression against Qatar shocked entire world: Sheikh Tamim



<FROM A1 “Oman strongly condemns this reprehensible aggression and affirms its full solidarity with Qatar – its leadership, government, and people. We emphasise here that the security of Qatar is an integral part of the security of the entire Gulf region, and indeed of the entire Arab and Islamic nation. “Yet our duty today extends beyond condemnation. It requires tangible and practical steps, particularly on the legal and diplomatic fronts. We must take action at the United Nations, the Security Council, and the General Assembly. We must employ the tools of international law to hold Israel accountable for its crimes and violations, and we must work together to halt this dangerous trajectory that threatens international peace as a whole. “The Sultanate of Oman believes that the silence of the international community in the face



of these violations fuels impunity and encourages further aggression. Therefore, we call on this gathering to mark the beginning of a serious and unified effort – one that translates Arab and Islamic solidarity into clear positions and tangible pressure to end the occupation, halt the assaults, and restore the authority of international legitimacy. “Your Majesties, Excellencies, Highnesses, and distinguished at-

tendees, “Our meeting today serves to affirm that our Arab and Islamic nation is capable of confronting challenges when it stands united. We are certain that unity is the optimal path to safeguarding the future of our peoples and protecting our nations. “Peace be upon you, and God’s mercy and blessings.” Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar,

inaugurated the summit’s proceedings with a speech in which he emphasised that the Israeli aggression against Qatar had shocked the entire world and deliberately targeted its mediation efforts concerning the war in Gaza. Sheikh Tamim noted that Qatar is a nation of mediation and has been making strenuous efforts for two years to reach a ceasefire agreement in Gaza and end the deadly war being waged against the Palestinian people. He underscored that Israel not only rejects peace with its neighbours but also seeks to impose its will upon them. Hissein Brahim Taha, Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), voiced in his address his strong condemnation of Israel’s blatant attack on the State of Qatar and endorsed any measures it takes to protect its security and sovereignty. He called on the United Nations Security Council to shoulder its

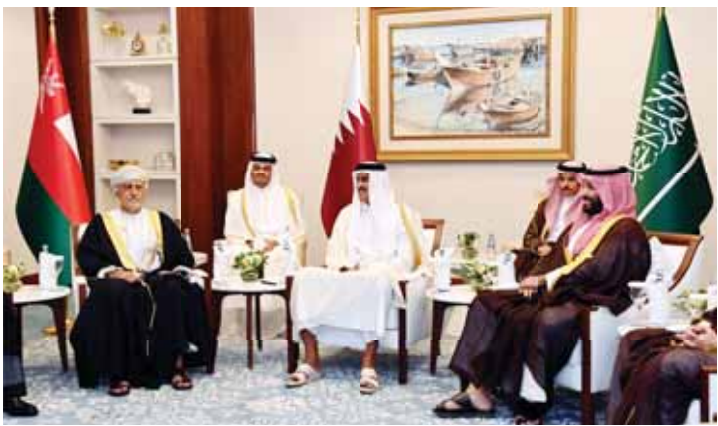
responsibilities and hold Israel accountable for its crimes. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the Arab League, affirmed that the Israeli aggression against Qatari sovereignty exceeded all bounds and violated every humanitarian principle. He stated that the absence of accountability and impunity only emboldens Israeli leaders to continue their crimes. The summit examined measures to respond to the heinous Israeli strike that targeted high-ranking Hamas officials on Qatari soil, its grave consequences, and its flagrant breach of sovereignty which threatens regional stability. Delegates worked to develop a coordinated response to this act of aggression while also strengthening collective Arab and Islamic cooperation to address ongoing security and political challenges throughout the region. The summit also discussed

means to back efforts for a ceasefire in Gaza and the pivotal role played by Qatari mediation in this context, along with reaffirming the central importance of the Palestinian cause and the necessity of reaching a just and comprehensive solution in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative. The Omani delegation accompanying the Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs included Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister; Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance; Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Sa’eedi, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs; Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information; Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs; and Sayyid Ammar bin Abdullah Al Busaidi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the State of Qatar. - **ONA**

ON BEHALF OF HIS MAJESTY SULTAN

Summit reaffirms unified GCC position in support of Qatar’s territorial integrity

DOHA: On behalf of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, participated in the proceedings of the Extraordinary Session of the GCC Supreme Council regarding the Israeli attack on the State of Qatar. The summit was attended by Their Majesties and Highnesses, the GCC leaders, and was held in the Qatari capital, Doha yesterday. It preceded the Emergency Arab-Islamic Summit, which is scheduled to take place later on Monday. The Extraordinary Session examined the latest developments, namely the Israeli attack on the



State of Qatar and its serious repercussions on regional security and stability. The summit reaffirmed the unified GCC position in support of Qatar’s sovereignty and territorial integrity.

It emphasised the necessity of enhancing solidarity and joint action to safeguard the security and supreme interests of the GCC member states and to contribute to the protection of regional and international peace and security. The Extraordinary Session discussed political, economic, and security developments in the region, along with regional and international issues of common interest. The Extraordinary Session was chaired by Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar. Heading the Omani side was HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs. - **ONA**

EMERGENCY ARAB-ISLAMIC SUMMIT

Sayyid Shihab leads high-powered delegation to Doha



MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs arrived in Doha, the State of Qatar, to head the Sultanate of Oman’s delegation in the Emergency Arab-Islamic Summit, in Doha on Monday. HH Sayyid Shihab and his

accompanying delegation were welcomed upon their arrival at Hamad International Airport by Saoud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs of the State of Qatar, and other senior officials. - **ONA**



CDA

Ghala warehouse fire contained, no injuries reported



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The firefighting teams of the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority (CDA) in the

Muscat Governorate have succeeded in controlling and extinguishing the fire that broke out in a warehouse belonging to one of the companies in the Ghala Industrial



Area in Basher Wilayat. No injuries were reported in the incident. Earlier, the Operations Centre of Civil Defence and Ambulance Au-

thority had received a report of the outbreak of a fire in a warehouse in the Ghala Industrial Area. In response, the firefighting teams from the CDA in the Gov-



ernorate of Muscat were mobilised to the site, to control the fire and to prevent its spread. The Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority calls on institu-

tions and companies to comply with the safety requirements issued by it so as to avoid the recurrence of such fires in the future.

Oman joins WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies in Geneva

This new step underscores Oman's commitment to international cooperation and the protection of marine resources

GENEVA: The Sultanate of Oman has officially joined the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, after depositing the signed instrument of acceptance on 11 September 2025, at the organisation's headquarters in Geneva.

This new step underscores Oman's commitment to international cooperation and the protection of marine resources.

The announcement was made during an official ceremony attended by the Director-General of the WTO and representatives of member states, celebrating the agreement's entry into force on 15 September 2025. This came after the condition of ratification by two-thirds of the member states (166 states as of August 2024) was met. The Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, represented by its office at the WTO in Geneva, undertook a coordinating role in the accession



This decision is a clear reaffirmation of Oman's commitment to the WTO multilateral trading system. By joining this landmark agreement, Oman aligns itself with international efforts to stop harmful subsidies that contribute to overfishing and the degradation of marine ecosystems. This significant step demonstrates Oman's recognition of the vital need to balance economic growth in its fisheries sector with long-term ecological sustainability. The fisheries sector is among the key five sectors in Oman's 2040 vision."

and Investment Promotion, said that the agreement, adopted during the WTO's Twelfth Ministerial Conference in June 2022, represents a qualitative leap in promoting ocean sustainability. This is achieved by prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies, which are a major cause of global fish stock depletion. He explained that the agreement's entry into force is in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He added that this development coincides with the 25th anniversary of Oman's accession to the WTO. Since 2000, Oman has undertaken an active role in supporting the multilateral trading system and aligning its national legislation with the organization's regulations to reinforce its position as a strong advocate for free and open trade in the region and the world. Idris Abdul Rahman Al Khajari, Permanent Representative of Oman to the UN and Other International Organizations in Geneva said, "Oman is honored to deposit its instrument of acceptance of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.



efforts and participated in negotiations with specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources. This was to defend Oman's interests in the topics under negotiation, ensure Oman's commitments align with its national legislation and economic priorities, and achieve UN Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 of conserving marine resources, combating illegal fishing, promoting fairness in maritime

trade, and supporting developing countries, food security, and environmental sustainability. Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, affirmed that the fisheries sector is a key pillar of the national economy and a promising source for economic diversification and food security. He noted that Oman closely followed the agreement's negotiations to ensure its provisions were in line

with its national interests and the protection of artisanal fishing. Al Habsi stated that the agreement reflects Oman's vision, which prioritizes environmental sustainability. He explained that Oman's delegations participated actively in international meetings and presented statements that reflected its positions to ensure the protection of its interests. Qais Mohammed Al Yousuf, Minister of Commerce, Industry,

NCSI DATA LEGISLATIVE COOPERATION

Oman's inflation rate rises by 0.5%

MUSCAT: The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the Sultanate of Oman rose by 0.5 percent in August 2025 compared to the same month in 2024, based on the 2018 benchmark.

The average inflation rate for the period from January to August 2025 also increased by 0.8 percent, according to data from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

The data showed that the miscellaneous personal goods and services group recorded the highest price increase at 6.0 percent. This was followed by the transport group at 2.7 percent, and the restaurants and hotels group at 2.5 percent. The health group registered an increase of 0.8 percent, the clothing and footwear group 0.4 percent, and the education group 0.1 percent.

In contrast, prices for the food and non-alcoholic beverages group decreased by 1.8 percent, the culture and entertainment group by 0.2 percent, and the furnishings, household equipment, and maintenance group by 0.1 percent. Prices for housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels, as well as the communications and tobacco groups, remained unchanged.

The average inflation rate for the miscellaneous personal goods and services group in Oman during the January-August 2025 period was



6.2 percent.

Regarding the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages in August 2025 compared to the same month in 2024, the data indicated that several sub-groups recorded increases. The group of food products not classified elsewhere topped the list with a 3.7 percent increase, followed by the sugar, jam, honey, and confectionery group at 3.2 percent, and the oils and fats group at 2.2 percent. Prices for the milk, cheese, and eggs group increased by 1.1 percent, the meat group by 0.6 percent, and the bread and cereals group by a slight 0.3 percent.

Prices for the vegetables group decreased by 14.6 percent, followed by the fruits group at 3.1 percent, and the fish group with a 2.1 percent decrease. The non-alcoholic beverages group registered a slight decline of 0.2 percent. — ONA

Shura Council receives delegation from Bahrain's Council of Representatives

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ahmed Mohammed Al Nadabi, Secretary General of the Shura Council, received a delegation from the General Secretariat of the Council of Representatives of Bahrain, as part of ongoing efforts by both councils to strengthen legislative cooperation and exchange expertise and best practices in enhancing administrative and technical performance within the secretariats of legislative bodies.

The Secretary General welcomed the visiting delegation, emphasising the deep-rooted ties between the Sultanate of Oman and Bahrain, supported and nurtured by the wise leaderships of both nations.

Joint meetings

He highlighted the significance of such visits and joint meetings among secretariat staff of legislative councils, in line with the joint recommendations of the GCC Legislative Councils' Speakers and Secretaries-General meetings, both at the regional and international levels.

These engagements contribute significantly to sharing expertise, exchanging successful experiences, and fostering institutional development.

During the visit, the Bahraini



delegation was given a comprehensive briefing on the Shura Council's organisational structure, including its various departments and secretariats, along

with their respective roles and operational procedures in managing administrative and financial affairs.

The delegation also toured the

Council's premises, including a visit to the Oman Council Library, which houses a rich and diverse knowledge base serving researchers and those interested in legislative affairs.

They also viewed the main deliberation hall, where Council members conduct discussions and legislative debates during sessions.

The visiting delegation commended Oman's Shura experience, noting the maturity of its consultative process and the advancement of systems and technologies that support and enhance the efficiency of legislative work.

COMMENTARY

Gold price soaring to new heights — buy or hold?



R. MADHUSOODANAN

Gold prices have rallied significantly in 2025 and are increasing day by day, and the consumers are in a dilemma: should they buy now or wait? Speaking to Times of Oman, R. Madhusoodanan, a financial expert based in Muscat, said that the price of the yellow metal has climbed by 40% year to date. One gram of 22-carat gold was at OMR27 during September 2024, and now it is over OMR43,

a difference of OMR17 in just one year. The price of one troy ounce (31.103 grams) of gold is at \$3,650 as of 15/09/2025. Gold appears bullish, and the rate may cross \$3,800 in the short term and above \$4,000 in 2026. The gold prices have been rising ever since Donald Trump took office as President in January 2025. One troy ounce of gold at the start of the year was \$2,655. This rally has been fuelled by the uncertainties linked to the trade and tariff policies of the US administration and the heightened geopolitical tensions. The investing community has been shifting to gold, which is considered as a safe haven and a perfect hedge against rising inflation. Another reason attributed to the higher demand for gold is that Central Banks, across the world, are boosting their gold holdings as part of their foreign exchange reserve while cutting down their US dollar reserves.

Outlook Key economic data released in the US last week, viz, unemployment, inflation, and growth, etc, came in weak. And as a result, pressure is mounting on the US Federal Reserve (FED) to cut the interest rate. It is expected that the FED may reduce the interest rates by 25 bps in the upcoming FOMC meeting scheduled for this week. Typically, Fed rate cuts lead to higher gold prices as investors shift from their low-yielding investments to gold, which offers no yield but has huge capital appreciation potential. The weakness in the US economy may also encourage investors to accumulate gold, increasing demand and pushing prices higher.

Buy or wait Gold's price movements are influenced by multiple factors. It is a fact that the price of gold has significantly rallied in 2025, which has made many buyers hold off on their decision. For investors, it is suggested to keep

investing at different levels. Buying physical gold requires higher amounts and ensuring purity and safekeeping are issues associated with that. Instead, buy gold in digital forms (gold ETFs, digital platforms) with smaller amounts at regular intervals. This approach will help you to average out the price of gold while accumulating gold over a period. Those opting to buy physical gold should buy 24-carat bars. In Oman, VAT of 5 per cent is not applicable for 24-carat gold. That said, gold prices may ease if the current geopolitical tensions and uncertainties in global trade are settled. Then investors can diversify their investments to other high yielding markets by liquidating gold. Nevertheless, as a long-term strategy, buy gold in digital form in small quantities regularly, regardless of the market price. Remember, "Gold remains the world's top monetary asset," R. Madhusoodanan said.

Times
OF OMAN

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

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

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

FUTURE FUND OMAN



Awareness meeting held

SALALAH: The Dhofar branch of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with Oman Investment Authority, on Monday organised the second awareness meeting for the Future Fund Oman. The meeting aims to promote economic diversification, support innovation in the local market, and contribute to the growth of startups and innovative projects. The meeting covered the mechanisms for registration and the requirements for targeted companies, which include submitting financial statements, five-year employment plans, and a feasibility study. It was noted that 90 percent of the fund is allocated to support large-scale projects, while 10 percent is dedicated to supporting SMEs, with the goal of enhancing their market value and ensuring their sustainability.

The meeting included a visual presentation that provided a general overview of the fund, covering its target sectors, the establishment and early growth phases, fund governance, and the project selection mechanism. A discussion panel, featuring several specialists from the Future Fund Oman, addressed various topics. These included the differences between SMEs, startups, and venture capital; the challenges and obstacles to investing in startups and SMEs; and promising investment opportunities within the sector. It is worth noting that the fund's objectives are to boost the economy, empower the private sector, support SMEs, encourage venture capital, contribute to economic diversification, engage in investment partnerships, handle government financing projects, and attract foreign investment. — **DNA**

FOR 2026-2030

Discussion focuses on developing Al Dakhiliyah's strategic plan to boost sustainable development



NIZWA: The key features of the development strategic plan for the period 2026–2030 were discussed on Monday in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate.

This is part of an effort to formulate a clear future vision for the governorate's development path, in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040

and the priorities of sustainable development. The dialogue session was organised by the governorate with the participation of various gov-

ernment bodies and the local community. It aimed to strengthen a partnership-based approach in shaping development priorities. — **DNA**

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Gaza death toll reaches 64,905 since onset of Israeli aggression



Over the past 24 hours, three civilians have been killed and more than 47 others have been injured while attempting to receive aid

GAZA: The death toll in the Gaza Strip has reached 64,905, the majority of whom were women and children, since the beginning of the Israeli aggression in October 2023. At least 164,926 others have also

been injured. This toll remains incomplete, as many victims remain trapped under rubble, inaccessible to ambulance and rescue crews. Medical sources confirmed that since Israel broke its ceasefire agreement and resumed its aggression on the Gaza Strip on March 18, 2025, at least 12,354 civilians have been killed and 52,885 others have been injured. Sources stated that 34 bodies and 316 injured individuals were brought to hospitals in Gaza during the past 24 hours. The sources indicated that, over the past 24 hours, three civilians have been killed and more than 47 others have been injured while attempting to receive humanitarian aid. This brings the total number of aid seekers killed in aid-related attacks to 2,497, with at least 18,182 others wounded.



Over 80 NGOs urge global ban on trade with Israeli colonies in occupied Palestinian territories More than 80 international non-governmental organizations, including Oxfam and the Human Rights Association, called on Monday for states and companies, particularly European ones, to end all forms of business dealings with Israeli colonies established in the occupied Palestinian territories. This came in a joint report titled "Trade with Illegal Settlements: How Foreign States and Companies Enable Israel to Implement its Illegal Settlement Policy," co-authored by organizations such as the Human Rights Association and

Oxfam. The report emphasised that the continued involvement of foreign companies and institutions in settlement-related activities exacerbate the humanitarian crisis resulting from the long-term Israeli occupation. It also highlighted a number of European companies that contribute to supporting the economy of the settlements by selling their products in Israel. The report called on states, particularly the European Union members and the United Kingdom, to impose an explicit ban on any commercial or investment activity related to the settlements, including the provision of services and financing. It also called for financial institutions to be banned from providing loans to companies involved in projects within the settlements. This report follows a previous report submitted last July by Francesca Albanese, the Special Rapporteur on human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories, to the UN Human Rights Council. Albanese's report, titled "From an Economy of Occupation to an Economy of Genocide," revealed that foreign companies contribute to the Israeli settlement enterprise through the forced displacement of Palestinians and their replacement with settler populations. The UN rapporteur emphasised that these activities are financed by banks and insurance companies, while tourism platforms, large retail chains, and academic institutions participate in the normalization process. Albanese affirmed, have the power to hold such companies accountable through their purchasing choices. — Wafa

BRUTAL MURDER

Trump vows justice for Indian national killed in Dallas

WASHINGTON, DC: US President Donald Trump has said that the accused in the brutal murder of the Indian national Chandra Nagamallaiiah in Dallas, Texas, will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and will be charged with murder in the first degree. In a post on Truth Social on Sunday, Trump stated that he was aware of the terrible reports regarding the murder of Chandra Nagamallaiiah, a well-respected person in Dallas, Texas, who was brutally beheaded, in front of his wife and son, by an "Illegal alien" from Cuba. Trump also slammed former President Joe Biden and blamed him for the "criminal" being released back into the US during his administration.



Brutally beheaded "I am aware of the terrible reports regarding the murder of Chandra Nagamallaiiah, a well respected person in Dallas, Texas, who was brutally beheaded, in front of his wife and son, by an ILLEGAL ALIEN from Cuba who should have never been in our Country. This individual was previously arrested for terrible crimes, including child sex abuse, grand theft auto, and false imprisonment, but was released back into our Homeland under incompetent Joe Biden because Cuba did not want such an evil person in their Country. Rest assured, the time for being soft on these Illegal Immigrant Criminals is OVER under my watch! Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, Attorney General Pam Bondi, Border Czar Tom Homan, and many others in my Administration are doing an incredible job in MAKING AMERICA SAFE AGAIN. This criminal, who we have in custody, will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the Law. He will be charged with murder in the first degree!" Trump posted on Truth Social.

This comes after a Cuban migrant with an extensive criminal record was charged with the brutal murder of an Indian businessman in Texas, reigniting debates over US immigration enforcement. Chandra Nagamallaiiah, 50, was attacked with a machete outside the Downtown Suites motel in East Dallas in the early hours of 10 September, according to local police. The attack occurred in front of the victim's wife and child following what witnesses described as an argument. Yordanis Cobos-Martinez, 37, has been charged with capital murder and remains in Dallas County Jail. US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has placed a federal detainer on the Cuban national, who was in the country illegally. The Consulate General of India in Houston confirmed earlier that it is closely monitoring the case and providing support to Nagamallaiiah's family. "Consulate General of India, Houston, condoles the tragic death of Mr. Chandra Nagamallaiiah, an Indian National, killed brutally at his workplace in Dallas," the mission said in a statement. "We are in touch with the family and offering all possible assistance." — ANI

THREE NEW MINISTERS

Nepal PM expands interim cabinet

KATHMANDU: Nepal's interim cabinet expanded on Monday with the induction of three new ministers, who took the oath of office at Sital Niwas, the Rashtrapati Bhawan in Kathmandu. Kulman Ghising, former executive director of the Nepal Electricity Authority, has been appointed to head the Ministry of Energy, Urban Development and Physical Infrastructure. Om Prakash Aryal, a noted lawyer, will take charge of the Ministry of Law and Home Affairs, while Rameshwor Khanal, Nepal's former finance secretary, will oversee the Ministry of Finance. Visuals from the oath-taking ceremony this morning showed

the three leaders assuming their new responsibilities as part of the interim government's efforts to stabilise governance following recent political changes. After days of violent protests, President Ram Chandra Poudel appointed Sushila Karki as the head of the interim government late on Friday, and she formally assumed office on Sunday. The cabinet expansion, initially expected on Sunday, was delayed due to her packed schedule. Karki, a former Chief Justice, has until March 5 to conduct fresh elections and vacate the post for the Prime Minister to be chosen by the parliament that will be elected. — ANI

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AWARD CATEGORIES:

- Biodiversity Conservation Initiative
- Environment Protection Initiative
- Environmental Advocacy and Action Initiative
- Clean Energy Initiative
- Community Healthcare Initiative
- Community Education Initiative
- Specially-abled Support Initiative
- Youth Engagement Initiative
- Women Empowerment Initiative
- Financial Inclusion Initiative
- SMEs Development Initiative
- Community Development & Empowerment Initiative
- Public-Private Partnership for Community Development
- Public Engagement Initiative
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiative
- In Country Value (ICV) Initiative
- Outstanding Omanisation Achievement
- Skills Development Initiative
- Social Entrepreneurship Initiative
- Leadership in Sustainable Business Practice
- Leadership in ESG
- Leadership in ICV
- Leadership in CSR
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Oman suffer 42-run defeat to UAE in Asia Cup clash

It was the second successive loss for the Men in Red, who conclude their campaign against India on 19 September



ABU DHABI: Oman's wait for a maiden Asia Cup victory continued on Monday as they fell short by 42 runs against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in their Group A fixture at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi.

Chasing a stiff target of 173, the debutants were bundled out for 130 in 18.4 overs, undone by early wickets and UAE's incisive bowling attack. It was the second successive defeat for the Men in Red following their earlier loss to Pakistan.

Oman's chase began on a shaky

note when openers Aamir Kaleem and Jatinder Singh (20) departed cheaply. Jatinder looked good during his 10-ball knock, hitting four boundaries, but got an inside edge to the stumps off Junaid Siddique.

The middle order could not steady the innings, with Oman reeling at 41 for 4 inside the powerplay.

Debutant Aryan Bisht showed glimpses of promise with a fighting 24, and Vinayak Shukla (20) offered brief resistance, but neither could convert their starts into a match-defining knock.

Partnerships never materialised, and once Bisht fell in the 13th over, Oman's innings unraveled quickly.

Seamer Siddique proved unplayable, returning figures of 4 for 23, while support from Haider Ali (2/22) and Muhammad Jawadullah (2/18) kept the pressure relentless. Only tail-ender Shakeel Ahmed (14 not out) stood his ground as Oman's innings ended at 130, well short of the target.

Earlier, UAE had set up the contest with a disciplined batting display, reaching 172 for 5 in their 20

overs. Alishan Sharafu (51 off 38) gave the hosts a brisk start, and skipper Muhammad Waseem (69 off 54) anchored the innings with a calculated half-century. Waseem also became the fourth-quickest batter to reach 3000 T20I runs, behind Mohammad Rizwan, Virat Kohli and Babar Azam.

Oman's fielding lapses added to their woes, as two dropped catches allowed Waseem to consolidate and eventually punish the bowlers. Late contributions from Muhammad Zohaib (21) and Harit Kaushik (19 not out) pushed

UAE past the 170 mark.

For Oman, Jiten Ramanandi was the pick of the bowlers with 2 for 24, but overall the attack lacked consistency. In the field, missed opportunities proved costly, leaving Oman with plenty to reflect upon before concluding their campaign with a game against Group A topper India on 19 September.

Brief scores: UAE 172 for 5 (Waseem 69, Sharafu 51; Ramanandi 2-24) beat Oman 130 in 18.4 overs (Bisht 24, Jatinder 20, Shukla 20; Siddique 4/23).

ASIA CUP CLASH VS INDIA

PCB demands 'immediate removal' of match referee

DUBAI: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi has demanded the "immediate removal" of Andy Pycroft, the match referee for the India vs Pakistan game on Sunday, from the remainder of the Asia Cup. The demand from Naqvi, who is also the current president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), came a day after the PCB alleged that Pycroft had "requested the captains not to shake hands at the toss" as is customary.

On Monday, the PCB sought to escalate the matter. "The PCB has lodged a complaint with the ICC regarding violations by the Match Referee of the ICC Code of Conduct and the MCC Laws pertaining to the Spirit of Cricket," Naqvi said in a tweet. "The PCB has demanded an immediate removal of the Match Referee from the Asia Cup."

At the conclusion of the game, which India won by seven wickets, the Indian players and support staff chose not to meet the Pakistan side, an unwritten custom, with Suryakumar Yadav, the India captain, saying afterwards that the Indian "government and the BCCI were aligned" on the matter. Pakistan captain Salman Agha subsequently skipped the post-match presentation. - Agencies



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Campaign Period: 01.09.2025 - 29.12.2025. Benefits applicable for all purchases except Government Organizations & Ministries. *50% of Insurance amount (Comprehensive 1 Year Insurance - Oman only, excluding diesel grades) on Yaris, Corolla, Camry, Camry HEV, Crown, Supra, GR86, Ralze, Veloz, Urban Cruiser, Corolla cross, Corolla Cross HEV, RAV4, RAV4 HEV, Highlander HEV, Fortuner, Prado, Land Cruiser, Hilux S/C and D/C and Lix Ace Insurance benefit under the campaign would be 50% of Insurance amount for Private vehicles only. Balance amount is to be paid by customer. Additional premium as per Insurance norms will be collected from the RACI Tax/ D.S etc. ... Discount in Lieu of Insurance (DI), equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the applicable insurance amount, may be granted to all eligible customers as an additional special discount. Said discount shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number in the event of any decimal points. To avail of the DI, customers are required to submit a formal written request. By electing to receive the DI, the customer expressly waives eligibility for any insurance coverage otherwise applicable to the model under the campaign. **5 Years / 50,000 Kms Service (whichever is earlier Excl Oel Grades) covering 5 services at 10,000 kms service interval based on normal operating conditions for Yaris, Corolla, Camry, Camry HEV, Crown, Ralze, Veloz, Corolla cross, Corolla cross HEV, RAV4, RAV4 HEV, Highlander, Fortuner, Prado, LC wagon, Hilux 4x2 and 4x4. *15 Years / 60,000 Kms Service (whichever is earlier) covering 5 services at 12,000 Kms service interval based on normal operating conditions for Supra. *5 Years / 75,000 Kms Service (whichever is earlier) covering 10 services at 7,500 Kms service interval based on normal operating conditions for GR86, Urban Cruiser @ 50% of VAT amount would be provided for the following models (excluding diesel grades): Yaris, Corolla, Camry HEV, GR86, Ralze, Veloz, Urban Cruiser, Corolla Cross, Corolla Cross HEV, Fortuner, Prado. Balance amount to be paid by Customer. Discount in lieu of 50% VAT may be given as an additional Special Discount. Said discount shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number in the event of any decimal points. Customer must request in writing to avail of the benefit. # Thiqah Loyalty Points: OMR 50 worth Thiqah loyalty points (500 Points) would be credited in the account of the customer. The points can be redeemed against any expense incurred on Service/Repair at any of the Toyota Service Centers of SBA in Oman until 31.12.2026. These loyalty points are not transferable and cannot be redeemed for cash. \$ Raffle: 50 Units 26 YM Yaris Deluxe (NGC102L-TEJMKV-V2). Colour - White. Vehicles may include dealer-installed items. For further details & to ascertain availability of stocks, please visit your nearest Toyota showroom. Pictures and colours shown above are for illustrative purposes only.



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OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES
The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by November 2025 reaching \$70.97, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by \$1.38 from the price of Friday, which was \$69.59. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER
The MSX index closed at 5,090.45 points, down by -0.06% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.03% at 471.42 points. National Detergent, up 5.11%, was the top gainer while Financial Corporation, down 8.70%, was the top loser.

Al Mudhaibi Industrial City attracts 4 new projects worth over OMR1mn

This brings the total number of investment contracts in Al Mudhaibi Industrial City to 12, with a cumulative investment value of OMR11,600,000 and a total leased area of 75,000 sqm during the first half of 2025



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Al Mudhaibi Industrial City, which falls under the umbrella of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), has received five investment applications during the first half of 2025, of which four projects worth over OMR1 million were localised on an area exceeding 14,000 sqm.

This brings the total number of investment contracts in Al Mudhaibi Industrial City to 12, with a cumulative investment value of OMR11,600,000 and a total leased area of 75,000 sqm. The industrial activities under these contracts cover the oil and gas, food, construction, electrical materials, and home furniture sectors.

Eng. Said bin Khalfan Al Shabibi, Acting Director General of Al Mudhaibi Industrial City, stated

that the implementation of the industrial city's infrastructure project is expected to commence within the next two months. "The tender has already been awarded to a company, and work is currently underway to complete the contract signing procedures," Al Shabibi said, adding: "The project comprises the construction of internal roads, utility networks (electricity, water, internet, and sewage), fencing and main gates,

facility building, employee offices, and Madayn's Entrepreneurial and Agricultural Complexes."

Al Shabibi added that Al Mudhaibi Industrial City is one of the newest industrial cities under Madayn, being developed on a total area of 9 million sqm, with Phase 1 covering over 1.3 million sqm. Strategically located near the main road that connects the Special Economic Zone at Duqm with the Sultanate's key ports and bor-

der crossings, the city represents a national and strategic project in North Al Sharqiyah Governorate. Its establishment aligns with Madayn Vision 2040 to develop world-class business cities in partnership with the private sector, in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

He also highlighted a range of competitive advantages for investors in Al Mudhaibi Industrial City, including a 100% rental ex-

emption for two years, followed by a 50% reduction for the next three years. Al Shabibi emphasised the strategic partnership between Al Mudhaibi Industrial City's management and the North Al Sharqiyah Governorate office, including a joint committee that brings together all relevant government and service bodies to boost investment opportunities and address challenges throughout the investment journey.

APPOINTMENT

Oman Air appoints Kumail Al Musawi as Chief People Officer

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, has announced the appointment of Kumail Al Musawi as Chief People Officer, further strengthening its executive leadership team at a pivotal moment in the airline's ongoing transformation. With over 26 years of experience in people management, Kumail is recognised as a people-centric leader with cross-industry expertise and a proven record in organisational development, digital innovation and performance management and turnaround initiatives.

Con Korfiatis, Chief Executive Officer at Oman Air, said, "Kumail's appointment reinforces our commitment to making people and culture a top priority at the highest level of leadership. At the head of our People and Services department, he will lead our strategic people agenda, helping to re-shape our culture, build a performance-based organisation, and lead talent develop-



ment to ensure the airline has the capabilities required to achieve sustainable growth and success. We look forward to the impact he will bring as we continue to shape the future of Oman Air."

Kumail started his career in the financial sector before moving to telecoms. He has held several C-level positions at Bank Dhofar, Ooredoo, Muscat Finance, and Connecti, a class 1 licensed telecoms operator. He also founded Oman's first education App ('Oman Tutorial').

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Oman's central bank issues treasury bills worth over OMR176 million

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank raised OMR176.050 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Monday.

The value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR 43.8 million, for a maturity period of 91 days. The average accepted price reached OMR 98.980 for every OMR 100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR 98.970 per OMR 100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.08993 per cent and 4.13206 per cent, respectively.

Whereas, the value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR 94.250 million, for a maturity period of 182 days. The average accepted price reached OMR 97.992 for every OMR 100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at RO 97.980 per OMR 100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.02759% and 4.11013%, respectively.

While, the value of the allotted Treasury bills amounted to OMR 38 million, for a maturity period of 364 days. The average accepted price reached OMR 96.155 for every OMR 100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at OMR



96.150 per OMR 100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 3.85530 per cent and 4.00945%, respectively.

Treasury Bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportunity 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 5.00 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is

5.50 per cent.

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

ARABIAN PROPERTY AWARDS 2025-2026

Al Mouj Muscat wins 2 awards for Best Mix Use Development & marketing excellence award

MUSCAT: Al Mouj Muscat, Oman's premier lifestyle destination, has further cemented its leadership in luxury property development by securing two distinguished accolades at the Arabian Property Awards 2025-2026. At an exclusive ceremony held at the Habtoor Grand Resort Hotel in Dubai, Al Mouj Muscat received the 'Best Development Marketing' award for Golf Links Residences and 'Best Mixed-Use Development' for its upcoming marina front development, underscoring its ongoing legacy of excellence.

Among the winning developments, Golf Links Residences stood out for the strength of its marketing approach, which successfully communicated the project's elevated lifestyle offering. Set within Al Mouj Muscat's 18-hole PGA-standard championship golf course, the first of its kind in Oman, Golf Links Residences features residences with pano-



ramic views of the golf, ocean, mountains, and fairways. The campaign effectively captured the essence of refined, resort-style living and positioned the community as the premier destination for those seeking privacy, beauty, and convenience in one location.

Al Mouj Muscat also received recognition for its upcoming ma-

rina front development, named Best Mixed-Use Development. Setting a benchmark in waterfront urban design. The new development combines luxurious residences, beautifully designed offices, and vibrant retail and leisure spaces to create a dynamic, integrated lifestyle environment. Thoughtfully designed with pe-

destrian-friendly streetscapes, green spaces, and advanced sustainability features, the development exemplifies modern urban living, seamlessly connecting residents, businesses, and visitors.

"These awards reflect more than just design and delivery, they recognize the strength of our long-term vision and our ability to create integrated communities that resonate with how people aspire to live, work and play today," said Nasser Al Sheibani, CEO of Al Mouj Muscat. "Golf Links Residences and our new marina front development demonstrate the breadth and depth of our portfolio, from targeted lifestyle offerings to future-ready, mixed-use urban design. As we continue enhancing the real estate landscape in Oman, we remain focused on delivering value, meaningful and beautiful experiences, and opportunities for our residents, partners, and the wider economy."

STATISTICS

Oman's natural gas production exceeds 32bn cubic metres

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman's natural gas production, including domestic output and imports, saw a slight increase of 0.7%, reaching 32.8795 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2025.

This is up from 32.6432 billion cubic metres during the same period in 2024.

Data released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) showed that associated gas production grew by 10.8%, reaching 7.3086 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2025, compared to 6.5944 billion cubic metres in the corresponding period of 2024.

In contrast, non-associated gas production (including imports) decreased by 1.8%, reaching 25.5709 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2025, down from 26.0489 billion cubic metres at the

end of July 2024.

In terms of consumption, the use of natural gas in industrial projects decreased by 3.9%, amounting to 16.3732 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2025, compared to 17.0463 billion cubic metres in the same period of 2024.

Gas consumption in power generation plants saw a slight increase of 0.5% by the end of July 2025, reaching 8.8048 billion cubic metres, up from 8.7575 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2024.

The data also showed that gas consumption in oil fields, including industrial areas and by Oman Mining Company and Oman Cement Company, grew by 12.7%, reaching 7.540 billion cubic metres by the end of July 2025, compared to 6.6931 billion cubic metres in the corresponding period of 2024. - **ONA**

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

National Detergent, up 5.11%, was the top gainer while, Financial Corporation, down 8.70%, was the top loser.



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,090.45 points, down by -0.06% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.03% at 471.42 points. National Detergent, up 5.11%, was the top gainer while, Financial Corporation, down 8.70%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while OQEP were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 3130 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 17.29 million, with more than 72.63 million shares changing hands. Out of 56 traded securities, 18 advanced, 21 declined, and 17 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 359K while foreign investors were net sellers for RO 258K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 101K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 8,489.57 points, down -0.13%. Prices of Muscat Finance, OM-INVEST, Liva Group, Bank Muscat were up by 1.89%, 0.78%,

0.39%, 0.32% respectively. Prices of Financial Corporation, Bank Nizwa, DIDIC, Al Madina Takaf-ul, Al Omaniya Financial Services were down by 8.70%, 1.85%, 1.16%, 1.16%, 0.79% respectively. Industrial Index closed at 6,974.00 points, up 0.56%. Prices of National Detergent, Oman Cables Industry, Jazeera Steel Products, Al Anwar Ceramics were up by 5.11%, 2.33%, 1.27%, 0.57% respectively. Prices of Oman Chlorine, Galfar Engineering, Oman Cement, Oman Flour Mills, A'Saffa Foods were down by 3.60%, 1.47%, 0.64%, 0.21%, 0.20% respectively.

Services Index was down by -0.11% before closing at 1,991.11 points. Prices of Phoenix Power, Al Suwadi Power, Al Batinah Power, Al Maha Marketing were up by 1.85%, 1.71%, 1.70%, 1.52% respectively.

Prices of National Gas, Sembcorp Salalah, Sharqiyah Desalination, OQ Exploration & Production, SMN Power Holding were down by 2.41%, 2.17%, 2.03%, 1.13%, 0.87% respectively.

— United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

OMAN STOCKS

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	5,107.50	5,075.65	5,090.45	5,093.62	-3.17	-0.06
FINANCIAL INDEX	8,510.65	8,482.60	8,489.57	8,500.23	-10.66	-0.13
Industry Index	6,974.00	6,940.18	6,974.00	6,935.01	38.99	0.56
Services Index	2,003.58	1,991.11	1,991.11	1,993.29	-2.18	-0.11
MSX Shariah Index	473.64	470.03	471.42	471.27	0.15	0.03
MSX TR INDEX	7,610.89	7,563.43	7,585.48	7,590.21	-4.73	-0.06
FINANCIAL TRIDX	10,110.95	10,077.63	10,085.90	10,098.56	-12.66	-0.13
INDUSTRIAL TRIDX	8,570.00	8,528.44	8,570.00	8,522.08	47.91	0.56
SERVICES TR IDX	2,583.08	2,567.02	2,567.02	2,569.83	-2.81	-0.11
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,204.64	1,204.64	1,204.64	1,204.64	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
72,631,027	17,294,186	3,130	29,954,254,073	18	21	17	56

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST MD.	LAST OFFER	PER VALUE	MARKET CAP
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REGULAR MARKET

OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	3,300	7,256	5	2,200	2,200	2,155	2,200	2,150	0,050	2,326	2,200	2,160	2,270	0.100	197,340,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	743,444	87,935	57	0.118	0.120	0.117	0.119	0.117	0.002	1,709	0.119	0.119	0.120	0.100	85,014,354
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	424,329	50,552	38	0.118	0.121	0.117	0.120	0.118	0.002	1,695	0.120	0.119	0.120	0.100	80,986,492
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	1,642	791	6	0.478	0.472	0.478	0.472	0.478	-0.006	1,271	0.478	0.472	0.478	0.100	59,701,525
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	79,000	20,456	11	0.259	0.260	0.258	0.259	0.257	0.002	0,778	0.259	0.253	0.265	0.100	242,349,303
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	497,414	57,024	19	0.178	0.178	0.174	0.178	0.175	0.001	0,571	0.178	0.175	0.191	0.100	38,720,000
OM0000002786	BANK MUSCAT	4,754,870	1,509,940	408	0.318	0.318	0.316	0.318	0.317	0.001	0,815	0.318	0.318	0.320	0.100	2,387,034,696
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	391,000	130,985	245	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.000	0,000	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.100	54,489,029
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	17,300	1,107	2	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.000	0,000	0.064	0.063	0.064	0.100	22,792,147
OM0000002624	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	205,104	57,992	2	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.000	0,000	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.100	55,485,570
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	8,570	7,112	3	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.000	0,000	0.830	0.810	0.830	0.100	77,698,924
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	3,438,133	549,298	332	0.160	0.161	0.158	0.160	0.160	0.000	0,000	0.160	0.160	0.158	0.100	692,899,927
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	2,668,342	2,775,914	71	1.042	1.042	1.038	1.040	1.041	-0.001	-0,096	1.040	1.035	1.040	0.100	780,000,000
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	25,200	12,580	5	0.495	0.500	0.495	0.499	0.500	-0.001	-0,200	0.499	0.465	0.499	0.100	59,880,000
OM0000008834	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	935,220	257,760	263	0.277	0.277	0.275	0.276	0.277	-0.001	-0,381	0.276	0.277	0.275	0.100	212,575,200
OM0000003968	OREDOO	579,589	140,384	26	0.243	0.243	0.241	0.242	0.243	-0.001	-0,412	0.242	0.242	0.262	0.100	157,528,504
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	18,834,723	27,12,982	239	0.145	0.145	0.144	0.144	0.145	-0.001	-0,690	0.144	0.145	0.144	0.100	952,883,463
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	101,256	8,610	9	0.086	0.086	0.085	0.085	0.086	-0.001	-1,163	0.085	0.085	0.086	0.100	14,875,000
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	2,094,080	225,418	15	0.108	0.108	0.106	0.106	0.108	-0.002	-1,852	0.106	0.105	0.108	0.100	237,170,021
Total		19	35,807,516	8,641,025	1,748											

Parallel Market

OM0000003265	NATIONAL DETERGENT	100	72	1	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.685	0.035	5,109	0.720	0.720	0.721	0.000	0.100	14,400,000
OM0000001580	MUSCAT FINANCE	35,000	1,890	4	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.053	0.001	1,887	0.054	0.054	0.055	0.100	16,585,902	
OM0000005983	PHOENIX POWER	291,448	32,114	14	0.110	0.111	0.110	0.110	0.108	0.002	1,852	0.110	0.108	0.118	0.100	160,886,161	
OM0000003000	ALMAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	15,155	14,103	4	0.925	0.935	0.925	0.935	0.921	0.014	1,520	0.935	0.930	0.930	0.100	54,515,000	
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	55,150	4,880	8	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.001	1,136	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.100	57,724,538	
OM0000009569	JABAL REIF	232,800	26,305	27	0.105	0.106	0.104	0.106	0.105	0.001	0,882	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.100	18,444,000	
OM0000001020	ASYAD SHIPPING	3,183,821	408,445	221	0.128	0.129	0.127	0.129	0.128	0.001	0,781	0.129	0.129	0.128	0.000	671,958,012	
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	13,583	1,806	8	0.133	0.133	0.132	0.133	0.132	0.001	0,758	0.133	0.132	0.133	0.100	78,601,105	
OM0000009608	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	13,868,548	1,986,480	369	0.144	0.144	0.143	0.144	0.143	0.001	0,689	0.144	0.145	0.145	0.040	498,166,862	
OM0000007043	LIVA GROUP	27,873	7,290	6	0.259	0.260	0.259	0.260	0.259	0.001	0,386	0.260	0.000	0.259	0.100	103,777,529	
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV.	17,500	2,170	3	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.000	0,000	0.124	0.123	0.124	0.100	18,600,000	
OM0000001081	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	137,000	9,453	21	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.000	0,000	0.069	0.068	0.071	0.100	8,499,375	
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	808,837	70,779	9	0.088	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.088	0.000	0,000	0.088	0.087	0.090	0.100	28,772,658	
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	147,042	10,062	17	0.069	0.071	0.068	0.070	0.070	0.000	0,000	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.100	1,470,000	
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	17,676	4,154	10	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.000	0,000	0.235	0.234	0.235	0.100	107,54,963	
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	15,000	1,920	1	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.000	0,000	0.128	0.123	0.128	0.100	389,04,412	
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	100,000	14,300	3	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.000	0,000	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.100	286,392,297	
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	51,924	3,843	9	0.074	0.075	0.074	0.075	0.075	0.000	0,000	0.075	0.074	0.075	0.100	11,666,280	
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	55,691	4,485	12	0.085	0.085	0.082	0.083	0.083	0.000	0,000	0.083	0.081	0.083	0.100	16,600,000	
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	700	95	1	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.000	0,000	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.100	10,270,982	
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	1,062	498	1	0.469	0.469	0.469	0.469	0.470	-0.001	-0,213	0.469	0.465	0.469	0.100	77,560,975	
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	29,906	14,294	7	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.176	-0.001	-0,568	0.175	0.174	0.180	0.100	16,600,000	
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	18,337	7,629	9	0.467	0.467	0.467	0.467	0.470	-0.003	-0,638	0.467	0.466	0.467	0.100	154,517,556	
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	53,120	6,640	8	0.125	0.125	0.124	0.125	0.126	-0.001	-0,794	0.125	0.124	0.133	0.100	39,427,125	
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	40,000	9,150	5	0.229	0.229	0.228	0.228	0.230	-0.002	-0,870	0.228	0.227	0.229	0.100	45,016,917	
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	16,815,916	5,902,106	556	0.355	0.355	0.349	0.351	0.355	-0.004	-1,127	0.351	0.349	0.352	0.010	2,806,000,000	
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTERNATIONAL DEV & INV.	1,300	352	1	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.258	-0.003	-1,163	0.255	0.240	0.255	0.100	126,494,316	
OM0000004609	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	200	29	1	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.148	-0.003	-2,027	0.145	0.138	0.140	0.100	14,191,313	
OM0000004755	SEMBCORP SALALAH	521,234	95,677	30	0.187	0.187	0.180	0.180	0.184	-0.004	-2,174	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.100	171,822,951	
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	192,000	15,739	14	0.083	0.083	0.081	0.081	0.083	-0.002	-2,410	0.081	0.081	0.082	0.100	6,885,000	
OM0000002341	OMAN CHLORINE	100	24	1	0.241	0.241	0.241	0.241	0.250	-0.009	-3,600	0.241	0.240	0.240	0.100	17,233,651	
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	3,100	893	3	0.288	0.288	0.288	0.288	0.313	-0.025	-7,987	0.288	0.288	0.312	0.100	20,272,320	
OM0000002911	FINANCIAL CORPORATION	1,650	69	4	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.046	-0.004	-8,696	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.100	29,212,414	
		38,767,873	8,648,688	1,370													



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Finance Manager

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ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

Indian male B.com MBA having 17 yrs exp up to finalization with LC & LTR, ERP, Odoo Tally, focus, health care, trading, logistics, rent a car, having Omani D/L looking for the Sr. position.

Contact: 99279626

ACCOUNTS MANAGER/ CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

ACCA (Finalist), Male, 14 Years+ experience, including 8.5 years of GCC and 1 year in Oman. Expert in Financial Management, Budgeting, Accounting, Payroll, Cash flow, VAT & Management Reporting, NOC & Driving license available.

Contact : 9469 2990
Email: habib.rehman@outlook.com

MEP PROJECT MANAGER

Seeking a job opportunity with solid background in MEP Project management with 21 years of professional experience in managing MEP projects across GCC (Bahrain, Saudi, Oman).

Contact: +968 76861551
Email: karthi.engr2004@gmail.com

SALES

Bsc. Business Management, MBA Sri Lankan male with 15 yrs Oman experience in sales, marketing and operation management, looking for suitable placement.

Contact: 77290296,
Email: upekavish@gmail.com

GM/ HEAD TENDERING/OPERATIONS

Result oriented Civil Engineer + Management Professional with 17+ yrs of experience in Business Development, Project Management, finance analysis, Tendering and Contracts management. Adept at managing multiple large scale Projects & teams.

Contact : 92392341
Email: bm.engg008@gmail.com

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International Rose LLC.
Contact: + 968 92886065. Email: sujith.internationalrosellc@gmail.com

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- Basic understanding of digital advertising platforms and strategies
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Urgently required AutoCAD Draughtsman with knowledge of interior Design with minimum 2-5 years' experience. Email : fareedadesign@gmail.co

ENGINEER

Electrical/service engineer (Diploma/Degree holder) Indian male only with minimum 2 year experience,having valid Oman driving licence.Send your CV to salespower17@gmail.com.Contact +968 99434206.

MISCELLENOUS

Urgently required Electrician, plumber, HVAC technician, refrigeration, BMS, electronics, kitchen equipment technicians for building maintenance. Contact: 99107632,91302874

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male Sr. Accountant (M.com with Finance)17+ yrs exp in Oman with valid D/L. Contact 71316458 Email : sayaanputhu@gmail.com

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

ACCA qualified with MBA (Banking & finance), holding 16+ yrs experience in accounts and finance department. including 12 yrs in Oman. Now looking for finance and accounts manager role. Contact: 94297291

46 yrs male working as Manager in accounts(experience in handling operations as well) 22yrs of exp (20yrs in Oman) Currently working in a reputed company. Contact: 95701595

Indian male MBA, Senior accountant, admin having 10 yrs experience. Contact: 95416322, Email: aabynarayan@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+ yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279

Indian male, 25, BCom Int'l finance & accounting, 4 yrs exp incl. Goldman Sachs (Ops, reconciliation, payments, client mgmt, accounting). Seeking accounting, audit, sales roles in Oman. Contact: 94996076.

Indian male, accountant, M.com (finance) 12 yrs experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently & business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 99859141.

Indian male 28 yrs experienced FCMA (ICWAI) working with a leading finance company in Oman as senior accounts officer,looking for a managerial position in finance & accounts. Contact 99126545. Email madhuhemanth2005@gmail.com

B COM, ICWA (Inter), SAPB1, 16 yrs experience Oman ,accounts payable,receivable, product costing, financial planning & analysis, budgeting, MIS,audit, payroll with D/L, looking job. Contact: +968 93876169. Email: bikashoman@gmail.com

Indian male accountant with 4+ yrs of experience, pursuing CMA US. Seeking new opportunities. Contact: +968 76226098

Indian male, Asst Finance manager (Mcom&MBA Finance), having 10 yrs of Oman experience, valid D/L.Contact 97524285. Email bobykkj@gmail.com

Chief Accountant, finance manager Indian male with 19 yrs experience in Oman. Accounts up to finalization. MIS, audit, tax, VAT. Contact 78543201. E-mail kramct2021@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION

Indian male, 9+ yrs exp with valid Oman DL. Suitable for business develop, procurement, admin, proj coordination, executive support. Contact: 94661829, Email aryaprabhat1992@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION

Secretary with 20 yrs of experience in India and Oman looking for a job. NOC available.Contact 97932277.

Indian female, M.Sc. (Computer Science), Oman experienced, overall 13+ yrs of experience in different administrative as well as project roles, having valid Oman D/L. Contact: 79166904/97498882

11 yrs experienced in document controller, HR & admin officer, executive secretary with Omani D/L looking for job. Contact 91695786, Email: Jsr.Shahid@gmail.com

Experienced HR & Admin professional, 24 yrs GCC & India experience , including 12 yrs in Oman. Indian national Arabic speakers with Omani D/L. Available immediately. Contact WA+ 968 99278746, 91 8335008166

MBA HR & marketing, Indian female, looking for a suitable job, Currently in Oman Contact 72851131, Email: teenavalen01@gmail.com

ARCHITECT

Female diploma Architect having 10yrs exp engineering consultancy in Oman. Contact96683293

Architect, Interior designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com

DRIVER

Looking for suitable job (driving) 10 yrs experience, knows Arabic English Hindi. Contact: 97133246

Driver with 07 yrs experience in Saudi Arabia & holding Oman D/L. looking for job. Can speak Arabic, English & Hindi. Contact: 76270965

Driver with 25 yrs experience, PDO licence looking for job . Contact 99116288

Driver with 03 yrs experience looking for job. Contact 97405894

JOB WANTED

DRIVER

Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801

Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920

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13 yrs Oman experienced Draftman with valid DL seeking suitable position. Contact : 76973307

Creative, professional and detail oriented Graphic designer with 5 yrs experience(India) looking for job. Contact: +968 98732676 Email: shravanbaby92@gmail.com

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Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/+968 94117967, Email: induchandran01@gmail.com

Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/+968 94117967, Email:induchandran01@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com

Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvl@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225

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

BE Civil engineer seeking for job in reputed construction company in Oman.Currently in Oman. Contact +968 95031935

ENGINEER

Mechanical Engineer (BE),10 yrs exp (Qatar & India) in facility management, projects, retrofit jobs (HVAC). Presently in Oman,with valid Qatar D/L, looking for opportunities. Contact: 79892494

Indian M (35) MBA in Oman, 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma with D/L. Contact: 79755795

Electrical engineer, with 17 yrs Oman experience seeks job. Contact 98148034

Civil engineer 15 yrs experience D/L 78002980.

Indian male B.Tech in Mechanical engineering with 2 yrs experience. Contact 91178607

Dedicated female civil engineer seeking career opportunities in the fields of Quantity surveying and Accounting. Contact: 97247744, Email: kalakalesh159@gmail.com

MANAGER

Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive) looking for suitable position. Contact : 98132055

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

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Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964

HOSPITALITY

Indian male 06 yrs experience as Bartender, waiter in hospital-ity industry. Currently available in Oman. Contact 77026806, 76253000. Email sukumransandesh2@gmail.com

SALES/MARKETING

Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 9456 6786

Country manager for mobile phones marketing looking for suitable placement. Contact 97175344.

16 yrs sales executive in Mars Wrigley's company Enhance,seeks placement. Presently in Oman. Contact: 96544255

Indian male 14 yrs sales marketing experience with Oman D/L, looking for suitable opportunity. Contact: 95136784

Indian male, 17 yrs experience in sales marketing in Oman with valid D /L. (FMCG, electrical, sanitaryware). Contact 99508485

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LIFESTYLE

Wildfires are releasing a risky mix of pollutants that can end up damaging air quality, according to a report from the UN weather agency. It said that air quality and climate change are closely connected.

Wildfires — likely to have become more frequent due to climate change — made considerable contributions to air pollution last year, the United Nations weather agency

Wildfires in the Amazon, Canada and Siberia have shown how air quality can be impacted on a vast scale, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) said in the fifth edition of its annual Air Quality and Climate Bulletin.

The report looked into the interplay between air quality and climate, highlighting the role of tiny particles called aerosols in wildfires, winter fog, shipping emissions and urban pollution.

“Wildfires are a big contributor to particle pollution and the problem is expected to increase as the climate warms, posing growing risks for infrastructure and ecosystems and human health,” the WMO said in a statement.

Particles smaller than 2.5 micrometres (PM 2.5) are particularly harmful since they are small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs and enter the bloodstream.

In 2024, wildfires led to above-average PM 2.5 levels in Canada, Siberia and central Africa, the bulletin showed.

Wildfires fuel air pollution, says UN report

But the biggest surge in PM 2.5, the report said, was seen in the Amazon basin amid record wildfires in the western Amazon region and drought-fueled fires in northern South America.

Wildfires create 'witches' brew' of pollutants

The WMO also underscored the far-reaching consequences of last year's wildfire fury.

Its bulletin showed how PM2.5 emissions from wildfires in the Amazon basin resulted in a measurable degradation in air quality in faraway, densely populated urban areas in Brazil.

Wildfires in Canada also caused air pollution in Europe.

“We had that last year and this year as well. So you have a degradation in air quality across continents when the meteorological conditions are right,” WMO scientific officer Lorenzo Labrador said at a press conference.

Labrador said the wildfires were releasing a “witches’ brew” of components that pollute the air.

While Friday’s report focused on 2024, the WMO added that record wildfires in southern Europe this year had contributed to pollution across the continent.

The bulletin also shed light on some positive signs, with particle pollution in Eastern China declining last year due to sustained reduction efforts.

Ambient air pollution results in 4.5 million premature deaths a year, according to the World Health Organisation. — **nw**

SPORTS

La Liga champions Barcelona hammer six against Valencia

The Catalan giants led 1-0 at the interval before a double each from Raphinha and Lewandowski and a goal from Lopez completed the rout

BARCELONA: Barcelona thrashed Valencia 6-0 in their Spanish La Liga game with Marcus Rashford involved in a La Liga goal for the first time on Sunday.

Fermin Lopez, Raphinha and Robert Lewandowski scored two goals each for the Spanish champions, who led by Lopez goal at halftime.

Half-time substitute Raphinha's first goal - to make it 2-0 - came from a brilliant left-wing cross from England forward Rashford.

The Manchester United loanee, making his second start for Barca, played 67 minutes and had two efforts off target in a lively outing.

Lopez had run onto Ferran Torres' ball to net their opener and smashed in a fantastic strike from outside the box to make it



3-0. Raphinha then rifled in their fourth.

Lewandowski, also a substitute, finished off Dani Olmo's pass and

then dinked in a sixth - a goal given by the video assistant referee after initially being ruled offside.

Barca could easily have won by

more goals, with Torres also hitting the post after a Rashford cross was flicked into his path.

The game was played at the 6,000-capacity Johan Cruyff Stadium, where Barca's B team usually play, because the Nou Camp is not ready yet after being redeveloped.

In the other matches of the day, Celta Vigo drew 1-1 against Girona, Levante held Real Betis 2-2 and Osasuna won 2-0 against Rayo Vallecano.

Torino upset Roma; Modric scores for Milan

In the Italian Serie A, Argentinian forward Giovanni Simeone scored his first Serie A goal in more than



a year to help Torino to a surprise 1-0 win at Roma on Sunday.

It was Torino's first win of the season under new coach Marco Baroni and Roma's first loss after two 1-0 victories in Gian Piero Gasperini's first two matches in charge.

Simeone — the son of Atlético Madrid coach Diego Simeone — joined Torino from Italian champion Napoli last month. And he opened his account in stunning fashion in the 59th minute, starting and finishing the move.

The 30-year-old got past his marker to spark a counter and then played a one-two with Cyril Ngonge, getting on the return pass to curl a magnificent strike into the

top-right corner.

Simeone last scored in the Italian league in August 2024.

Elsewhere, Luka Modric scored his first AC Milan goal just days after his 40th birthday for a passionate 1-0 victory over Bologna, which saw Max Allegri sent off in a rage after a penalty revocation.

Gasperini's former team, Atalanta, thrashed Lecce 4-1 to record its first win of the season after opening with two draws.

In other games, Pisa went down to Udinese 0-1 and Sassuolo edged past Lazio 1-0.

Other results: German Bundesliga: St. Pauli 2 Augsburg 1, Borussia Mochengladbach 0 Werder Bremen 4. - Agencies

WORLD ATHLETICS



Duplantis soars to 14th world record

TOKYO: Mondo Duplantis cleared 6.30m on his return to Tokyo, setting the 14th world pole vault record of his career at the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25 on Monday.

Back at the scene of his first senior global title win in 2021, the 25-year-old Swedish star managed his latest world record on his third and final attempt to claim his third consecutive World Championships crown and his eighth major senior international title in front of a packed and passionate crowd at the Japan National Stadium.

In a competition of record depth, Emmanouil Karalis of Greece cleared 6.00m to secure silver and Kurtis Marschall

equalled his PB of 5.95m to clinch bronze on countback.

It is the first time that seven men have ever cleared 5.90m or higher in a single competition, and the first time that 5.95m has not been enough for a medal.

"It's better than I could have imagined. To give you guys this world record is amazing. The crowd were so loud. Thank you so much. I'm just so happy."

In the other medals action on Monday, Swiss Ditaji Kamundji took women's 100m hurdles title, Camryn Rogers won women's hammer gold for Canada, and New Zealand's Geordie Beamish stuned Soufiane El Bakkari in men's 3000m steeplechase. - Agencies

US TEENAGER

Jovic, 17, lifts her first WTA crown in Mexico



GUADALAJARA: American Iva Jovic became the youngest player to win a WTA title this season by beating Emiliana Arango 6-4, 6-1 in the Guadalajara Open final.

Jovic picked up at the title aged 17 years and 283 days - replacing Mirra Andreeva (17 years and 299 days) as the youngest to win a WTA tournament in 2025.

She is also the youngest American to clinch a tour-level crown since Coco Gauff triumphed in Parma in 2021.

Jovic entered the tournament ranked 73 in the world and has climbed up to a career-high 36, having begun 2025 at 206.

She converted six of 11 break-points and saved six of nine to see off her Colombian opponent. Arango, who was dealing with illness, battled hard in the opening set but faded in the second as the match was wrapped up in 95 minutes.

Jovic featured in all four Grand Slams this year - reaching the second round of the Australian Open, French Open and US Open, while she exited Wimbledon in round one. - Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE

Haaland scores double as City ease past Man Utd

LONDON: Erling Haaland scored twice after Phil Foden opened the scoring as Manchester City returned to winning ways in the Premier League by beating floundering rivals Manchester United 3-0 at Etihad Stadium on Sunday.

Pep Guardiola's side came into the game with some concerns having suffered back-to-back defeats before the international break, but fears of another loss were allayed with goals from two players who enjoy playing against United.

The win was a poignant one on a day when City paid tribute to former boxing world champion Ricky Hatton, a well-known fan of the club whose death aged 46 was announced earlier on Sunday.

Speedy winger Jeremy Doku was pivotal for the first two goals, jinking through with quick feet to pull the ball back for local boy Foden to head home the opener on 18 minutes.

City doubled their advantage on 53 minutes when star striker Haaland latched on to Doku's pass before holding off Luke Shaw and dinking in a sumptuous finish.

Haaland, who pulled narrowly wide in the opening 10 seconds, should have scored a second immediately after netting when he took the ball round Altay Bayindir but somehow sent the ball against the post with an open goal gaping in front of him.



But the 25-year-old was not to be denied on 68 minutes when he ran clear from the halfway line and made no mistake with an unerring finish past the Turkish keeper.

Towering goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma was thrown straight in for his City debut in this match after the deadline day

move from Paris St-Germain and the Italy captain made a superb save at full stretch to deny Bryan Mbeumo's volley.

But United were not good enough in the final third of the pitch once again and dropped to 14th with just one victory this season, while City's win moved them up to eighth. - Agencies

BMW PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Sweden's Noren defeats France's Saddier to claim title in play-off

LONDON: Sweden's Alex Noren beat France's Adrien Saddier in a play-off to win the BMW PGA Championship in torrential weather at Wentworth Club.

While Team Europe's Ryder Cup stars toiled in the rain, the two overnight leaders could not be separated over 18 gruelling holes, finishing three shots clear of the rest on 19 under par.

And it was the 43-year-old, one of Luke Donald's vice-captains for the showdown in New York later this month, who won the play-off at the first extra hole after producing a fabulous shot out of the rough to set up a short birdie putt.

It is Noren's 12th win on the DP World Tour, his second in his past three starts after winning last month's British Masters, and his second victory in the European



circuit's flagship event, after triumphing in 2017.

For Saddier, who finally broke through on the tour with a win on his 200th start in Italy earlier this year, it is another near miss after he held 36-hole and 54-hole leads at the European Masters and the

Irish Open over the past month.

England's Aaron Rai demonstrated the form that had made him a contender to make the Ryder Cup side, with an excellent bogey-free round of 66, matched by former Masters champion Patrick Reed, as they tied for



third on 16 under.

As for Team Europe, Tyrrell Hatton and Matt Fitzpatrick led the way, both finishing four shots back. Playing in the final three-ball after his brilliant eight-under 64 on Saturday, Hatton missed a host of short putts on Sunday

and was left behind by his playing partners as he closed with a two-under 70.

Only Rory McIlroy - with 20 titles - has won more times on the DP World Tour since 2009 than Noren and he needed all his nous to hold off the gutsy Saddier.

Scheffler warms up for Ryder Cup with victory

World No.1 Scottie Scheffler warmed up for this month's Ryder Cup by powering to victory in the PGA Tour's Procore Championship.

The American fired a closing five-under-par 67 to finish one shot in front of Ryder Cup team-mate Ben Griffin on a 19-under total of 269 at Silverado in Napa, California.

Griffin, who started the day with a one-shot lead, had a chance to force a play-off but could not make his birdie attempt on the 18th from six feet.

It is four-time major winner Scheffler's sixth title of the year and he will spearhead the United States' bid to regain the Ryder Cup against Europe in New York from 26 September. - Agencies

IN PICTURES



GAZA-BOUND GREEK VESSEL SETS SAIL FROM SYROS ISLAND: Vessels prepare to set sail from the island of Syros, Greece. Greek sailing vessel Oxygono (Oxygen), part of the Global Sumud Flotilla (GSF), an international convoy seeking to break Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip and deliver humanitarian aid, set sail from the island of Syros. — Xinhua



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY OPENS ITS 10TH ANNUAL DINO FEST: A visitor views dinosaur fossils at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County during the 10th annual Dino Fest in Los Angeles, the United States. The museum is drawing dinosaur enthusiasts of all ages with rare fossil exhibits, interactive activities and talks with leading paleontologists. — Xinhua



WILDLIFE IN MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE IN KENYA: Giraffes are pictured in the Maasai Mara National Reserve in Narok County, Kenya. — Xinhua



EAST EUROPEAN COMIC CON FESTIVAL HELD IN ROMANIA: Costumed enthusiasts pose during the East European Comic Con festival in Bucharest, Romania. The festival celebrates pop culture and brings together thousands of fans who love comic books, movies, TV series and gaming. — Xinhua



BENIN URBAN DANCE COMPETITION: Dancers are pictured during the Benin Urban Dance Competition co-organised by the Chinese Cultural Centre and the Beeworkers Association in Cotonou, Benin. — Xinhua

DOG-THEMED SPORTS EVENT HELD IN BELGIUM: A pet dog participates in an agility challenge at the Dogolympics in Bois de la Cambre, Brussels, Belgium. The Dogolympics, a fun dog-themed sports event, was held in the green surroundings of Bois de la Cambre, featuring activities such as canicross races, agility challenges, and dog-and-owner yoga sessions, attracting many pet lovers to take part. — Xinhua



TRAILER LAUNCH OF THE UPCOMING FILM JOLLY LLB 3: Bollywood actors Saurabh Shuklam, Akshay Kumar, Arshad Warsi, and others during the trailer launch of their upcoming film Jolly LLB 3, in Kanpur. — ANI Photo

ROUND-UP

Abraj to strengthen its regional leadership at MEOS GEO 2025

At Middle East Oil, Gas and Geosciences Show 2025 (MEOS GEO), Abraj will highlight its advanced service portfolio, recent contract wins, and regional expansion, including the successful deployment of rigs in Wafra Joint Operations and preparations for entry into new markets in the Mena region



MUSCAT: Abraj Energy Services, Oman's leading oil and gas services provider, will participate in the Middle East Oil, Gas and Geosciences Show 2025 (MEOS GEO) Conference and Exhibition, scheduled to take place from 16 to 18 September in Bahrain. The company's participation underscores its growing regional footprint and commitment to op-

erational excellence, innovation, and safety leadership. At MEOS, Abraj will highlight its advanced service portfolio, recent contract wins, and regional expansion, including the successful deployment of rigs in Wafra Joint Operations and preparations for entry into new markets in the Mena region. These partnerships underscore Abraj's strategy of scaling its integrated drilling and well services

to meet the growing demand for efficient, reliable, and technology-driven energy solutions. Commenting on Abraj's participation, Eng. Saif Al Hamhami, CEO of Abraj Energy Services, said: "MEOS 2025 is a platform where industry leaders and experts shape the future of energy in the region. At Abraj, we view this gathering as an opportunity to engage with decisionmakers, exchange knowl-

edge, and contribute to regional strategies that balance efficiency, safety, and sustainability. Our commitment extends beyond delivering services; we strive to be an active partner in shaping the next chapter of the energy sector across the Middle East and beyond." Abraj continues to build on its strong momentum with new contract awards and regional expansion, reflecting its growing role

as a trusted partner for leading energy operators. The company is advancing its footprint across Oman and the wider Mena region, supported by a robust pipeline of projects and partnerships. These developments reinforce Abraj's long-term growth trajectory and its commitment to delivering reliable, efficient, and innovative well services that respond to the evolving needs of the energy sector. Following MEOS GEO 2025, Abraj will also take part in the SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference & Exhibition (23-25 September 2025, Muscat) and the MEIRA Annual Conference & Exhibition (24-25 September 2025, Dubai), reflecting its commitment to engaging with industry leaders, investors, and stakeholders on innovation, investors relations best practices, and sustainable growth.

LAUNCHPAD FOR GLOBAL LIFESTYLE BRAND

Asyad Express partners with UK's Caddie Couture to deliver premium golf fashion across GCC

MUSCAT: Asyad Express, part of Asyad Group, has signed a strategic agreement with Caddie Couture, a UK-based premium golf fashion brand renowned for its unique, high-performance designs. Under the partnership, Asyad Express will manage end-to-end fulfilment and delivery across the GCC, ensuring golfers and lifestyle enthusiasts in the region enjoy fast, reliable access to the latest Caddie Couture's distinctive collections. This milestone highlights Asyad Express's role as a launchpad for global lifestyle brands in the GCC, positioning it as the partner of choice for premium retail and fashion labels seeking seamless expansion into one of the world's fastest-growing markets. "This partnership brings together the best of two worlds: Caddie Couture's bold, innovative and quality fashion designs and Asyad Express's trusted logistics network. By combining premium fashion with seamless delivery, we are re-defining the shopping experience for GCC customers, particularly golf enthusiasts, while reinforcing our commitment to enabling global brands to scale with confidence in the region. At the same time, we're creating meaningful growth and lasting value for the luxury retail industry". – Jason Ashbrook, VP-Commercial, Asyad Express. Founded in the UK, Caddie Couture has carved out a distinctive space in golf fashion, blending modern aesthetics with technical



performance to meet the aspirations of athletes and style-conscious customers alike. Through Asyad Express's integrated fulfilment and delivery solutions, the brand gains a powerful platform to expand its reach and build deeper connections with GCC customers. The partnership also reflects Asyad Express's broader strategy of empowering international lifestyle and retail brands to enter and thrive in the GCC. By offering fully integrated supply chain solu-

tions, from warehousing and inventory management to last-mile delivery, Asyad Express provides global companies with a reliable, customer-centric gateway into one of the world's most dynamic consumer markets. Asyad Express continues to strengthen its position as a leading logistics enabler for global lifestyle brands, delivering premium experiences to customers and supporting the growth of the retail and fashion sectors across the GCC.

MCBS INNOVATIONX

MCBS showcases startups and industry collaboration at Comex

MUSCAT: The Modern College of Business and Science (MCBS), through its Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub (InnovationX), participated as a sponsor and exhibitor at the Comex 2025 Global Technology Show, held from 8-11 September 2025. Over four days, MCBS highlighted its startups, academic programs, and industry collaborations, underscoring its pivotal role in shaping Oman's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Day One set the tone with a major achievement: two MCBS startups: Dr3k and Looters Inc were named among the Top 10 finalists in the Final Pitch Battle, selected from over 40 higher education institution startups in the SCALE Program by ITHCA Group. The recognition reflected the entrepreneurial strength nurtured within the MCBS community. On Day Two, MCBS faculty and partners contributed thought leadership to the Comex Game Development and E-Sports Zone. Dr. Yoones Sekhavat, Assistant Professor of Game Development and Animation, joined Mohamed Nasser Mohamed, Founder of Syntax Studio, in delivering a session titled "Playing for the Future: Linking Game Education and Industry." The presentation explored the global growth of gaming and spotlighted MCBS's innovative academic programs, including the BSc. in Game Development and Animation and the BSc. in Applied Technologies – Augmented and Virtual Reality. Later that day, Dr. Amjed Sid



Ahmed, Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, served as Jury Member for the ITHCA Scale Award (Tourism and Hospitality Track) competition. The momentum continued into Day Three, with MCBS delegates joining the SCALE Award Ceremony for Technology Startups, celebrating innovation and entrepreneurial excellence across Oman and witnessing Scale Tech Startups Award receiving to one of InnovationX Startup. Day Four brought a strong close to MCBS's presence at Comex. MCBS leaders, Dr. Fadi Abdelfattah (Head of Business and Management Department), Dr. Amjed Sid Ahmed (Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship), and Ms. Khadija Al Barwani (Innovation and Entrepreneurship Specialist), took part in a Comex Tech Startups stage and attended panel which case study presentations on "Innovation

and Entrepreneurial CoEs in Schools, HEIs, Companies, and Ministries." The discussions also highlighted MCBS's continued efforts to integrate innovation and entrepreneurship across its academic offerings, including the BSc. in Design Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. The exhibition concluded with a milestone moment: the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MCBS and Asyad Group at the Comex Deal Hub, opening new horizons for collaboration in innovation and industry partnerships. Aisha Al Kharusi, Deputy Executive Chairperson of MCBS, remarked: "Our participation at Comex 2025 demonstrates how MCBS is not only preparing students for the future, but also actively shaping the innovation ecosystem of Oman. The partnerships and achievements we celebrated here reflect our deep commitment to Oman Vision 2040."

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