



— DNA



Efforts on to meet the needs of elderly

Oman joins the world today in celebrating the International Day of Older Persons, which falls on October 1 of each year

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman joins the world in celebrating the International Day of Older Persons, which falls on October 1 of each year, embodying the values of respect and pride in the status of the elderly as a fundamental pillar of the Omani social fabric.

The Ministry of Social Development continues its efforts to develop an integrated system of programmes and services for the elderly, meeting their needs, protecting their rights, enhancing their quality of life, and ensuring their effective integration into family and society.

Radhia bint Saeed Al Fahdiya, Director of the Elderly Department at the Ministry of Social Development, explained that the Ministry provides a number of services for the elderly, the most prominent of which is: the home care programme, which is implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, to provide a package of social and health services at the residence of the elderly without the need for them to move, and the number of beneficiaries from it reached 1,499 during the first half of this year.

She added that the Ministry provided 1,217 prosthetic and medical aid devices during the first half of this year, including wheelchairs, medical beds, hearing aids, and other tools that enable the elderly to practice their daily lives with comfort and safety.



She pointed out that the number of Omanis who received care within the framework of alternative families reached 105 cases until the middle of this year, and the number of residents in the Social Welfare Home in Rustaq reached 35 residents until June 2025, as the elderly receive integrated services that include full accommodation

and medical and psychological care, in addition to cultural and entertainment programmes. She stated that the Ministry provides a comprehensive package of services to support the elderly and their families, most notably preparing homes to suit their needs and ensure their safety and comfort.

This is achieved through a co-operation agreement with the Ihsan Association to implement home preparation programmes for alternative families.

The Ministry also provides a package of social assistance to support these families and facilitate the fulfillment of the basic needs of the elderly.

It also empowers and trains families on appropriate care methods and provides psychological and social support to ensure a supportive and safe environment.

She indicated that the total number of beneficiaries of various social services provided to the elderly and their families reached 2,800 during the first half of this year, reflecting the extent of efforts exerted to enhance their quality of life and achieve their social well-being.

Al-Fahdiya stated that the ministry is working to expand the establishment of daycare centres, which are private or non-governmental social institutions dedicated to providing comprehensive care to the elderly during daylight hours only. This includes social, psychological, rehabilitation, and cultural services, enabling them to remain within their families while receiving the necessary care.

IN 1985

Oman, Russia mark 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties



MUSCAT: Acting in cooperation with the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Muscat, the Foreign Ministry on Tuesday organised an event to mark the 40th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Russian Federation.

Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, said in a speech that the relations between the two countries have seen steady growth since the two sides signed the Document on Establishing Diplomatic relations way back in 1985.

Al Harthy also highlighted the State Visit made by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the Russian Federation in April this year (2025). He pointed out that the visit saw the signing of agree-

ments and memoranda of understanding that laid the foundations of a partnership based on shared interests and mutual trust.

For his part, Oleg Vladimirovich Levin, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Sultanate of Oman, said that His Majesty the Sultan's visit to Moscow and his talks with President Vladimir Putin marked a significant milestone in bilateral cooperation.

He underlined the two countries' keenness to develop cooperation in a manner that serves their common interests and enhances security and stability.

The celebration of the 40th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations affirms their commitment to press ahead with joint cooperation to contribute to security and stability in the region and the world at large. -ONA

INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY

Role of translators vital for promoting civilisations

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman on Tuesday marked International Translation Day, which falls on 30 September every year.

A symposium to this effect was held in Muscat today under the auspices of Dr. Jokha bint Abdullah Al Shukaili, CEO of the Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education.

Titled "Translation: From Theory to Practice", the symposium was aimed to develop the skills of translators and related professionals, and enable them to exchange expertise.

The symposium was organised by Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Sciences in cooperation with the GCC Centre for Translation, Arabization and Promotion of the Arabic Language, and Al Zahra College.

The symposium brought together translation professionals, students, representatives of publishing houses and interested



parties.

It sought to build partnerships among translation stakeholders in the Sultanate of Oman, upgrade the standard of Omani translators and enhance their active presence in the regional and international

arenas.

The symposium also explored mechanisms for utilising the latest technologies, notably artificial intelligence (AI), to keep pace with ongoing developments in the global translation industry. -ONA

GOVERNORATE OF DHOFAR

Meeting in Dhofar stresses on Oman Vision 2040 goals

SALALAH: The Municipal Council in the Governorate of Dhofar on Tuesday held a meeting during which it discussed issues related to domestic development and public services.

The meeting stressed the importance of meeting the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and supporting sustainable development through better coordination among government units, the private sector and the local community.

Chaired by HH Sayyid Marwan bin Turki Al Said, Governor of Dhofar (Chairman of the Council), the meeting hosted specialists from the Directorate General of Social Development (in Dhofar Governorate) to study plans set by the Ministry of Social Development to achieve two priorities:

The first priority was about meeting targets of welfare and social protection as envisaged in "Oman Vision 2040", while the second dealt with means of ex-



panding rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities in the wilayats of Dhofar Governorate.

The meeting also looked into the outcome of a visit made to the Directorate General of Public Prosecution by the Social Affairs Committee and the Legal Affairs Committee.

The visit focused on the dissemination of legal culture as a means of raising public awareness about the risks involved in improper use of modern tech-

nology. Other issues discussed during the Municipal Council's meeting included: The registration of fresh pupils in "Grade 1" of primary education for the upcoming School Year (2025-2026); The drawbacks of delays in enrolling children who are eligible to primary education; and Projects to pave roads in the governorate's wilayats in accordance with plans set by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology). -ONA

BRANCH IN AL DAKHILIYAH GOVERNORATE

Al-Noor Association for Blind marks 20th anniversary

NIZWA: Al-Noor Association for the Blind yesterday held a ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the opening of its branch in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate and the conclusion of its Summer Programme 2025.

The ceremony was held under the auspices of Sheikh Rashid bin Ahmed Al Shamsi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Development. The ceremony included a visual presentation showcasing a summary of summer programmes and activities, poetry recitals and a variety of performances. The event also included a presentation on Al-Noor



Association's vision for the future and the felicitation of outstanding

supporters and participants in the summer programme. -ONA

FROM 15-23 NOVEMBER

Oman to host World Snooker Championship

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman will host the Double World Snooker Championship (Men's and Team) from 15-23 November 2025, in Muscat.

The event will feature the participation of over 120 players representing 35 countries.

Oman's winning bid was announced during a press conference held today at the Oman Automobile Club. The championship will be supervised by the International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) and sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, Sohar International bank, and Active Oman.

Khalid bin Khalfan Al Sabahi, Chairman of the Oman Billiards and Snooker Committee, said

during the press conference that this achievement reflects the IBSF's confidence in Oman's ability to organise major sports events according to the highest standards. He affirmed that Oman's bid surpassed those of several competing countries due to its clear vision and integrated organizational plans, noting that the upcoming edition is considered one of the largest in the tournament's history.

He added that the Oman Billiards and Snooker Committee has paid special attention to the national snooker team, preparing a comprehensive plan to ensure the players' readiness for strong competition and to represent the Sultanate of Oman in the best

possible way. He stressed that the championship is an opportunity to showcase Oman's civilized image and enhance its position as a hub for hosting international events. It will also undertake a role in boosting sports tourism and providing Omani youth with the chance to engage with world stars of the sport.

The Chairman of the Committee also indicated that the championship will receive extensive media coverage across the IBSF platforms, accompanying international media, and through the official channels of the Omani Committee, allowing fans to follow the details of the tournament both inside and outside the Sultanate of Oman. -ONA

'NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES'

SMEs role in creating job opportunities highlighted

SALALAH: The 5th edition of the “National Programme for Equal Opportunities” kicked off on Tuesday at Salalah Free Zone.

The ceremony was held under the auspices of Sheikh Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz), and attended by government officials, CEOs, entrepreneurs and investors.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Ali bin Mohammed Tabuk, CEO of Salalah Free Zone, stressed the importance of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as a backbone of the economy. He underlined the role SMEs in generating new employment opportunities and stimulating innovation.

Tabuk pointed out that encouraging initiatives by SMEs reflects Salalah Free Zone's commitment to promote social responsibility and introduce practices of sustainability through educational, youth and community programmes.

He added that Salalah Free Zone also encourages green industries and environment-friendly pro-



jects in a manner that contributes to building a diversified economy and enhancing the competitiveness of Omani products in the re-

gional and global arenas.

The 5th edition of the “National Programme for Equal Opportunities” saw the signing of



agreements between SMEs and companies operating at the Salalah Free Zone.

The programme serves as a practical step forward in consolidating supply chains, opening new fresh vistas for cooperation and providing real opportunities for local establishments to offer their services in major industrial and logistics projects.

The event also included an accompanying exhibition featuring samples of products and services provided by the SMEs taking part in the programme.

The implementation of the programme keeps pace with the goals of Oman Vision 2040, notably in the field of developing promising emerging sectors. — ONA

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Al Nu’amani meets Ukrainian ambassador



MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu’amani, Minister of the Royal Office, received in his office on Tuesday Olha Selykh, Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Ukraine to the Sultanate of Oman.

At the meeting, Al Nu’amani

wished the ambassador success in carrying out her new duties and a pleasant stay in Oman.

The two sides discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations and aspects of joint cooperation between the two friendly countries. —ONA

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Oman and Bulgaria discuss trade ties

MUSCAT: The first round of Political Consultations Session between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Bulgaria was held in Muscat on Tuesday.

The Omani side was led by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, while the Bulgarian side was led by Maria Anguelieva, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.



Bilateral relations

The session reviewed the existing bilateral relations between the two

friendly countries and affirmed the keenness of both sides to continue developing cooperation in various

fields.

The two sides discussed the possibility of exchanging the opening

of embassies in both countries. They also addressed a number of regional and international issues of mutual interest, including the repercussions of the Israeli war on Gaza.

The session was attended by Mundhir Mahfoudh Al Mantheri, Head of the Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry, Todor Stoyanov, Director General for Bilateral Relations at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and a number of officials from both sides.

— ONA



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Scrap Details - NGC Plants

Sr. No	Item Description	Total Qty	Unit	Remark
1	Scrap Batteries (Different sizes)	36	Ls	Different sizes
2	Waste Oil (Drums Will Not be Provided)	18	Drums	Drums Will Not be Provided
3	Empty Drums	44	Nos	
4	22kg LPG Cylinder Scrap	219	Nos	
5	44kg LPG Cylinder Scrap	508	Nos	
6	Brass, Cylinder scrap valves	1.2	Ton	Approximat
7	Metal Scrap	2.5	Ton	Approximat
8	Split Ac Outdoor Unit Compressor	8	Nos	
9	Split Ac Indoor Unit	8	Nos	
10	Water Cooler	1	Nos	
11	NC+ Slim Cyl 22kg	62	Nos	Damaged and pin hole
12	Filling Machine Old	4	Nos	
Vehicles				
13	MAN, PRIME MOVER – Model 2006 & 2009	2	Nos	
14	TRAILER – Model 1990	1	Nos	

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Oman, Saudi Arabia explore ways to boost economic cooperation

During the Joint Omani-Saudi Business Council meeting opportunities for cooperation between the two countries were reviewed, along with a proposal to establish Omani-Saudi strategic partnerships in several promising economic sectors

MUSCAT: The Joint Omani-Saudi Business Council held a meeting on the sidelines of the Omani-Saudi Franchise Exhibition to discuss aspects of economic cooperation opportunities between the two countries.

The meeting was co-chaired by Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, and Dr. Saad Othman Al Qasabi, Governor of the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organisation (SASO). It was attended by Faisal bin Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), Sheikh Ali Hamad Al Kalbani, Head of the Omani Side of the Council, Abdulaziz Sami Al Ali, Head of the Saudi Side of the Council, and several Council members.

During the meeting, opportunities for cooperation between the two countries were reviewed, along with a proposal to establish Omani-Saudi strategic partnerships in several promising economic sectors. This collaboration aims to develop joint investments, enhance integration in supply chains, and support the private sector's efforts to achieve the targets of Oman Vision 2040 and Saudi Vision 2030.

Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion affirmed that the Council represents a crucial bridge for enhancing economic and investment cooperation between Oman and Saudi Arabia. He noted that the volume of trade exchange between the two countries reached OMR1.212 billion (equivalent to \$3.152 billion) by the end of June 2025, recording a 20.3 percent increase compared



to the same period last year.

He explained that the Omani-Saudi partnership, built on strategic economic integration, allows for increased investment in vital sectors and facilitates the entry of Omani products into the Saudi market and vice-versa. He affirmed the government's support for all enablers and facilities that empower the private sector to contribute to sustainable growth.

He mentioned the adoption of mutual recognition of the certificate of origin between the two countries, which helps streamline the flow of goods, unify quality and conformity standards, and enhance industrial integration. He stressed the importance of establishing the Omani-Saudi Joint Company and encouraging joint exhibitions in the fields of franchising, real estate development, and information technology, with a focus on investment in banking, insurance, real estate, industrial, tourism, logistics, and mining sectors.

Al Yousef emphasised that these joint initiatives and projects reflect the commitment of both countries to achieving the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and Saudi 2030, and enhance commercial and investment cooperation, contributing to the prosperity of both peoples.

Dr. Saad bin Othman Al Qasabi stated that the Omani-Saudi Business Council is an important station in the journey of growing partnership between the two countries. He noted that both countries have made significant strides in economic integration

to achieve their respective visions, which focus on economic diversification.

He mentioned that the trade exchange between the two countries is constantly growing, reaching \$34 billion by the end of 2024, and approximately \$4 billion by the end of the second quarter of 2025. He expressed aspirations to double efforts to increase trade and investment exchange, empower the private sector, establish commercial partnerships, and support entrepreneurship.

He explained that there are promising opportunities for investment in the tourism, mining, logistics, and industrial sectors, and work is currently underway to develop supply chains and modern technology as effective channels for developing economic relations, exploiting investment opportunities, and enhancing trade exchange.

Meanwhile, Faisal Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), said that the Joint Omani-Saudi Business Council meeting is part of continuous efforts to strengthen the economic partnership and translate the excellent relations into investment opportunities and qualitative projects that enhance the empowerment of the private sector in both countries. He added that the meeting comes at an important time, witnessing accelerated growth in Omani-Saudi economic relations, driven by infrastructure development, logistical connectivity via border

crossings, and the integration of developmental visions of the two countries.

Al Rowas added that the OCCI constantly works to address challenges facing investors and business owners, both through direct dialogue with competent authorities and by preparing a more flexible and competitive business environment. He stressed that the Chamber pays great attention to implementing strategic directions in line with Oman Vision 2040 targets, focusing on integrating efforts with Saudi Arabia, especially in promising sectors.

Sheikh Ali Hamad Al Kalbani, Head of the Omani Side of the Council, clarified that the Council represents a strategic opportunity to consolidate the bonds of economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries. The Council has taken important steps towards deepening partnerships between the private sectors in Oman and Saudi Arabia, with joint sectoral committees working to enhance available investment opportunities that support mutual interests.

He added that the Council has worked to shape and frame ideas into joint plans and projects, identifying all aspects, including challenges and obstacles facing joint projects. He noted that these challenges are being resolved given the strong desire of both countries to ensure the success and deepening of investment partnerships, leading to economic integration. — ONA

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RAM announces launch of 'One Team Initiative'

MUSCAT: With the Royal Blessing of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Royal Academy of Management (RAM) announced the launch of The One Team Initiative for Government in October 2025.

This is the first national initiative of its kind in the region, dedicated to developing a mindset focused on creating real impact in public service. The initiative aims to emphasise the pivotal role of civil service and to realize the higher purpose of joining the one government team. In its inaugural year, 5,000 employees nominated from 19 government entities representing the State's Administrative Apparatus will take part.

Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Bussaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Academy of Management, affirmed that the Royal Blessing of the initiative reflects His Majesty the Sultan's keenness to instill a mindset that transcends functional roles towards the higher purpose of joining the government team and realising the true impact of public service on society and the nation. He noted that the initiative, organised by the Royal Academy of Management, aligns with the global transformations in the nature of governments' work and its role in serving the individual and society.

Dr. Ali bin Qassim Al Lawati, President of the Royal Academy of Management, stated that the Royal Blessing for the implementation of "The One Team Initiative" for Government marks a national path aimed at building a collective mindset of shared responsibility as both citizens and employees. He added that the participants in the first year form the foundation of a continuing journey to embed the spirit of working as one government team across the State's Administrative Apparatus, contributing to the realisation of the country's national vision, Oman Vision 2040.

He further noted that in the coming five years, the initiative will extend to all employees of the State's Administrative Apparatus at every administrative level.

Al Lawati explained that the initiative was conceived with a national vision, shaped by diverse inputs from the relevant entities. It will be implemented by national talents specifically prepared for this initiative, while ensuring the active involvement of the targeted institutions across all stages from design to development and implementation. This approach guarantees alignment with the evolving global landscape, while remaining inspired by Omani values, character and identity. Hilal bin Mudhafar Al Riyami, Head of the Initiative Team, explained that the initiative's objectives will be realised through four central dimensions. The first, "Me and the Job," focuses on the higher purpose of working in public service, moving beyond routine practice to a deeper awareness of role and mission. The second, "Me and Society," encourages employees to adopt the mindset of responsible citizens contributing to community service. The third, "Me and Oman," highlights the meaningful impact a one government team can make in shaping the nation's future across administrative levels. The fourth, "Me and the World," underscores



the importance of leveraging global developments, seeking opportunities before challenges, in alignment with Omani values and identity, while promote the Sultanate of Oman's reputation.

Al Riyami added that delivering the deeper impact of public service and its national dimensions will be achieved through an integrated framework of five main elements. These include "the One-Day Workshop" an interactive experience designed to inspire employees to reflect on their individual roles in public service and their daily impact on their institutions and society. As well as the "Initiative's Ambassadors Programme", enabling a group of employees from targeted entities to serve as initiative ambassadors, embedding its values into their daily practices. This programme has already begun with 57 Initiative's ambassadors from the 19 participating entities. The initiative also features "Train the Facilitators Programme", through which 36 national talents were selected and enabled to lead and manage interactive workshops during the implementation phase. The framework is completed with two additional elements: "ongoing Impact Evaluation" to assess results and propose improvements, and "Media and Communication", a national campaign to engage stakeholders, raise awareness, and provide necessary communication support.

The first year of the initiative will involve employees from across all administrative levels, nominated by 19 government units: Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, Social Protection Fund, Authority for Public Services Regulation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Information, Public Prosecution, Muscat Municipality, and the Offices of the Governors of Dhofar, Musandam, and North Al Batinah. — ONA

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OCEC

Russian House Oman showcases 'Study in Russia' opportunities at EduTrac exhibition

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Russian House Oman (RHO) is presenting its 'Study in Russia' stand at the ongoing EduTrac exhibition at the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre (OCEC).

The stand, visited by Her Highness Sayyida Hujaija bint Jaifar Al Said was officially inaugurated, on Monday, marking a significant milestone as the first-ever participation of RHO in this education and career fair.

The ceremony to open the stand was conducted by Mrs. Svetlana Gladenkova, spouse of the Ambassador of Russia to Oman; Anna Popova, Head of Russian House Oman; and Dr. Igor Egorov, Chairman of the Board of Russian Compatriots in Oman.

Adding to the significance of this year's exhibition, Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University (SPbPU) is also making its debut at EduTrac with its own standalone stand.

As one of Russia's most prestig-



ious technical universities with over 120 years of academic excellence, SPbPU offers a wide range of programs in engineering, technology, and natural sciences.

Their direct participation provides Omani students with a unique opportunity to engage with representatives from this world-renowned institution.

Oleg Levin, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Sultanate of Oman, commented on the initiative, stating: "We are confident that the high-quality and

diverse educational opportunities in Russia will be of great interest to Omani students and will further deepen the friendship between our two nations."

The 'Study in Russia' stand has already generated significant interest from prospective students and their families, eager to learn about the wide range of academic pathways available.

"We are thrilled by the enthusiastic response from the Omani audience," said Anna Popova, Head of Russian House Oman. "There is

a notable and growing interest in Russian education. Our stand provides comprehensive information for students at all stages of their academic journey—from Bachelor's and Master's/Postgraduate degrees to short-term professional development courses.

"We are here to guide them towards a world-class education that opens doors to international careers."

Russian House is proud to represent the following leading Russian universities for the press release: Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Plekhanov Russian University of Economics — Dubai Campus, National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE University), Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO University), Moscow School of Management Skolkovo, Saint Petersburg State University (SPbU), Saint Petersburg State University of Economics (SPbSUE), and Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University (SPbPU).

SPORTS



Australia's Maxwell injured in net training mishap

MOUNT MAUNGANUI: Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has been injured in a nets training mishap in Mount Maunganui, adding to his list of unfortunate accidents.

Maxwell was bowling in the nets when batsman Mitchell Owen "smoked" a shot back at him and left him with a fractured arm.

The 36-year-old previously fractured a leg when a friend fell on it at a 50th birthday party in 2022.

He was also left concussed when he fell off a golf cart at the 2023 World Cup.

His latest injury has ruled him out of this week's three-match T20I series in New Zealand.

Australian all-round Matthew Short was batting in an adjoining net in Mount Maunganui and said he saw the incident "out of the corner of my eye".

Speaking to cricket.com.au, he added: "I saw [Owen] smoked it and then the aftermath. It hit Maxi on the wrist. It didn't sound good.

"[Owen] is not the guy you want to be bowling to in T20 training, that's for sure."

Maxwell, who has been replaced by wicketkeeper-batter Josh Philippe for the series, could now be a doubt for a home five-match one-day international series against India in October.

"Maxi's been there and gone through [serious injuries] a couple of times now," said Short. "He was a bit disappointed but it's just like any other injury. I'm sure he'll get through it." - Agencies

Nepal skittle Windies for 83 in historic series win

Sheikh and Jora's half-centuries set the stage for a decimation of the former T20I world champions

SHARJAH: West Indies suffered a new low as they were bowled out for just 83 to lose their T20I series with minnows Nepal in Sharjah, on Monday. Nepal, who are ranked 18th in the world, had never played a T20I series against a full member nation before this week but have won the three-match series with a game to spare.

Windies' total of 83 is the lowest a full member nation has scored against an associate and the 90-run winning margin is also the biggest for an associate against a full member. It comes after West Indies' Test team suffered a crushing defeat by Australia in July, being



ing bowled out for just 27 - the second-lowest score in Test history, and the worst since 1955.

After losing that series 3-0, Cricket West Indies president Dr Kishore Shallow called for an emergency meeting to review the series and enlisted the help of legendary former players Sir Viv Richards, Sir Clive Lloyd and Brian Lara. They also failed to qualify for the 50-over World Cup in 2023

and they are currently outside the qualifying places for 2027 edition.

Nepal posted a decent score of 173-6 in their 20 overs thanks to a 100-run fourth-wicket partnership between Aasif Sheikh (68*) and Sundeep Jora (62), with Jora hitting five sixes in his innings. Sheikh remained unbeaten with a knock that came off 47 balls and included eight boundaries and two sixes. West Indies, who are sixth in

the T20 rankings, never got going in the chase, with only three batters reaching double figures.

They were 63-4 in the 12th over before collapsing to just 83 all out. Pacer Mohammad Aadil Alam picked up four for 24 while leg-spinner Kushal Bhurtel took 3/16.

Nepal, who are coached by Australian Stuart Law, take part in qualifiers for the 2026 T20 World Cup next month - they played at

the 2024 and 2014 tournaments.

West Indies fast bowler Alzarri Joseph, meanwhile, has been ruled out of next month's two-Test series against India due to the recurrence of a back injury.

Brief scores: Nepal 173 for 6 (Aasif Sheikh 68*, Jora 63; Akeal Hosein 2-21) beat West Indies 86 (Jason Holder 21; Mohammad Aadil Alam 4-24, Kushal Bhurtel 3-16) by 90 runs.

TEST SERIES BEGINS ON OCTOBER 12

Pakistan pick uncapped Nazir, Afridi and Akram for Tests against SA

LAHORE: Three uncapped players - spin-bowling all-rounder Asif Afridi, left-arm wrist-spinner Faisal Akram, and wicketkeeper-batter Rohail Nazir - have been included in an expanded 18-man Pakistan squad for the two-Test series at home against South Africa.

The squad, though, will be trimmed closer to the start of the first Test, which begins on October 12 in Lahore.

As reported earlier, Shan Masood will continue as captain, and the squad - minus the players who are returning from the Asia Cup - will take part in a training camp in Lahore running till October 8. Abrar Ahmed, Hasan Ali, Salman Agha and Shaheen Shah Afridi, the players at the Asia Cup,

will join the camp on October 4.

The camp will be overseen by red-ball head coach Azhar Mahmood and NCA coaches.

Of the newcomers, 38-year-old Afridi is very experienced with 57 first-class appearances, in which he has taken 198 wickets at an average of 25.49.

Twenty-two year old Akram, meanwhile, is almost at the other end of the age spectrum. He made his first-class debut only in December 2023, and has played nine games in the format for 44 wickets at an average of 30.95. Akram has also played three ODIs, in which he has five wickets.

The two of them will add to Pakistan's spin options, which also has regulars Sajid Khan, Noman Ali and Abrar.



Nazir, the third of the new faces, is a 23-year-old who is thought of highly in the domestic circles in Pakistan. He has already made his T20I debut, at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games, and has played 43 first-class matches since making his debut in the 2018-19 season, averaging 34.45 with the bat.

The fast-bowling options,

meanwhile, for Pakistan are the tried-and-tested Shaheen Afridi, Hasan Ali and Aamir Jamal, while the batting department wears an experienced and solid look, with Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan, Abdullah Shafique, Imam-ul-Haq, Saud Shakeel and other regulars joining captain Masood.

The second Test will be played

in Rawalpindi from October 20, and will be followed by a three-match T20I series and a three-match ODI series.

Pakistan squad: Shan Masood (capt), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Asif Afridi, Babar Azam, Faisal Akram, Hasan Ali, Imam-ul-Haq, Kamran Ghulam, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Rizwan (wk), Noman Ali, Rohail Nazir (wk), Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Shah Afridi.

Fixtures: Oct 12-16: 1st Test, Lahore; Oct 20-24: 2nd Test, Rawalpindi; Oct 28: 1st T20I, Rawalpindi; Oct 31: 2nd T20I, Lahore; Nov 1: 3rd T20I, Lahore; Nov 4: 1st ODI, Faisalabad; Nov 6: 2nd ODI, Faisalabad; Nov 8: 3rd OD, Faisalabad. - Agencies

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by November 2025 reaching \$68.11, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.11 from the price of Monday, which was \$69.22. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 5,181.62 points, down by -0.22% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by -0.25% at 465.08 points. Oman Refreshment, up 9.98%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 5.11%, was the top loser.

Portal to safeguard public from unlicensed securities activities

The portal provides a reliable channel that enables citizens, residents and investors to access accurate information and updates on unlicensed entities engaged in securities-related activities

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Financial Services Authority (FSA) has launched a dedicated page on its official website and digital platforms under



the title 'Investor Protection Portal,' in its commitment to raising awareness and protecting citizens, residents and investors.

The portal provides a reliable channel that enables citizens, residents and investors to access accurate information and updates

on unlicensed entities engaged in securities-related activities. It also allows users to seamlessly submit reports in the event they encounter any entity operating in such activities without a licence.

The Authority clarified in a notice published across its platforms

that the portal includes a link to the list of unlicensed entities, in addition to a link to the list of licensed companies available on its website under the title 'Licensed & Accredited.' This facilitates public access to the entities that can be safely dealt with, as they are licensed and

subject to the supervision of the Financial Services Authority in the Sultanate of Oman. This provides investors and the public with a trusted reference to verify which entities are operating legally within the non-bank financial sector.

It affirmed that the launch of the portal comes in response to the growing need for tools and information that raise awareness and provide protection against potential risks posed by unlicensed platforms and companies, helping to prevent financial fraud, particularly those that exploit the internet and social media to promote their activities. In this context, the Authority stressed that awareness of sound investment practices and ensuring that dealings are limited to licensed and accredited entities represent the first line of defence against fraud and investor losses.

The portal offers three core services: reporting unlicensed entities engaged in illegal investment activities, accessing an updated list of unlicensed companies that should be avoided, and submitting reports on licensed entities to ensure effective monitoring and compliance.

In this regard, the FSA has is-

sued a notice against dealing with unauthorised platforms or companies claiming to provide securities investment services online, via social media or other channels. This follows the monitoring of unauthorised entities impersonating licensed platforms and companies regulated by supervisory authorities, as well as the case of an external entity falsely claiming to be a financial regulatory body in the Gulf region under the name 'Gulf Higher Authority for Financial Conduct.'

The Authority, in its notice, underscored the importance of ensuring the entities investors deal with are duly licensed to carry out securities-related activities by the supervisory authority, which is the Financial Services Authority in the Sultanate of Oman. It clarified that a commercial registration issued by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion does not constitute a licence to engage in such activity. The Authority further emphasised that awareness of sound investment principles is essential to protect market participants from the risks of loss and fraud.

NAMA WATER



Workshop aims to promote innovation in water management

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Nama Water Services, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, organised a workshop on 'The Strategic Framework for Innovation in the water sector'.

The event aimed to promote innovation in water management. It supports national priorities and Oman Vision 2040.

Dr Buthaina bint Mahfoodh Al-Wahaibi, Acting Manager of Innovation and Sustainability at Nama Water Services, said innovation is no longer a secondary option. It is a strategic necessity to deal with climate change, resource pressures, and rising costs.

She explained that Nama Water Services works on clear plans. These plans focus on improving service quality and boosting operational efficiency. The company also works on better resource management, reducing water loss, and expanding the reuse of reclaimed water. She stressed that such goals require open dialogue, practical solutions, and shared commitment from all partners.

The workshop discussed four main themes. The first was research and technology, focusing on practical and experimental solutions. The second was policies and enablers, including legislation, incentives, and partnerships between public and private sectors. The third was data and knowledge management, through building digital infra-

structure and using smart data analysis. The fourth was capacity building, including training talent, developing skills, and creating incubators and accelerators to turn ideas into real solutions.

Dr. Buthaina said the workshop was not limited to challenges. It was also a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and exploring opportunities. She added that it reflects Nama Water Services' continuous efforts to make innovation an institutional practice that supports sustainable water management.

Eng. Salem bin Saud Al-Kindi, Director General of Water Management at the Ministry, said the workshop reflects strong cooperation between the two institutions. He explained that it aimed to identify barriers to innovation and highlight impactful initiatives. It also sought to define the enablers needed to support the framework. He added that the results of the discussions will be turned into practical recommendations to enhance innovation in the water sector.

The workshop attracted wide participation from experts and stakeholders. They underlined the importance of cooperation between the government and private institutions. They also stressed the need for stronger research and technical partnerships. Participants praised Nama Water Services for its leading role in building a culture of innovation and supporting projects that drive sustainability in Oman.

AT KHOUR AL HAJAR

Fishermen's Pier project represents significant addition to fishing sector

MUSCAT: The Fishermen's Pier project at Khour Al Hajar in the fishing landing area of the Wilayat of Ras Al Hadd, South Al Sharqiyah Governorate, was inaugurated on Tuesday.

The inauguration was held under the auspices of Eng. Yaqoub Khalfan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, with support from the Oman Liquefied Natural Gas (Oman LNG) Development Foundation.

Said bin Juma Al Araimi, Director of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources in Ras Al Hadd, noted that the Wilayat of Ras Al Hadd is an important area for fisheries production in the governorate.

He stated that the project represents a significant addition to the fishing sector, facilitating the movement of boats and vessels, supporting the fisheries sector, and encouraging investment and maritime tourism to be a tributary of sustainable local development.

Basem Nasser Al Batashi, Director of the Sustainable Development Department at the Oman LNG Development Foundation, explained that the project, supported by Oman LNG, had a total cost of OMR250,000. It encom-



passes various engineering and development works, ranging from geological studies and rock removal to site leveling, the construction of a breakwater, and the creation of a slipway, along with the use of environmentally friendly solutions such as solar-powered lighting.

He added that the project will

contribute to providing a safe and effective area for fishing boats to anchor in deep waters, reducing risks for fishermen, and saving time and effort, thereby enhancing the efficiency of their daily operations.

The inauguration included a presentation on the project's components, its importance in boosting the

local output of fisheries, and a visual presentation on the project and the services it will provide to serve economic and tourism development.

It is worth noting that the project consists of 100-meter-long breakwaters, a 12-metre-wide boat slipway, paved ground, and lighting powered by renewable energy. - **ONA**

OPAZ MEETING

Meeting reviews draft 11th five-year plan with focus on solar energy use in Al Dhahirah Economic Zone

MUSCAT: The Board of Directors of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) held its third meeting this year, chaired by Sheikh Dr. Ali Masoud Al Sunaidi, Chairman of the OPAZ.

The meeting discussed the draft 11th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030) and approved a mechanism to encourage contractors to use solar panels for generating energy for temporary labour camps and construction setups in the Al Dhahirah Economic Zone project, as an alternative to using diesel generators.

During the meeting, the Board was briefed on the progress of procedures for restructuring the "Mubadira" company, affiliated to the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates "Madaayn." It also reviewed the action plan for the Industrial Innovation Academy.

The meeting examined the results achieved during 2024 and 2025, particularly in researching and developing production lines for local raw materials used in the restoration of heritage buildings,



the assembly and manufacturing of 3D printers, and supporting applied research for the local production of industrial molds using 3D printing for use in manufacturing plastic products.

This is alongside encouraging research for a number of specialized factories and innovative projects within the framework of the industrial strategy.

The Board also reviewed the procedures undertaken in the

zones under the OPAZ's supervision to comply with the mandates of the Governance Committee for the Employment Sector and its sub-committees in the industrial sector, aiming to ensure the absorption of larger numbers of Omani nationals in factories and various specialized fields.

The Board addressed the outcomes of the "Rab" platform, where over 1,500 Omani products, serving as inputs for various facto-

ries, have been registered in coordination with the Projects, Tender and Local Content Authority.

Furthermore, OPAZ Board of Directors discussed the findings of the audit committee, which reports to the Board, and approved referring a number of observations noted by the committee regarding "Madaayn" to the State's Audit Institution for examination, investigation and appropriate action. - **ONA**

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Oman Refreshment, up 9.98%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 5.11%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 5,181.62 points, down by -0.22% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by -0.25% at 465.08 points. Oman Refreshment, up 9.98%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 5.11%, was the top loser.

Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 3821 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 24.85 million, with more than 118.8 million shares changing hands.

Out of 62 traded securities, 25 advanced, 18 declined, and 19 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net buyers for RO 877K while domestic investors were net sellers for RO 531K, followed by foreign investors for RO 346K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 8,524.92 points, down -0.02%. Prices of Al Omaniya Financial

Services, Al Madina Investments, Al Anwar Investment, Bank Dhofar, Bank Muscat were up by 4.00%, 2.50%, 1.14%, 0.74%, 0.61% respectively. Prices of Al Sharqia Investment, United Finance, Oman & Emirates International Bank, Bank Nizwa, Sohar Investment, Bank Muscat were down by 2.35%, 1.54%, 1.35%, 0.96%, 0.68% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 7,031.01 points, up 0.15%. Prices of Oman Refreshment, Dhofar Cattle Feed, Galfar Engineering, Oman Cement, Voltamp Energy were up by 9.98%, 8.70%, 1.59%, 1.25%, 0.56% respectively. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals were down by 2.78% respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.55% before closing at 2,080.92 points. Prices of Majan College, Sembcorp Salalah, Muscat Desalination, Al Maha Markting, Phoenix Power were up by 5.26%, 5.24%, 3.90%, 3.16%, 3.15% respectively. Prices of Oman Oil Marketing, Muscat Gases, National Gas, Ooredoo, Oman Telecom were down by 3.80%, 3.48%, 2.41%, 1.75%, 1.28% respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES							
Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%	
MSX 30 INDEX	5,121.61	5,181.62	5,181.62	5,193.27	-11.65	-0.22	
FINANCIAL INDEX	8,531.79	8,504.49	8,524.92	8,526.40	-1.48	-0.02	
Industry Index	7,036.18	7,014.66	7,031.01	7,020.50	10.50	0.15	
Services Index	2,108.22	2,069.40	2,080.92	2,069.51	11.41	0.55	
MSX Shariah Index	467.33	464.83	465.08	466.24	-1.16	-0.25	
MSX TR INDEX	7,767.51	7,721.34	7,721.34	7,738.70	-17.36	-0.22	
FINANCIAL TR IDX	10,136.07	10,103.63	10,127.90	10,129.66	-1.76	-0.02	
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	8,646.41	8,619.96	8,640.05	8,627.14	12.91	0.15	
SERVICES TR IDX	2,718.00	2,667.94	2,682.80	2,668.08	14.71	0.55	
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
118,805,746.....	24,848,088.....	3,821.....	30,534,974,910.....	25.....	18.....	19.....	62.....

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF	DIFF %	LAST PD.	LAST BD.	LAST OFFER	PAV VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	678,338	94,601	54	0.139	0.140	0.139	0.139	0.136	0.003	2.206	0.139	0.135	0.149	0.100	99,302,481
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	416,282	58,101	43	0.138	0.140	0.138	0.138	0.137	0.001	0.730	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.100	93,134,465
OM0000003254	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	194,759	53,737	17	0.275	0.277	0.274	0.277	0.275	0.002	0.270	0.275	0.275	0.275	0.100	55,485,570
OM0000002786	BANK MUSCAT	18,942,709	5,878,846	374	0.336	0.329	0.324	0.329	0.327	0.002	0.612	0.329	0.330	0.329	0.100	2,469,014,533
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	15,000	13,500	3	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.895	0.005	0.559	0.900	0.809	0.950	0.100	84,251,846
OM0000002226	AL AZEERA SERVICES	35,522	6,462	10	0.182	0.184	0.181	0.184	0.183	0.001	0.546	0.184	0.182	0.187	0.100	7,853,110
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	489,407	121,100	26	0.247	0.252	0.246	0.248	0.247	0.001	0.405	0.248	0.247	0.250	0.100	23,056,676
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	15,094	3,738	3	0.247	0.248	0.247	0.247	0.247	0.000	0.000	0.247	0.248	0.255	0.100	24,700,000
OM0000001485	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	393,600	119,544	247	0.340	0.340	0.336	0.340	0.340	0.000	0.000	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.100	532,821,761
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	5,975	13,145	3	2.200	2.200	2.200	2.200	2.200	0.000	0.000	2.200	2.180	2.400	0.100	197,340,000
OM0000002188	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	259,357	43,825	26	0.168	0.170	0.168	0.169	0.169	0.000	0.000	0.169	0.169	0.169	0.100	37,180,000
OM0000002176	JAZERA STEEL PRODUCTS	5,620	2,703	1	0.481	0.481	0.481	0.481	0.481	0.000	0.000	0.481	0.482	0.529	0.100	60,075,919
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	7,600	1,292	3	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.000	0.170	0.170	0.187	0.100	34,000,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	161,632	15,440	10	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.085	0.084	0.085	0.100	14,875,000
OM0000008072	QO GAS NETWORKS	13,793,361	2,307,054	399	0.161	0.161	0.159	0.160	0.161	0.001	0.621	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.100	692,886,527
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	31,544,372	4,588,885	394	0.148	0.148	0.145	0.146	0.147	0.001	0.680	0.146	0.150	0.146	0.100	966,117,955
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	308,210	31,746	9	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.104	0.104	0.000	0.000	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.100	230,406,162
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	2,108,045	585,701	320	0.278	0.281	0.275	0.275	0.278	-0.003	-1.079	0.275	0.278	0.275	0.100	211,805,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	1,048,723	1,156,695	99	1.095	1.095	1.061	1.062	1.096	-0.014	-1.277	1.082	1.082	1.087	0.100	811,500,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	827,048	52,846	39	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.065	-0.001	-1.538	0.064	0.063	0.064	0.100	22,792,147
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	315,438	71,907	23	0.229	0.230	0.225	0.225	0.229	0.004	1.747	0.225	0.225	0.233	0.100	146,462,452
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIYA INVESTMENT HO.	1,000	5,883	4	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.085	-0.002	-2.353	0.083	0.082	0.083	0.100	74,700,000
Total	22	70,715,102	15,106,763	2,107												
Parallel Market																
OM0000001426	OMAN REFRESHMENT	223	275	2	1.234	1.234	1.234	1.234	1.122	0.112	8.982	1.234	1.234	0.000	0.100	61,700,000
OM0000001301	DHOFAR FOODS AND INVESTMENT	110	8	1	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.069	0.006	8.696	0.075	0.072	0.075	0.100	14,525,789
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	151,000	17,900	15	0.114	0.120	0.114	0.120	0.114	0.006	5.263	0.120	0.115	0.124	0.100	10,900,000
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	1,541,996	313,998	106	0.210	0.210	0.200	0.201	0.191	0.010	5.236	0.201	0.201	0.210	0.100	191,899,962
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	370	48	1	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.125	0.005	4.000	0.130	0.000	0.130	0.100	41,004,210
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	43,712	3,431	6	0.078	0.080	0.078	0.080	0.077	0.003	3.896	0.080	0.079	0.080	0.100	12,444,032
OM0000003000	AL MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKETING	17,648	17,400	5	1.000	1.001	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.010	3.158	0.990	0.990	1.019	0.100	67,650,000
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	824,778	109,206	76	0.130	0.133	0.130	0.131	0.127	0.004	3.150	0.131	0.132	0.131	0.100	191,600,791
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	16,105	660	3	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.040	0.040	0.001	2.500	0.041	0.040	0.044	0.100	3,485,000
OM0000008710	BAIKA DESALINATION	5,000	695	1	0.137	0.137	0.137	0.137	0.134	0.003	2.239	0.137	0.134	0.142	0.100	10,346,514
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REEF	15,000	2,041	6	0.135	0.137	0.135	0.137	0.134	0.003	2.239	0.137	0.136	0.137	0.100	81,026,853
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	1,444,122	131,136	79	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.091	0.001	2.188	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100	20,686,230
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	20,500	9,940	3	0.479	0.485	0.479	0.485	0.479	0.006	1.253	0.485	0.479	0.485	0.100	160,473,264
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	495,879	43,623	14	0.088	0.089	0.087	0.089	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.087	0.089	0.100	26,711,211
OM0000005669	JARAI REEF	8,543	913	2	0.106	0.107	0.106	0.107	0.106	0.001	0.945	0.107	0.107	0.108	0.100	18,018,000
OM0000002349	BANK DHOFAR	770,000	103,970	6	0.135	0.136	0.135	0.136	0.135	0.001	0.741	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.100	413,412,600
OM0000004248	SBM POWER HOLDING	112,060	24,923	23	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.000	0.000	0.022	0.022	0.024	0.100	44,518,739
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	6,615	3,010	2	0.455	0.455	0.455	0.455	0.455	0.000	0.000	0.455	0.455	0.455	0.100	72,346,625
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTERNATIONAL DEV & INV.	300	77	1	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.000	0.000	0.255	0.000	0.255	0.100	126,494,316
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	80,326	4,346	4	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.056	0.100	16,585,902
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	25,301	5,993	6	0.235	0.238	0.235	0.238	0.238	0.000	0.000	0.238	0.235	0.238	0.100	10,892,260
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	14,300	3,567	7	0.670	0.670	0.622	0.670	0.670	0.000	0.000	0.670	0.670	0.670	0.100	63,650,000
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	1,929,559	173,390	11	0.090	0.090	0.089	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.091	0.100	58,573,129
OM0000008908	QO BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	20,606,981	3,069,492	379	0.150	0.150	0.148	0.149	0.149	0.000	0.000	0.149	0.150	0.149	0.040	51,544,137
OM0000008759	QO EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	12,264,081	4,356,296	477	0.354	0.357	0.353	0.354	0.355	0.001	0.282	0.354	0.354	0.355	0.016	2,832,000,000
OM0000003141	BAKRA WATER AND POWER	69,135	10,062	14	0.172	0.172	0.170	0.172	0.173	-0.001	-0.778	0.172	0.171	0.172	0.100	97,500,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	68,283	4,964	4	0.072	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.074	0.001	1.351	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.100	8,896,875
OM0000002189	GULF SHUPOING	674,166	869,083	131	0.131	0.132	0.129	0.131	0.132	0.001	0.768	0.131	0.131	0.132	0.100	6,678,000
OM0000001180	NATIONAL GAS	16,500	1,397	3	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.083	-0.002	-2.440	0.081	0.082	0.083	0.100	8,896,875
OM0000007910	OMAN REAL ESTATE	46,613	375	6	0.081	0.081	0.080	0.080	0.082	-0.002	-2.438	0.080	0.080	0.083	0.100	16,000,000
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL	3,633	2,000	2	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.072	0.003	4.000	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	1,400,000
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	3,000	330	1	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.115	-0.004	-3.478	0.111	0.111	0.119	0.100	3,390,000
OM0000003272	OMAN OIL MARKETING	4,246	3,216	4	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.000	0.000	0.760	0.760	0.760	0.100	1,000,000
OM0000001182	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INV.	23,259	3,069	8	0.134	0.134	0.130	0.130	0.137	-0.007	-5.109	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	135,000,000
Total	34	47,408,115	9,304,920	1,689												



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- Strong verbal and written communication skills
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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

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

ADMIN / WAREHOUSE ADMIN

Indian male with strong experience in Administration & Warehouse Management. Skilled in handling operations, documentation, staff coordination, and inventory management. Currently residing in Muscat and available for suitable positions.

Contact: 90223655
Email: pradeeshraju.12@gmail.com

SALES & MARKETING

Bsc. Business Management, MBA Sri Lankan male with 15 yrs Oman experience in sales, marketing, business development and operations 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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I **MD Jais** (holder of Indian passport No.N5714583) son of MD Sariful of having permanent residence in Vill -Bhairo Kothi, PO-Bhoop Bhairo PS Sitamarhi, Pin 843302 Bihar, India (complete postal address in India) and presently residing in PO Box 1611, PC114 AL Ansab, Sultanate of Oman (complete postal address in Oman) intend to change my name from **MD JAIS (old name) to MOHD JAIS ALAM (new name)** for all practical purpose. Any objection towards my name may please be communicated to Embassy Of India, Muscat, Diplomatic Quarters, Al Khuwair, P.Box. No.1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Sultanate Of Oman

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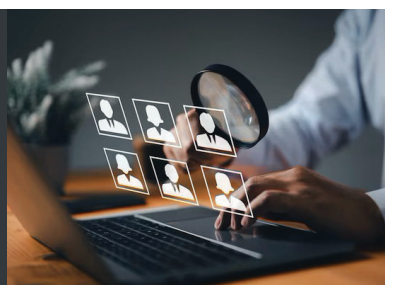
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HOSPITALITY						
Urgently required an experienced Indian sweet maker for a reputed multi-cuisine restaurant in Sohar, Oman. The ideal candidate should be skilled in preparing a wide range of traditional Indian sweets, with prior experience in restaurants or sweet shops preferred. Contact: +968 99341643, 95587309						
JOB WANTED		JOB WANTED				
ACCOUNTS/FINANCE	ACCOUNTS/FINANCE Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277 Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279 Senior accountant ACCA, MS finance. 12 yrs Gulf exp. Can join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 77258382 Indian male 7 yrs of experience working in reputed company in Oman as a Account officers seeking an Accountant position in finance &accounts.Contact 79187711. Emailskmuscat65@gmail.com Highly skilled Chief Accountant looking for suitable position.Contact: 79888153 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, Sr.Accountant (Mcom & MBA Finance), having 10 yrs of Oman experience up to finalization with D/L. Contact: 97524285. Email: bobykkj@gmail.com Indian male, Asst Finance manager (Mcom&MBA Finance), having 10 yrs of Oman experience, valid D/L. Contact: 97524285. Email bobykkj@gmail.com 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.	ADMINISTRATION Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact 78439875 Indian male 18 yrs of experience MBA, B.Com, M&T fundamentals in Oman. Contact: 76410692	ADMINISTRATION ndian male graduate 4 yrs experience UAE document controller, coordinator BCA. Contact: 71867793 ARCHITECT 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 driving job. Contact: 90221259 Looking for truck driver job, experience of 6 yrs with light & heavy licence, requires visa. Contact: 91281314 Driver with 25 yrs experience, PDO licence looking for job . Contact 99116288 Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801 Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920 EDUCATION/TRAINING 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: induchandrani@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: induchandrani@gmail.com	ENGINEER Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. 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Contact: 79892494 Indian male 22 yrs diploma in fire & safety engineering with 6 months experience in India seeks suitable placement. Contact: 77683304 Mechanical Engineer with master's in supply chain management having 6 yrs of experience in logistics & oil field sector seeking job opportunities. Available in Muscat for immediate join. Contact 91251757. Email: jighlithooprath@gmail.com Indian M (35) MBA in Oman, 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma with D/L. Contact: 79755795 MANAGER Accounting manager, Indian (M), 43yrs, 18+ yrs in Oman, D/L & NOC. Contact: 76432203	MANAGER Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive)looking for suitable position.Cont: 98132055 IT Motivated 23-year-old B.E. (Computer Science) with 2 yrs of experience in IT operations, sales, and customer support. Currently residing in Oman and seeking any suitable role. Contact: +968 76350981. Email: zameer12.za@gmail.com Indian male 22 yrs BCA having one year experience in computer operations(India) seeks suitable placement.Contact: 77621081 System administrator with 11 yrs of experience in network administration, windows server configuration & hardware installation. Contact 94989254 Indian software engineer with 1.3yrs experience in react, node, python, .NET, springboot. Contact:+96876269502, muhammedsadhaf@gmail.com Indian female (IT professional) experienced professional seeking a challenging full stack developer role(immediate joining) in Oman. (IT, developing, database administration) Contact+968 75097299. Email: sowmimiya43@gmail.com	PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT Purchase officer, graduate Indian male, 15 yrs, having proven experience in the Middle East, looking for a suitable job in procurement, purchase in construction companies. Contact 95924356, WA +918547481127, Email: pillai.afi@gmail.com Indian male with 16yrs experience in procurement & logistics seeking for jobs in Oman. Contact: 96565795 Indian male had 13+ yrs experience with Procurement in construction and primary subsection projects and worked for a well reputed company's in Oman. Currently seeking jobs in Oman. Contact:+968 97438087 Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964 Indian male 40 yrs Bcom MBA having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L,seeking suitable opportunities. Contact +971529546753 Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964 SALES/MARKETING Sales engineer Indian male 6 yrs experience in Oman.NOC available. Contact: 71846194. Email: vaseem9633@gmail.com Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 9456 6786 Indian Mechanical Engineer with D/L. 4 yrs experience in Oman looking for job in sales, purchase, admin, currently in Oman. Contact: 76478885 Indian male (33) currently based in Muscat, Oman,open to opportunities in sales, product management, and technical support roles in automotive and audio visual industries. Contact +968 91309143.Email ambrithmaths@gmail.com Indian M(35) MBA in Oman 10 yrs exp in marketing in FMCG, pharma. Contact: 79755795

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ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male MBA finance, with 8yrs of Accounting experience seeks for a Senior Acct & finance, specialist position. NOC available & DL Contact:72420067

Accountant (Indian) 8 yrs experience, having D/L Can join immediately. Contact: 95273377

Female CA Inter-qualified professional with 3 yrs accounting experience in Kerala & Oman. Currently in Oman on a family joining visa, open to full-time or part-time opportunities in finance, accounts, and related roles. Contact: 91281006, 78536919

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

Indian male (MBA finance), having more than 22 yrs experience in Oman in accounts, finance, looking for suitable placement. NOC/DL, available can join immediately. Contact: 92355818.

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

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

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

Senior accountant ACCA, MS finance. 12 yrs Gulf exp. Can join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 77258382

Indian male 7 yrs of experience working in reputed company in Oman as a Account officers seeking an Accountant position in finance &Accounts.Contact 79187711. Email:skmuscat65@gmail.com

Highly skilled Chief Accountant looking for suitable position.Contact: 79888153

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, Sr.Accountant (Mcom & MBA Finance), having 10 yrs of Oman experience up to finalization with D/L. Contact: 97524285. Email: bobykkj@gmail.com

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

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.

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

Indian male 18 yrs of experience MBA, B.Com, M&E fundamentals in Oman. Contact: 76410692

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ndian male graduate 4 yrs experience UAE document controller, coordinator BCA. Contact: 71867793

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Structural Engineer (18 yrs gulf experience)with D/L, looking for suitable position as structural residential engineer. Contact: 76323147

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Automobile Engineer (B.Tech/ Diploma), experienced in hydraulic machinery & manufacturing. Skilled in AutoCAD, fusion 360, MS office. Currently in Oman. Contact: 75042010. Email: abinpunnackall@gmail.com

Indian male with 7 yrs experience in HSE supervision & fire equipmentvaild Oman D/L purus-ing NEBOSH seeking for HSE role. Contact: 91997600

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 male 22 yrs diploma in fire & safety engineering with 6 months experience in India seeks suitable placement. Contact: 77683304

Mechanical Engineer with master's in supply chain management having 6 yrs of experience in logistics & oil field sector seeking job opportunities. Available in Muscat for immediate join. Contact 91251757. Email: jighilthooprath@gmail.com

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

MANAGER

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

IT

Motivated 23-year-old B.E. (Computer Science) with 2 yrs of experience in IT operations, sales, and customer support. Currently residing in Oman and seeking any suitable role. Contact: +968 76350981. Email: zameer12.za@gmail.com

Indian male 22 yrs BCA having one year experience in computer operations(India) seeks suitable placement.Contact: 77621081

System administrator with 11 yrs of experience in network administration,windows server configuration & hardware installation. Contact 94989254

Indian software engineer with 1.3yrs experience in react, node, python, .NET, springboot. Contact:+96876269502, muhammedsadhef@gmail.com

Indian female (IT professional) experienced professional seeking a challenging full stack developer role(immediate joining) in Oman. (IT, developing, database administration) Contact+968 75097299. Email: sowmimiya43@gmail.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Purchase officer, graduate Indian male, 15 yrs, having proven experience in the Middle East, looking for a suitable job in procurement, purchase in construction companies. Contact 95924356, WA +918547481127, Email: pillai.afi@gmail.com

Indian male with 16yrs experience in procurement & logistics seeking for jobs in Oman. Contact: 96565795

Indian male had 13+ yrs experience with Procurement in construction and primary subsection projects and worked for a well reputed company's in Oman. Currently seeking jobs in Oman. Contact:+968 97438087

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964

Indian male 40 yrs Bcom MBA having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L,seeking suitable opportunities. Contact +971529546753

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp+96895839964

SALES/MARKETING

Sales engineer Indian male 6 yrs experience in Oman.NOC available. Contact: 71846194. Email: vaseem9633@gmail.com

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

Indian Mechanical Engineer with D/L. 4 yrs experience in Oman looking for job in sales, purchase, admin, currently in Oman. Contact: 76478885

Indian male (33) currently based in Muscat, Oman,open to opportunities in sales, product management, and technical support roles in automotive and audio visual industries. Contact +968 91309143.Email ambrithmaths@gmail.com

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



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A pioneering study by researchers from Finland and the UK has demonstrated for the first time that myocardial infarction may be an infectious disease

RESEARCH SAYS HEART ATTACKS CAN ACTUALLY BE INFECTIOUS

Scientists from Finland and the UK have uncovered groundbreaking evidence that heart attacks may be triggered by infectious processes rather than just cholesterol and lifestyle factors.

Hidden bacterial biofilms inside arterial plaques can remain dormant for decades, shielded from the immune system, until activated by a viral infection or another external trigger.

Once awakened, the bacteria spark inflammation, rupture arterial plaques, and cause blockages that lead to heart attacks.

A pioneering study by research-

ers from Finland and the UK has demonstrated for the first time that myocardial infarction may be an infectious disease.

This discovery challenges the conventional understanding of the pathogenesis of myocardial infarction and opens new avenues for treatment, diagnostics, and even vaccine development.

Using a range of advanced methodologies, the research found that, in coronary artery disease, atherosclerotic plaques containing cholesterol may harbour a gelatinous, asymptomatic biofilm formed by bacteria over years or even decades.

Dormant bacteria within the biofilm remain shielded from both the patient's immune system and antibiotics because they cannot penetrate the biofilm matrix.

A viral infection or another external trigger may activate the biofilm, leading to the proliferation of bacteria and an inflammatory response.

The inflammation can cause a rupture in the fibrous cap of the plaque, resulting in thrombus formation and ultimately myocardial infarction.

Professor Pekka Karhunen, who led the study, notes that until now, it was assumed that events leading

to coronary artery disease were only initiated by oxidised low-density lipoprotein (LDL), which the body recognises as a foreign structure.

"Bacterial involvement in coronary artery disease has long been suspected, but direct and convincing evidence has been lacking. Our study demonstrated the presence of genetic material -- DNA -- from several oral bacteria inside atherosclerotic plaques," Karhunen explains.

The findings were validated by developing an antibody targeted at the discovered bacteria, which unexpectedly revealed biofilm struc-

tures in arterial tissue.

Bacteria released from the biofilm were observed in cases of myocardial infarction. The body's immune system had responded to these bacteria, triggering inflammation which ruptured the cholesterol-laden plaque.

The observations pave the way for the development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for myocardial infarction. Furthermore, they advance the possibility of preventing coronary artery disease and myocardial infarction by vaccination.

The study was conducted by Tampere and Oulu Universities,

Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the University of Oxford.

Tissue samples were obtained from individuals who had died from sudden cardiac death, as well as from patients with atherosclerosis who were undergoing surgery to cleanse carotid and peripheral arteries.

The research is part of an extensive EU-funded cardiovascular research project involving 11 countries. Significant funding was also provided by the Finnish Foundation for Cardiovascular Research and Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation. -- ANI

SPORTS

Nuno begins West Ham reign with draw against Everton

Bowen struck the equaliser for Hammers after Keane had put the hosts ahead early in the first half

LONDON: Jarrod Bowen's equaliser earned a point for West Ham as they began life under new manager Nuno Espirito Santo with a 1-1 draw at Everton on Monday.

Michael Keane scored an early opener for Everton with a super bullet header from James Garner's whipped cross from the left at the Hill Dickinson Stadium.

Everton had the best of the first half, with Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall and Jack Grealish particularly lively, and the former came closest to extending the Toffees' lead when he glanced a header narrowly wide.

But Everton were unable to take advantage of their early dominance and Bowen made them pay



on 65 minutes when he found space inside the box and his vicious left-footed shot flew in via a deflection off Keane.

West Ham ended the game on top and Nuno will take heart from his side's reponse to the early setback, though the draw means the Hammers are still second from bottom with just four points.

Everton move up the table to

ninth place, level on eight points with four clubs including Chelsea.

David Moyes' Everton will feel they could have taken three points from this game, but they lacked the cutting edge in front of goal.

West Ham's poor marking in the box allowed Keane the space to score his opener but otherwise the home side could not turn neat football - with Grealish at the heart

of it - into clear-cut chances.

The draw means Everton are winless in their past three league games but there was enough spark in this performance to encourage Moyes before a tough home game against in-form Crystal Palace and then a trip to Manchester City.

Nuno has taken over a West Ham side in the middle of a horrible run of form, having lost four



of their first five games, and he will hope this draw marks the start of an improved new era.

While West Ham's build-up play was often underwhelming, forward Crysencio Summerville and left-back El Hadji Malick Diouf were bright sparks down the Hammers' left.

Dutchman Summerville carried the ball well and looked to stretch

the Everton back-line out of position, while Diouf was too much for Toffees right-back Jake O'Brien to handle at times and his cross led to Bowen's equaliser.

West Ham's goal immediately made them much more threatening as they took the game to Everton, picking up their first points in the Premier League since the end of August. - Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE

Ekitike welcomes Isak rivalry at Liverpool

LONDON: Liverpool forward Hugo Ekitike insists the arrival of record signing Alexander Isak will only push him to improve, rather than threaten his place in the team.

Ekitike, 23, joined the Premier League champions in the summer for £69m and made an impressive start, scoring five goals in his first 10 appearances.

But Liverpool's relentless pursuit of Isak culminated in a £125m deadline-day deal for the Sweden international, sparking debate about how manager Arne Slot will deploy his two star forwards.

Rather than seeing the £125m arrival as competition, Ekitike views it as an opportunity. "I think it's good with players in such a big club," he said. "I can't see one big club playing with only one striker,



so I think it's good that he's here. Even for me at my age, I still have a lot of things to improve and learn, so for me it's good that he's here."

The Frenchman remains open-minded about partnering Isak in

attack. "That's for the coach to decide how he wants to play," he explained. "I've played in two-striker systems and as a lone forward, so I can do a lot of things. If we have to play together, I can do that."

Both strikers found the net in last week's Carabao Cup tie against Southampton. Ekitike came off the bench at half-time to replace Isak, scoring a late winner - but then saw red after celebrating by removing his shirt, having already been booked earlier in the game.

Ekitike admitted the mistake was costly. He said: "I think that wasn't smart. Obviously I punished myself. I felt disappointed watching the boys from home last Saturday, but I apologised already to my team-mates. That kind of thing won't happen again. I just move on now."

With Isak now in the squad, competition for places in Liverpool's attack is fiercer than ever - but Ekitike is adamant the rivalry will bring out the best in him. - Agencies

TOKYO OPEN

Alcaraz clinches eighth title of the season in Tokyo



TOKYO: World No.1 Carlos Alcaraz beat Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-4 at the Japan Open to win his eighth ATP title of the year in Tokyo on Tuesday.

Alcaraz was making his debut at the Tokyo Open. He showed no signs of issue with his ankle after sustaining an injury in the opening round and broke for 5-4 and served out for the first set.

Fritz twice required treatment to his left thigh before returning for the second and Alcaraz seized the opportunity to pile on the pressure.

The American was broken twice and trailed 4-1 but did offer some resistance in the closing stages, chalking one of those off, but didn't have enough to stop the six-time Grand Slam champion.

Since losing against Jannik Sinner at Wimbledon in July, Alcaraz has won three successive



ATP titles - the Cincinnati Open, US Open and Tokyo Open.

It is Alcaraz's 67th win of the season as he closes in further on Sinner's tally of 73 wins in 2024.

Meanwhile, Sinner is through to the final of the China Open in Beijing after a 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 victory against Alex de Minaur.

Sinner is seeking his second title at the event after winning in 2023 but he lost last year's final to Alcaraz. The Italian will face either Russian Daniil Medvedev or American Learner Tien in the final. - Agencies

INELIGIBLE PLAYER CASE

South Africa's 2026 World Cup hopes hit by forfeit



JOHANNESBURG: South Africa's hopes of qualifying for the 2026 FIFA World Cup have suffered a major blow after they were sanctioned for fielding an ineligible player.

Teboho Mokoena played in the 2-0 win over Lesotho in March despite the 28-year-old midfielder being due to serve a suspension after accumulating two yellow cards.

A FIFA disciplinary committee has ruled that South Africa breached competition rules, and has imposed a 3-0 forfeit.

The country's football association (SAFA) has been fined 10,000

Swiss Francs (\$12,500, £9,340), while Mokoena has been issued with a warning.

The decision has blown Group C of African World Cup qualifying wide open, with South Africa dropping from top of the table to second place, behind Benin on goal difference. Only the group winners are assured of reaching next year's tournament in north and central America.

It also gives renewed hope to Nigeria and Rwanda of reaching the finals, with both of those sides now three points below Benin and South Africa. - Agencies

PLAYERS CLAMOUR FOR YET ANOTHER STINT

Europe captain Donald not ruling out third term as Ryder Cup captain

NEW YORK: Luke Donald has not ruled out a third term as European Ryder Cup captain, but says he will not "rush into a decision" as the away celebrations continue in New York.

Donald, 47, sealed his place as one of Europe's greatest captains after masterminding a tense victory over the United States in New York.

He became only the second European captain - after Tony Jacklin in 1985 and 1987 - to win back-to-back Ryder Cups.

"A lot of people questioned why I would do it a second time after doing it so well in Rome," Donald told BBC Sport from the European team's Long Island hotel on Monday.

"But home and away is a different challenge and I've ticked both those boxes.

"Whether I do it again is something I'll have to think about."

Europe will defend the trophy on home soil in 2027, when the

contest resumes at Adare Manor in Ireland on 17-19 September.

If Donald does end up leading the team in County Limerick, he will be the first European captain to serve three terms since Bernard Gallacher in 1995.

Donald was initially appointed as a late replacement before the 2023 edition when, little over a year out from the Rome contest, LIV defector Henrik Stenson was told he would not be allowed to take on the role.

After Donald guided the home side to a commanding victory, his players and thousands of fans clamoured for the Englishman to be given another term.

The same chant of "Two more years!" erupted as the Englishman clutched the Ryder Cup again at Bethpage on Sunday in the aftermath of a tenser-than-expected win. The players burst into song again during the team's victory news conference.

"I'm very humbled and grate-



ful that some of the players and the fans were chanting two years again," he said. "I'll never rule [doing it a third time] out."

"Everything I do I sit down and think about it in preparation. What is the cost, what are we doing here, how are we going to be successful, what are the challenges."

"I'm not going to rush into a decision like this today. I just want to enjoy this one."

Justin Rose, who played in Bethpage, has been touted as a potential successor if Donald does not continue, while one of Molinari brothers - Donald's vice-captains Edoardo and Francesco - could be options if Europe opt to promote from within.

Whoever takes over has a tough task, as both Jon Rahm and Shane Lowry warned on Sunday.

"It's like trying to come in after

[Manchester United football manager] Sir Alex Ferguson." Lowry told newspaper reporters.

"We've seen how that's gone over the last 12 years. I think it'll be very tough shoes to fill."

Europe's victory came amid torrents of verbal abuse from a New York crowd which was heavily criticised for its behaviour.

American great Tom Watson, the eight-time major champion who twice led the US team in 1993 and 2014, said he was "ashamed" of the unruly scenes.

"I'd like to apologise for the rude and mean-spirited behaviour from our American crowd at Bethpage," said 76-year-old Watson.

European talisman Rory McIlroy was the prime target from the American galleries, while his wife Erica was hit by a drinks cup flung from one of the stands.

After sealing victory on Sunday, McIlroy said the level of the personal insults was unacceptable.

"[The behaviour] needs to be

talked about and needs to be addressed," said Donald, who praised police officers for their handling of a febrile situation.

"I don't know how you rein it in, the odd people who shout. It is a tricky one."

"We would love to just play and the US players were great at trying to quieten the crowd."

"Many Americans were coming up to say how embarrassed they were for some of their fans. It was a small subset and I don't know how you control it."

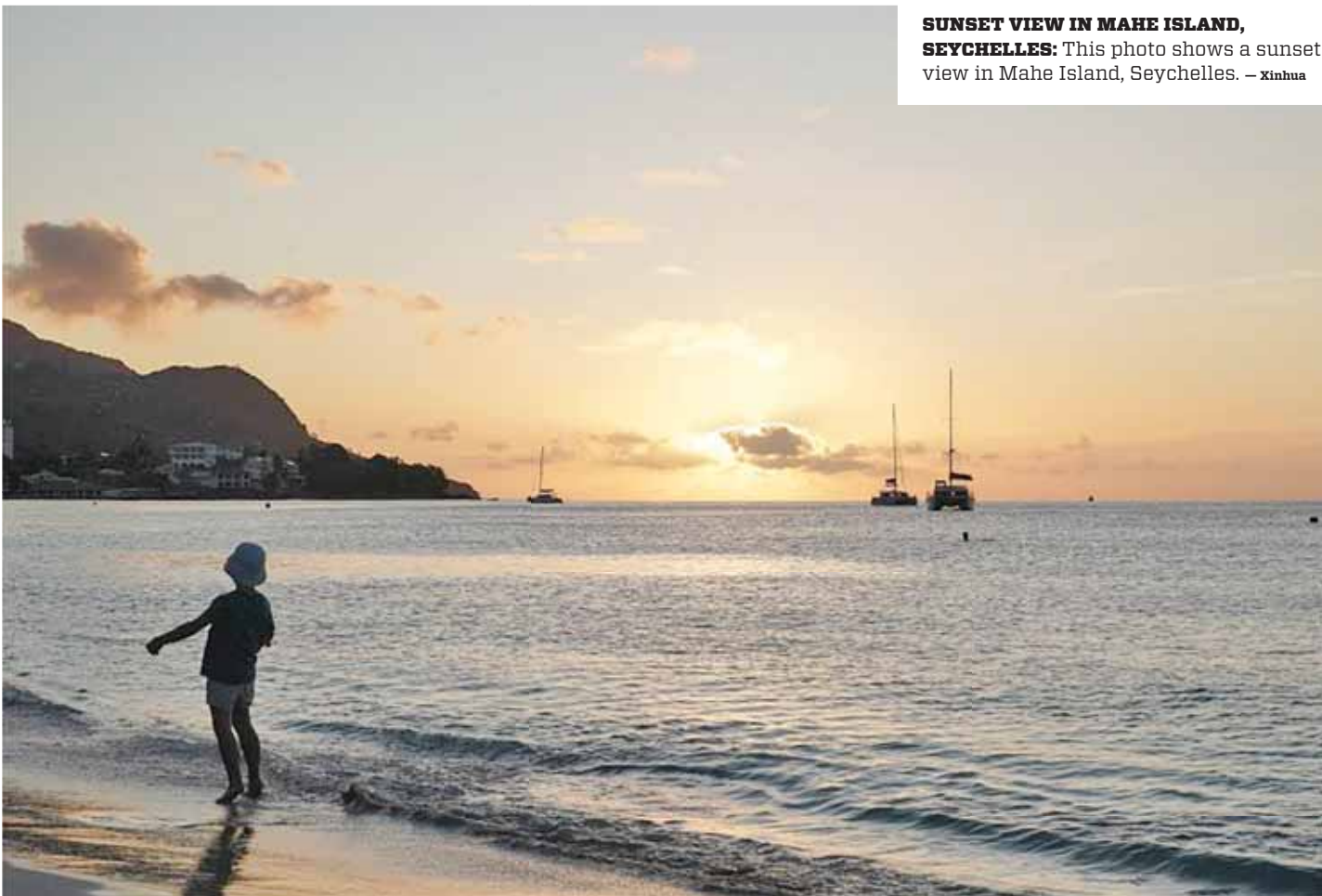
While Watson was gracious on social media, there has not been an official apology from the US team.

However, Donald thanked US counterpart Keegan Bradley and his players for attempting to ask the crowd to show respect.

"I think the Americans were acting in the right way," said Donald.

"They understand they want the crowd to support them but not to be vitriolic against us." - Agencies

IN PICTURES



SUNSET VIEW IN MAHE ISLAND, SEYCHELLES: This photo shows a sunset view in Mahe Island, Seychelles. — Xinhua



SHRADHA KAPOOR POSES AT THE TRAILER LAUNCH OF HER UPCOMING FILM ‘THAMMA’: Bollywood actress Shradha Kapoor poses at the trailer launch of her upcoming film ‘Thamma’ in Mumbai. — ANI Photo

TYPHOON BUALOI LEAVES 27 DEAD, 21 MISSING IN VIETNAM: A drone photo shows houses partially submerged in flood water in Lao Cai Province, Vietnam. The death toll from Typhoon Bualoi and subsequent floods and landslides in Vietnam has risen to 27, with 21 people still missing and 112 others injured across 17 northern and central provinces, Vietnam News Agency reported. — Xinhua



5TH EDITION OF RURAL ART FAIR KICKS OFF IN CHONGQING, SW CHINA: An aerial drone photo shows the view of Jiangjun Village, Bishan District, southwest China's Chongqing Municipality. — Xinhua

PEOPLE ENJOYING LEISURE TIME ON BEACH OF KONYAALTI IN TÜRKIYE: An aerial drone photo shows people enjoying leisure time on the beach of Konyaalti in Antalya, Türkiye. As a Türkiye's Mediterranean resort city, Antalya is famous for its endless turquoise waters and natural beauties. — Xinhua



PEOPLE LOOK AT GIANT PANDA AT EVERLAND RESORT IN YONGIN, S. KOREA: People look at the giant panda Le Bao at Everland Resort in the city of Yongin, South Korea. — Xinhua



SHENZHEN FUTIAN FASHION DAY PARIS EVENT HELD DURING PARIS FASHION WEEK: Models present creations from the spring/summer 2026 collections by Laurèl at the Shenzhen Futian Fashion Day Paris event held during the Paris fashion week in Paris, France. — Xinhua



TEMPLO MAYOR IN MEXICO CITY: This photo shows the ruins of the Templo Mayor, in Mexico City, capital of Mexico. The Templo Mayor is a major archaeological site of Tenochtitlan, the capital of Aztec empire and the precursor of Mexico City. — Xinhua

ROUND-UP

All-new MG 8 PHEV mid-size sedan launched in Oman delivering record-breaking 1,655km range

As MG’s first PHEV mid-size sedan in the Middle East, the all-new MG 8 combines sleek design, premium comfort, and cutting-edge technology with a record-breaking hybrid range of up to 1,655km and 125km of pure electric driving

MUSCAT: MG Motor has announced the arrival of the all-new MG 8 Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) in Oman, marking the start of a new era for the brand in the country. As MG’s first PHEV mid-size sedan in the Middle East, the all-new MG 8 combines sleek design, premium comfort, and cutting-edge technology with a record-breaking hybrid range of up to 1,655km and 125km of pure electric driving. The new model offers customers total flexibility with long-distance performance and no range anxiety. Earlier this year, the MG 8 set a Guinness World Record for the longest distance covered by a PHEV, achieving a measured



distance of 2,208 kilometers on a single tank and full charge, with an average fuel consumption of just 2.49L/100km. This historic milestone underscores MG’s technological leadership and commitment to redefining efficiency without compromising performance. Specifically engineered for the Middle East, the MG 8 PHEV underwent extensive hot-weather testing to ensure durability, reliability, and consistent performance in extreme summer conditions. The model also carries both GSO (Gulf Standardization Organization) and SASO (Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization) certifications, highlighting compliance with the region’s highest quality and safety standards. The exterior of the all-new MG 8 PHEV embodies the brand’s philosophy of elegance and refinement with a bold and dynamic edge. Its aggressive wide grille, sharp LED headlights, integrated fog lamps, and connected LED tail lamps give the saloon a commanding road presence. With a wheelbase of 2810 mm, this mid-

size sedan exudes a regal presence, complemented by its streamlined profile, flowing roofline, and meticulously sculpted details that enhance its sleek, modern appeal—ensuring it commands attention as both stylish and sophisticated. Inside, the all-new MG 8 PHEV sets a new standard for sedans with a luxury-inspired interior mirroring an executive, premium lounge. Premium leather, dual 12.3-inch digital displays, a sunroof, and zero-gravity cloud-sensing seats create an environment that is both stylish and supremely comfortable. With generous space, including extended rear legroom of 933mm, and refined finishes such as suede quilting, the all-new MG 8 PHEV brings a sense of modern elegance to every journey. Powered by a 1.5L plug-in hybrid engine delivering 201hp and 330Nm of torque, the all-new MG 8 PHEV utilizes MG’s advanced DMH Super Hybrid Technology, which intelligently manages the switch between petrol and electric power. This ensures drivers enjoy both excellent pickup, strong power delivery, and smooth

long-distance performance, while maximizing fuel efficiency. With five driving modes that adapt automatically to conditions, the all-new MG 8 PHEV delivers optimal efficiency and flexibility. An industry-first 5-in-1 PICU Controller ensures the vehicle’s systems work more efficiently together, improving responsiveness while reducing energy waste. NVH (Noise, Vibration, Harshness) levels have also been improved by 10% compared to similar products, keeping the cabin quiet and smooth for greater comfort on every journey. On this occasion, Mohsin Hani Al Bahrani stated, “The launch of the all-new MG 8 PHEV marks a defining moment for MG in Oman. With its record-breaking range, advanced hybrid technology, and luxury-inspired design, this model reflects our commitment to bringing innovation, efficiency, and sustainable mobility to our customers. At MHD ACERE, we are proud to introduce a vehicle that not only sets new benchmarks in performance and comfort but also reinforces Oman’s role in embracing the future of green mobility.”



Tom Lee, Managing Director of MG Motor Middle East, stated: “The all-new MG 8 PHEV demonstrates our commitment to driving innovation and setting new benchmarks in the Middle East. Following its Guinness World Record achievement for the longest distance covered by a PHEV, this model delivers record-breaking range, advanced hybrid technology, and refined design. With hot-weather testing, GSO and SASO certifications, and powerful performance tailored for this region, the MG 8 PHEV reinforces our position as one of the fastest-growing automotive brands in the Middle East.” The all-new MG 8 PHEV will be available in two trims to suit different customer needs, both delivering strong value through a comprehensive package of design, comfort, safety, and technology. In addition, the model is backed by an 8 years / 120,000km battery warranty, giving customers extra peace of mind when investing in hybrid technology. The 1.5L STD, includes LED headlamps with fog

lamps, 17-inch alloy wheels, dual digital displays, a 6-speaker audio system, USB ports for front and rear passengers, auto air conditioning with rear vents, a 6-way powered driver’s seat, a leather steering wheel, and essential safety features such as multiple airbags, parking sensors, and regenerative braking. For added sophistication, the 1.5L COM, enhances the offering with 18-inch alloy wheels, curtain airbags, a 360-degree camera, power-folding mirrors, ventilated and memory driver’s seat, and a four-way electric passenger seat, while also retaining premium conveniences such as seamless smartphone connectivity. The all-new MG 8 PHEV reflects MG Motor’s ambition to redefine mobility in the region. By combining hybrid technology with exceptional design, comfort, and efficiency, the model sets a new standard for sedans. Now available across MG showrooms in Oman, the all-new MG 8 PHEV offers customers the opportunity to experience the future of hybrid performance.

INDIAN AMBASSADOR LAUNCHES MALABAR GOLD & DIAMONDS' ARTISTRY SHOW

G V Srinivas, Indian ambassador to Oman, officially launched Malabar Gold & Diamonds' Artistry Show in the presence of Najeeb K, Regional Head of Malabar Gold & Diamonds in Oman, Thamjeed, Head - Emerging Business, along with customers, well-wishers, and the senior management team. Showcasing an exclusive array of Gold & Diamond jewellery, the Artistry Show will be held at Malabar Gold & Diamonds' showrooms in Oman Avenue Mall and Ruwi West Gate Mall till 4 October.

PROMOTION

Buy Toyota Yaris and win 50 Yaris in raffle

MUSCAT: The Toyota Yaris is more than just a compact car. It is a smart, stylish and reliable companion designed to fit seamlessly into the lives of drivers across Oman. Blending dynamic performance, contemporary design, advanced safety technology and outstanding value, the Yaris is built to turn every drive into an enjoyable experience. Customers purchasing a new Toyota Yaris will enjoy a host of remarkable benefits, including 50 Yaris on Raffle, 5 Years / 50,000 Kms Service, 50% VAT on Us, 50% Insurance on Us and RO 50 worth of Thiqah Loyalty Points. This biggest ever offer is valid until 29th December 2025. So head to your nearest Toyota showroom today. (Benefits may vary across model variants, model years, and manufacturing year. Terms & Conditions apply. Customers are advised to visit the nearest Saud Bahwan Automotive showroom for full details.)

From the very first glance, the Yaris makes an impression with its sleek and aerodynamic profile. The bold front fascia, featuring a distinctive grille and sharp headlamp design, strikes a balance between sporty energy and refined sophistication. Flowing character lines along the body create a sense of motion, even when the car is at a standstill, while the sculpted rear with wraparound tail lamps completes its eye-catching design. Depending on the trim, premium touches such as alloy wheels, LED daytime running lights and chrome accents further elevate its stylish presence. Compact dimensions make the Yaris agile and easy to manoeuvre in city traffic, while still projecting confidence on the open road.

Under the hood, the Yaris is powered by a responsive 1.5-litre Dual VVT-i engine, delivering 104 HP paired with a smooth CVT automatic transmission. This combination ensures not only spirited acceleration but also exceptional fuel efficiency, making it ideal for both daily commutes and longer weekend getaways. With engineering focused on balance, reliability and cost-effective performance, the Yaris offers peace of mind and fun behind the wheel. Inside, the Yaris prioritises comfort and connectivity. A spacious cabin with ample legroom and trunk space makes it versatile for both family trips and daily errands. The modern 8-inch infotainment system, paired with a 4-speaker audio setup, keeps drivers and passengers entertained and connected on the go. With its efficient air conditioning system, every ride is kept cool and comfortable.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT

Panasonic and Omasco mark 50-year partnership with launch of new EU-series AC designed for Oman market

MUSCAT: Panasonic Marketing Middle East and Africa FZE (PMMAF) and Oman Marketing and Services Company (Omasco) celebrated 50-years of trusted partnership, with the debut of Panasonic’s new EU-Series air conditioners in the Oman market at an exclusive launch event held at Hotel Sheraton Oman, Muscat recently. In line with Panasonic’s renowned global quality standards, the launch of the EU-Series heralds a new era of energy-efficient, eco-friendly cooling solutions built for Oman’s unique climate and living environments. Speaking at the event, Hiroyuki Shibutani, CEO of PMMAF, said that the EU-Series is built for arid regions, especially Oman’s demanding climate conditions, with many features that make it a durable and sustainable choice. “For five decades, Omasco and Pana-



sonic have shared a commitment to bringing world-class technology to Omani customers. As we celebrate the partnership, we are also raising the bar yet again, offering another solution perfectly suited to the needs of households and businesses in the Sultanate.” The EU-Series combines the brand’s industry-leading air puri-

fication and cooling innovations with exceptional durability. At the heart of the range is nanoe™ X technology, which actively inhibits bacteria, viruses, allergens, and odors, creating a healthier indoor environment for homes and businesses alike. The series also features The EU-Series also integrates Adaptive Inverter Technology, ensuring

stable temperatures while significantly reducing energy consumption, and Jet Stream Technology, enabling more even cooling that generates a strong, far-reaching airflow that reaches every corner of the room. Combining these with the Coverti7 feature, EU-Series allows users to adjust cooling capacity across seven different levels to

suit room size or specific comfort needs, offering exceptional flexibility and efficiency. The EU-Series features Shield Blue and eco TOUGH™ protective coatings, safeguarding internal components from corrosion and wear, and is engineered to perform even in extreme heat of up to 55°C. In line with Panasonic’s green commitment, the series uses R32 refrigerant, which has a lower environmental impact compared to conventional refrigerants. “EU-Series air conditioners are another testament to Panasonic’s commitment to health and hygiene, deeply rooted in Japan’s cultural values, and naturally extends to every aspect of our home appliances,” Shibutani added. Addressing the media at the launch, Navin Batta, Asst General Manager- Omasco, said, “For 50 years, Omasco has proudly part-

nered with Panasonic to bring innovative solutions to Oman, and today’s launch marks another milestone in that journey. Panasonic remains a true Japanese brand that stands tall in today’s competitive market, setting benchmarks in reliability, performance, and design. To further reinforce our standing and demonstrate our confidence in the brand, we are delighted to offer a 10-year warranty on all Panasonic AC models. This is not only a testament to the durability of Panasonic technology but also our promise to deliver long-term value and peace of mind to our customers in the Sultanate.” The first launch phase will see the EU-Series introduced across Oman from late September to early October, with expansion to other GCC markets planned in the following months.



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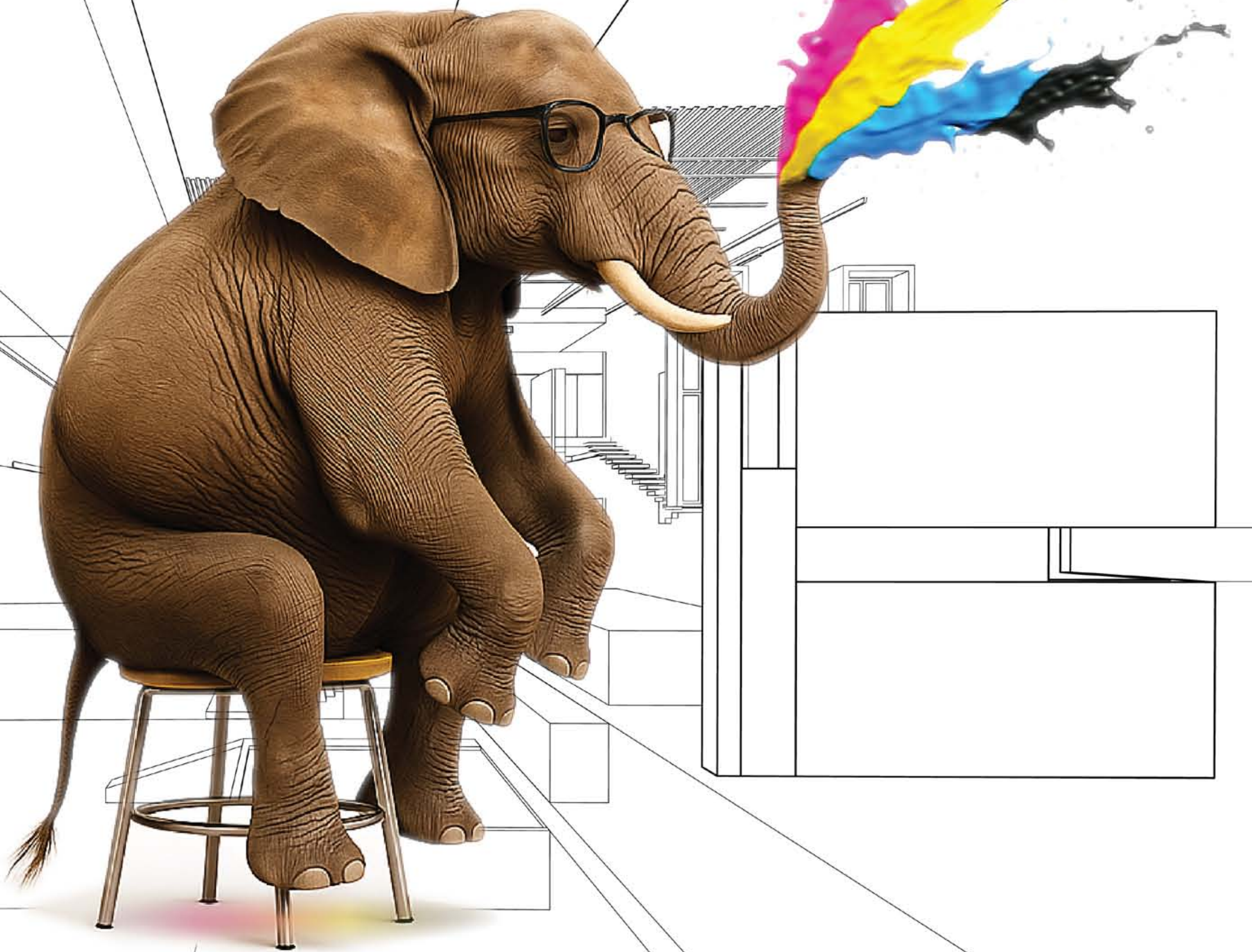
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Oman, KSA explore ways to detect fake products

They also discussed developing electronic platforms and supporting technologies for conformity work



MEETING: The delegation was led by Dr. Saad Othman Al Qasabi, Governor of the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO). -ONA

MUSCAT: The Directorate General for Specifications and Metrology, part of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, on Tuesday hosted a Saudi delegation at its headquarters in Muscat.

The delegation was led by Dr. Saad Othman Al Qasabi, Governor of the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO), with the aim of finalising joint programmes and expanding cooperation between the two sides in the quality system.

During the visit, an expanded meeting was held between the Saudi delegation and Dr. Saleh

Said Masn, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion for Commerce and Industry. Discussions focused on mechanisms for unifying Gulf standard specifications and supporting joint efforts in standardisation, quality, and conformity assessment.

This aligns with the requirements for industrial and commercial development and the goals of Gulf economic integration.

The meeting covered several

strategic areas, including developing mechanisms for mutual recognition of quality marks, implementing joint training programmes for national cadres in technical regulations, accreditation, and issuing conformity certificates.

They also discussed developing electronic platforms and supporting technologies for conformity work, and exploring ways to benefit from Saudi Arabia's experience in market surveillance and

controlling non-conforming and counterfeit products.

Both sides agreed to form a joint bilateral committee tasked with preparing and updating standard specifications and technical regulations.

They will also explore opportunities to enhance and improve the readiness of technical laboratories, which will contribute to raising the efficiency of the Gulf quality system and boosting the competitiveness of products and services in local and regional markets.

Meanwhile, the Invest Oman lounge received an official Saudi delegation led by Eng. Al Badr bin Adel Foudah, Acting Undersecretary of Industrial Development at the Saudi Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources.

The delegation was briefed on the prominent national initiatives for attracting investments, the available investment opportunities in promising sectors, and the services and facilities offered to investors through the lounge.

The Omani side presented a visual presentation to the delegation, reviewing Oman's competitive advantages, and the attractive investment environment and various incentives it provides. -ONA

Saudi delegation briefed on Oman's entrepreneurship



MUSCAT: Halima Rashid Al Zari'ee, Chairperson of the Public Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development "Riyada" on Tuesday received Sami bin Ibrahim Al Husaini, Governor of the Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority (Monsha'at) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and his accompanying delegation at Riyada's headquarters in Muscat.

The meeting was held to strengthen bilateral relations and exchange expertise between the two sides.

During the meeting, the most notable successful experiences and practices in supporting and empowering entrepreneurs were highlighted.

The guests also learned about

the programmes and services provided to the SME sector in both countries. This is intended to enhance cooperation and knowledge exchange to achieve the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 and Saudi Vision 2030.

The visiting delegation also toured several business centers, incubators, and marketing outlets affiliated with Riyada in Muscat and Nizwa. They held direct meetings with a number of Omani entrepreneurs and were briefed on successful pioneering experiences across various sectors.

Both sides affirmed the importance of continuing to exchange visits and intensifying cooperation in the fields of innovation, entrepreneurship, and modern technologies. -ONA

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