

NEW FLIGHTS FROM OMAN TO PHUKET AND PRAGUE

National carrier Oman Air will launch flights to Phuket while SalamAir will operate direct flights to Czech Republic in November 2022, the airlines announced on Monday. **>A3**



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HM GREETES PRESIDENT OF KAZAKHSTAN

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan on his country's Independence Day. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Tokayev. His Majesty also wished the people of Kazakhstan people further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**



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TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Oman to witness a solar eclipse today

1 The Sultanate of Oman will witness a partial solar eclipse today. To watch the partial solar eclipse, it is recommended to use special sunglasses and imaging devices equipped with solar filters. The Ministry of Education has suspended evening classes, while morning classes will end after the sixth class because of solar eclipse on Tuesday. **>A2**

WORLD

Rishi Sunak to be Britain's new PM



2 Rishi Sunak, the former UK finance minister, is set to be the country's next prime minister after his only rival withdrew from the Conservative Party leadership race on Monday. The 42-year-old politician would be Britain's youngest prime minister in more than a century, the country's first nonwhite leader to take the job. **>A7**

MARKET

Project Oman kicks off in Muscat

3 Inaugurated by the Minister of Economy, Dr Saeed bin Mohammed Al-Saqri, Project Oman 22 was officially inaugurated in Muscat. International Fairs & Promotions and Al Nimr International Exhibition are organising Project Oman at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre from October 24 to 26. **>B1**

HIS MAJESTY, BAHRAIN KING GRACE THE SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS, MOUS

10 MoUs, seven executive programmes and agreements signed at Al Sakhir Palace

MANAMA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, graced the signing of 10 memoranda of understanding (MoUs) and 7 executive programmes and agreements at Al Sakhir Palace on Monday. Present at the signing ceremony were officials from both sides.

The agreements covered the fields of security, shipping, ports, studies and research, the establishment of an Omani-Bahraini investment company, granting Oman the right of sovereignty over its subscriber data in the company's existing cloud computing centres in Bahrain, in addition to granting Oman the status of authorised partner accredited to the Global Freight Services (GAC).

The memoranda of understanding and executive programmes covered the areas of information technology, municipal work, higher education, scholarly research, innovation, competition protection, prevention of monopoly, space science and technology, air navigation, social development, cultural and museum management, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development, entrepreneurship, historical documentation, document management and archives and an executive programme between Oman's Foreign Ministry and Bahrain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, agriculture, livestock



HM the Sultan, King of Bahrain exchange decorations, mementos. - ONA

Story on A7

and fisheries fields, the scientific and educational fields, environment protection, youth, culture, heritage, tourism cooperation, remote dealings of brokerage companies through the electronic trading system.

The agreement on cooperation in the field of security was signed by Oman's Interior Minister Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi and his Bahraini counterpart Lt.Gen. Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

The two sides signed an agreement to establish Oman-Bahrain Investment Holding Company. It was inked by Eng. Ridha bin Juma Al Saleh, Chairman of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), and Sameer bin Abdullah Nass, Chairman of Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The two sides also signed granting Oman the status of an authorised partner accredited to the GAC. It was signed by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin

Hamad Al Busaidi, and Assayyid Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, Bahrain's Minister of Industry and Commerce.

A cooperation agreement in the field of shipping and ports was signed by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, and Mohammed bin Thamer Al Kaabi, Bahrain's Minister of Transport and Communications.

The two sides also signed a cooperation agreement between Sultan Qaboos University (the

Centre for Omani Studies) and Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies. The agreement, which provides for cooperation in the field of studies and research, was inked by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Sheikh Dr. Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies. **>A6**

See also A3, A4, A5 & A7



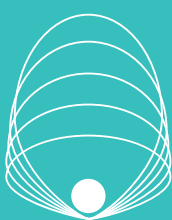
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MINISTER OF INFORMATION

OMAN AIR, SALAMAIR

‘HM’s visit to Bahrain shows strong bond with Oman’

MUSCAT: “The visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the Kingdom of Bahrain reflects the truthfulness of historical relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Bahrain, as well as the strong bonds of fraternity between the peoples of the two countries in all fields and at various levels, including political, economic and cultural spheres,” Dr. Abdullah bin Nassir Al Harrasi, Minister of Information said on Monday.

In a statement to the Bahrain News Agency (BNA), Dr. Abdullah said that what sets bilateral relations apart is the fact that they date back to historical epochs of Majan and Dilmun. He added that “the first building blocks for the establishment of the GCC stemmed from common visions.

Dr. Abdullah pointed out that the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Bahrain played a key role in formulating the visions, said the minister, adding that relations between the two countries kept growing for more than half a century. Those relations are based on honest and solid principles in dealing with various issues and events.

He explained that the presence of a joint Omani-Bahraini committee has been a great incentive to coordinate action towards



the expansion of various aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

The panel aspires to develop a concept of comprehensiveness serving the interests of the two countries’ peoples, notably through the implementation of the visions of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

The minister said that discreet media policy espoused by the Sultanate of Oman contributed greatly to navigating a moderate course that spared it the pitfalls of generat-

ing unsatisfactory outcomes.

“The Sultanate of Oman addresses the world, and its Arab brethren in particular, in a manner that shows respect and appreciation for all,” said Dr. Abdullah. He pointed out that upon the outset of the modern Omani renaissance way back in the seventies of the last century, it founded its media message on the grounds that Oman remains a friend for all. This approach, he added, is confirmed by the Renewed Renaissance, the hallmark of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik’s leadership. -ONA

Flights connecting Oman to Phuket, Prague announced

Times News Service

MUSCAT: National carrier Oman Air will launch flights to Phuket while SalamAir will operate direct flights to Czech Republic in November 2022, the airlines announced on Monday.

In a statement, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, will offer four flights a week between Muscat and Phuket, one of Thailand’s most popular resort islands, starting from 15th November 2022.

The flights will operate on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Fares for economy class will start at OMR299 and business class at OMR650 inclusive of taxes. “Guests travelling to Muscat and Phuket should ensure they are aware of official requirements to enter or transit through the country,” the airline said.

SalamAir, also announced direct scheduled flights between Oman and Prague – the fantastic capital city of the Czech Republic from Muscat and Salalah. Starting from the 4th of November, SalamAir will fly twice a week to Prague.

Prague’s historic centre features on the UNESCO World Heritage List and is considered one of the most beautiful cities in



Europe. “The stunning city offers everything that makes a fascinating holiday, from unspoiled island destinations to enchanting alleys, gorgeous cathedrals, perfect art galleries, spectacular bridges, and much more. A modern metropolis pulsating with life, Prague is considered one of the finest cities in the world,” the airline said.

Offering the perfect opportunity to take the trip of a lifetime to the ultimate “city of a thousand spires”, SalamAir flights to Prague departures are scheduled every Friday from Muscat and every Wednesday from Salalah.

The carrier, which operates a fleet of modern A320neo and A321neo, has selected the Czech Republic as its second destination in Europe. The new destination in its network marks the airline’s further expansion into central Europe. SalamAir is confident Prague will appeal to a broad

range of leisure travelers looking to satisfy their wanderlust.

Captain Mohamed Ahmed, CEO of SalamAir, said, “We are very excited to connect Oman with the capital city of the Czech Republic. The new connection creates an excellent opportunity for the citizen of the Czech Republic to explore the warm weather in Oman and visit one of the most popular sites in Muscat and Salalah.”

Jaroslav Filip, Aviation Business Director of Travel Marketing International, GSA for SalamAir, said, “The connection from the Czech Republic to Salalah in Oman clearly has strong tourist potential. Moreover, in the case of the direct Muscat route, we can also see its business potential, and the possibility of transfers to more distant destinations in the Middle East and Asia.

“We expect that SalamAir would transport up to nine thousand passengers in one direction between Oman and the Czech Republic during the winter operational season. Until now destinations in Oman have mainly been operated from Prague by seasonal charter flights.” The journey between the city of Prague and Muscat will take about six hours and fifteen minutes.

MEETING

Oman, US military officials hold talks

MUSCAT: Maj. Gen Mattar Salim Al Balushi, Commander of the Royal Army of Oman (RAO) received in his office at Al Murtafa’a Garrison on Monday Maj. Gen. Kevin Leahy, Commander of the US Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT), currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman.

The two sides exchanged views and discussed a range of military

topics of common interest.

Attended

The meeting was attended by Brigadier Sultan Mohammed Al Maamari, Director General of Operations and Intelligence at RAO, senior officers, the Military Attaché at the US Embassy in Muscat and the delegation accompanying the guest. -ONA



NOTICE



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TALKS

HM the Sultan, King of Bahrain review relations

MANAMA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, held an official session of talks at Al Sakhir Palace in Manama on Monday evening.

At the outset of the session, the King of Bahrain reiterated his heartfelt welcome for His Majesty the Sultan as a dear guest of Bahrain and its people. He wished His Majesty the Sultan and his official delegation a happy stay. His Majesty the Sultan reciprocated the kind sentiments, thanking the King and people of Bahrain for the warm welcome and sincere hospitality.

The two leaders reviewed the distinguished relations binding the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Bahrain and expressed appreciation for their deep-rooted historical bonds.



They also explored various aspects of the existing bilateral cooperation in all fields and contemplated ways of consolidating the joint interests in a manner that generates bounty and benefits to the two countries' peoples.

The session of talks was attended from the Omani side by HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, Sayyid Khalid bin

Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance and Sayyid Faisal bin Hareb Al Busaidi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It was also attended from the Bahraini side by Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Sheikh Mohammed bin Issa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa, Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa, Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa, Minister of the Royal Diwan, Field Marshal Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of Bahrain Defence Force, Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah bin Khalid Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure, Gen. Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior (Head of the Mission of Honour), Sheikh Ahmed bin Ateyatalla Al Khalifa, Minister of Royal Court Follow-up, Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Salman bin Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, Dr. Jumaa bin Ahmed Al Kaabi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman and Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Governor of the Southern Governorate. -**ONA**

HM the Sultan arrives in Bahrain



Upon the arrival of His Majesty the Sultan at Sakhir Airbase, King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain, met him at the foot of the ramp, leading the welcoming party

MANAMA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq arrived in the Kingdom of Bahrain on Monday afternoon, starting an official two-day visit.

Upon the arrival of His Majesty the Sultan at Sakhir Airbase, King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain, met him at the foot of the ramp, leading the welcoming party that received His Majesty the Sultan.

His Majesty the Sultan was also received upon his arrival by Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Gen. Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al

Khalifa, Minister of Interior (Head of the Mission of Honour), Sheikh Mohammed bin Issa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa, Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa and Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa.

Then, the two leaders headed to the Hall of Protocols, passing between two rows of a guard of honour from Bahrain Royal Guard. His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with senior members of the welcoming party, who were:

Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Salman Al Khalifa, Minister of the Royal Diwan, Field Marshal Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of Bahrain Defence Force, Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah bin Khalid Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure, Gen. Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, Sheikh Ahmed bin Ateyatalla Al Khalifa, Minister of Royal Court Follow-up, Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Salman bin Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, Dr. Jumaa Ahmed Al Kaabi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman and Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Governor of the Southern Governorate.

His Majesty the Sultan also shook hands with members of the

Omani Embassy in Bahrain—with whom he exchanged cordial expressions, while King Hamad welcomed and shook hands with the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan.

After a short rest at the hall at the Hall of Protocols, His Majesty the Sultan, accompanied by the King of Bahrain, joined the motorcade which escorted them to Al Sakhir Palace.

At Al Sakhir Palace, official reception was accorded to His Majesty the Sultan. Folk bands that lined the two sides of the entrance to the palace's gate chanted lyrics and popular expressions of welcome.

When the motorcade of the two leaders entered the gate of Al Sakhir Palace, it was accompanied by a squad of cavalry, in a manifestation of warm welcome for His Majesty the Sultan. Then, the Royal motorcade was flanked by a troop of motorbikes and later a group of students greeted His Majesty the Sultan.

Then, in Al Sakhir Palace, the King of Bahrain accompanied His Majesty the Sultan to the dais of honour. There, the Royal Anthem of Oman and the Bahriani Royal Anthem were played, to the accompaniment of a 21-gun salute—fired by the artillery—for His Majesty the Sultan.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan and the King of Bahrain headed to the Majlis. -**ONA**





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MAJESTY, BAHRAIN
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OFFICIAL DINNER

Manama: King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain hosted an official dinner at Al Shakir Palace in Manama on Monday evening in honour of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq on the occasion of His Majesty's visit to Bahrain.

The dinner was attended by the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan, members of Bahrain's Royal Family and senior Bahraini officials. -ONA



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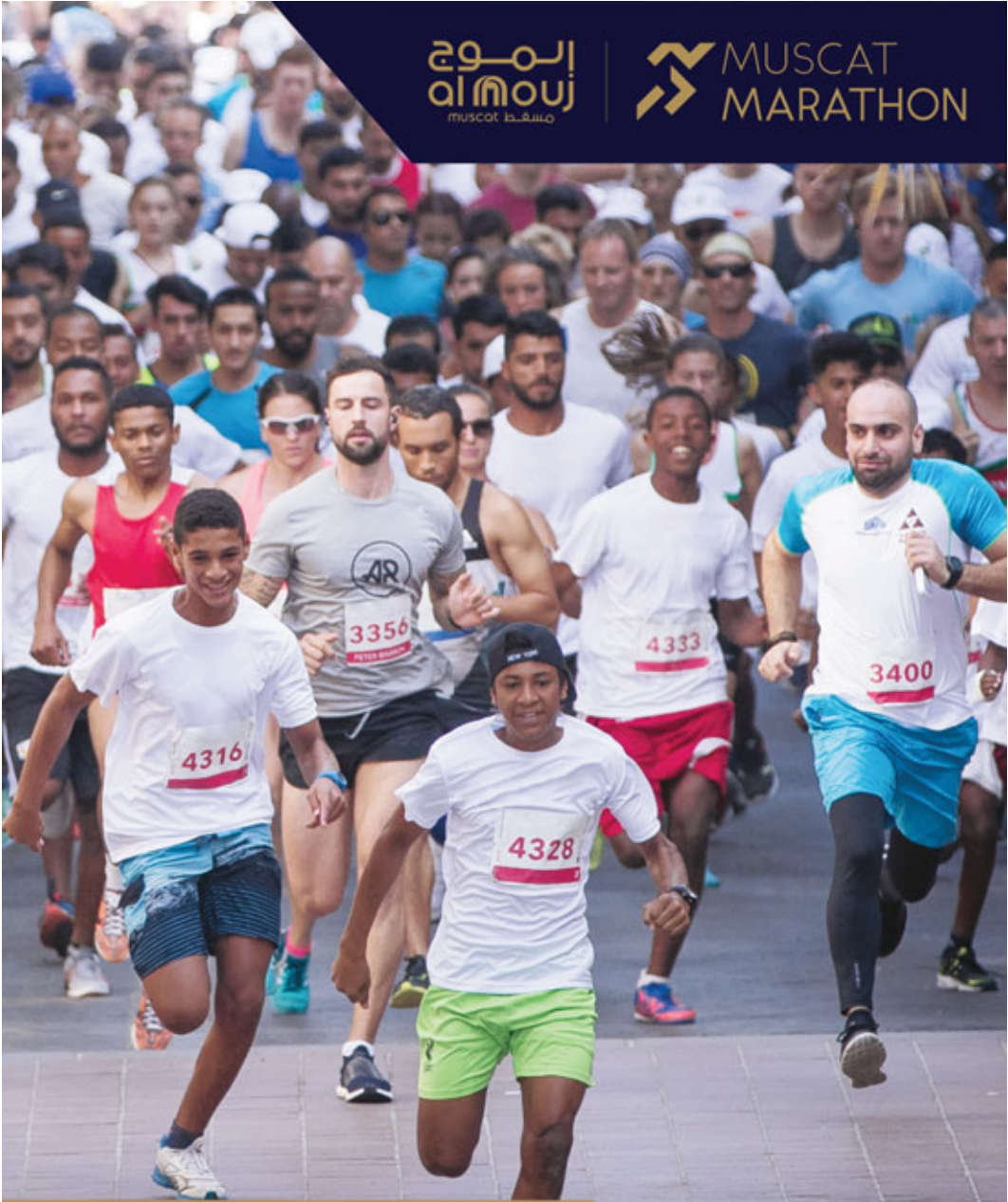
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DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE THIRD QUARTER ENDED
30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Dear Shareholders,

The company has recorded total revenue of RO 3.972 Million (30th September 2021: RO 1.806 Million) and net loss after tax of RO 0.225 Million (30th September 2021: net loss after tax RO 0.893 Million) for the nine months period ended 30th September 2022.

The hotel witnessed an increase of 119.93% in total revenue and reduced the net loss after tax by 74.8% as compared to the same period last year, due to recovery from pandemic hit period of last year.

During the year there has been sharp depreciation of Euro, British Pound and other currencies vis-à-vis US Dollar. The long drawn conflict between Russia and Ukraine has resulted in steep increase in price of fuel, energy and food and beverages in our key source markets. These factors will impact inflow of tourists especially from UK and Europe to the Sultanate of Oman.

We are optimistic on the 4th Quarter and hope that the high season and successful FIFA World cup football 2022 in Qatar will benefit tourism and generate better revenue for the hotel.

We express our deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said for His Majesty's inspiring leadership and wise policies. We pray to the Almighty Allah to bless His Majesty with good health and strength to lead our nation to progress and prosperity. We would also like to thank the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism for implementing right policies to encourage growth in tourism sector in the Sultanate of Oman.

Ali Ahmed Al Najjar
Chairman

Note:
The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder or other interested party, who requests them either in Arabic or English, within 7 days from the receipt of request at company's address: Gulf Hotels (Oman) Co. Ltd. SAOG, P O Box: 1455, P C 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	30 th Sept 2022 RO'000	30 th Sept 2021 RO'000	31 st Dec. 2021 RO'000
Assets:			
Non-current assets:			
Property plant and Equipment	28,883	29,288	29,141
Current assets:			
Inventory	92	47	46
Trade and other receivables	395	201	468
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1	1	1
Cash and bank balances	224	203	501
Total current assets	712	452	1,016
Total assets	29,595	29,740	30,157
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	3,428	3,428	3,428
Share premium	58	58	58
Statutory reserve	1,143	1,143	1,143
Other reserve	18,620	18,620	18,620
Retained earnings	138	169	363
	23,387	23,418	23,612
Liabilities			
Non-current provisions and borrowings:			
Borrowings non-current	914	1,374	1,259
Staff terminal benefits	289	247	258
Deferred tax liabilities	3,347	3,353	3,387
	4,550	4,974	4,904
Current provisions and borrowings:			
Borrowings current	460	460	460
Trade and other payables	1,186	876	1,169
Current tax liabilities	12	12	12
	1,658	1,348	1,641
Total Liabilities	6,208	6,322	6,545
Total Equity and liabilities	29,595	29,740	30,157
Net Assets per share (R. O.)	6.822	6.831	6.888

INCOME STATEMENT AND STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE
NINE MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	3 months period from 01.07.2022 to 30.09.2022 RO'000	3 months period from 01.07.2021 to 30.09.2021 RO'000	9 months period from 01.01.2022 to 30.09.2022 RO'000	9 months period from 01.01.2021 to 30.09.2021 RO'000
Revenue	1,006	542	3,972	1,806
Cost of materials consumed	(196)	(118)	(771)	(407)
Service expenses	(242)	(194)	(771)	(513)
Employee benefit expenses	(516)	(350)	(1,655)	(1,115)
Depreciation	(142)	(158)	(433)	(480)
Other operating expenses	(151)	(85)	(548)	(277)
Profit (Loss) from operating activities	(241)	(363)	(206)	(986)
Finance income	1	2	4	9
Finance cost	(21)	(25)	(68)	(75)
Impairment loss (Reversal)	-	-	-	2
Loss before income tax	(261)	(386)	(270)	(1,050)
Income tax and deferred tax	38	58	45	157
Net loss for the period	(223)	(328)	(225)	(893)
Total comprehensive loss for the period	(223)	(328)	(225)	(893)
Basic earnings per share	(0.065)	(0.096)	(0.066)	(0.261)



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Oman, Bahrain sign many pacts



An agreement granting Oman the right of sovereignty over subscriber data in the existing cloud computing centres in Bahrain was signed by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and his Bahraini counterpart Dr. Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani.

A memorandum of understanding was signed by Oman's Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology and Bahrain's Information and e-Government Authority. The MoU, which covers cooperation in the field of information technology, was inked by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Lt.Gen. Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Bahrain's Minister of Interior.

In the field of municipal work, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Government of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Interior, and the Government of Kingdom of Bahrain, represented by the Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture. It was inked by Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, and Dr. Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A memorandum of understanding was also signed between Oman's Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation and Bahrain's Higher Education Council in the field of higher education, scientific research and innovation. It was inked by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, Bahrain's Minister of Education.

A memorandum of understanding was signed between Oman's Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Bahrain's Ministry of Industry and Commerce in the field of competi-

tion protection and prevention of monopoly. It was signed by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Assayyid Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Industry and Commerce.

In the field of space sciences and technologies, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology of the Sultanate of Oman, represented by the National Center for Space, Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Technologies, and the National Space Science Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain. It was signed by Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Mohammed bin Thamer Al Kaabi, Minister of Transport and Communications.

A memorandum of understanding was also signed between the Government of the Sultanate of Oman represented by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain represented by the Ministry of Transport and Communications. It was signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, and Mohammed bin Thamer Al Kaabi, Minister of Transport and Communications.

The Ministry of Social Development of the Sultanate of Oman and the Ministry of Social Development of the Kingdom of Bahrain also signed a memorandum of understanding in the areas of social development. It was signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, and Osama bin Ahmed Khalaf Al Asfour, Minister of Social Development.

In the field of cultural and museum work, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the National Museum of the Sultanate of Oman and the Bahrain National Museum. It was inked by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi,



Foreign Minister and Ramzan bin Abdullah Al Nuaimi, Minister of Information Affairs.

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (ASMED) and the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the field of small and medium enterprise development and entrepreneurship. It was signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister and Hamad bin Faisal Al Malki, Minister of Cabinet Affairs.

A MoU was also signed between the National Records and Archives Authority (NRAA) of the Sultanate of Oman and the Isa Cultural Center of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the field of historical documentation and management of documents and archives. It was signed from the Omani side by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister whilst it was signed from the Bahraini side by Dr. Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Executive Director of Isa Cultural Center.

An executive programme was also signed between the Foreign Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain during the years 2023-2024. It was signed

by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, and from the Bahraini side by Dr. Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

On cooperation in the agricultural, livestock and fisheries fields, the government of the Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, and the government of the Kingdom of Bahrain, represented by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, signed an executive programme for the MoU for the years 2023/2024. It was signed from the Omani side by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, while from the Bahraini side, it was signed by Dr. Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

An executive programme was also signed to activate the MoU between the Ministry of Education of the Sultanate of Oman and the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the scientific and educational fields for the academic years 2022/2023 - 2023/2024. It was signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister and Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, Minister of Education of Bahrain.



An executive programme was also signed for the MoU linked between the Environment Authority of the Sultanate of Oman and the Ministry of Oil and Environment of the Kingdom of Bahrain for cooperation in the field of environmental protection for the period 2023-2024. It was signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, and Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak bin Dina, Minister of Oil and Environment.

In the youth fields, an executive programme of cooperation was signed between the Government of the Sultanate of Oman represented by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain represented by the Ministry of Tourism for the years 2022-2026. It was inked by signed by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, and Fatima bint Jaafar Al Sayrafi, Minister of Tourism.

An agreement was also signed on remote trading of brokerage companies through the electronic trading system (TABADUL HUB) between Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX), Muscat Clearing and Depository Company and Bahrain Bourse and Bahrain Clearing Company. It was signed by Haitham bin Salem Al Salmi, CEO of Muscat Stock Exchange, and Sheikh Khalifa bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa, CEO of Bahrain Bourse.

The signing ceremony was attended by members of the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan, members of the Royal family of Bahrain and senior officials of Bahrain. -ONA

TWO-DAY VISIT

HM the Sultan leaves for Kingdom of Bahrain

MUSCAT: In the divine care of the Almighty Allah, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq left here today for the Kingdom of Bahrain on an official two-day visit during which he will meet King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

The visit, made in response to an invitation by the King of Bahrain, will foster aspects of existing cooperation between the two countries in different spheres.

His Majesty the Sultan was seen off at the Royal Airport by HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, HH Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan, HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, Sheikh Abdulmalik bin Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council, Nasr bin Hamoud Al Kindi, Secretary General

of the Royal Court Affairs, Dr. Madiha bint Ahmed Al Shaibani, Minister of Education, Lt.Gen Hassan bin Mohsin Al Shuraiqi, Inspector General of Police and Customs, Lt.Gen Said bin Ali Al Hilali, Head of the Internal Security Service, Dr. Hilal bin Ali Al Sabti, Minister of Health, Vice Admiral Abdullah bin Khamis Al Raisi, Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF), Maj.Gen Mattar bin Salim Al Balushi, Commander of the Royal Army of Oman (RAO), Air Vice Marshal Khamis bin Hamad Al Ghafri, Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO), Rear Admiral Saif bin Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO), Maj.Gen Musallam bin Mohammed bin Tammam Jaaboub, Commander of the Sultan's Special Force (SSF).

His Majesty the Sultan is accompanied during the visit by a high ranking official delegation comprising HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Min-



ister for Defence Affairs, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance and

Sayyid Faisal bin Hareb Al Busaidi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

May Allah the Almighty guard His Majesty the Sultan wherever he might be, and may He bestow His bounties on him and grant him a long life and success in all his endeavours to realize the good of the nation.





Quote of the Day



SHAKIB AL HASAN, BANGLADESH SKIPPER

"It was an important win. We were 10 runs short but the way our pacers bowled was tremendous. We understand the importance of fast bowling now, across formats."

Points table

GROUP 1									
Team	P	W	L	N/R	T	PTS	NRR		
New Zealand	1	1	0	0	0	+4.450	2		
Sri Lanka	1	1	0	0	0	+2.467	2		
England	1	1	0	0	0	-0.620	2		
Afghanistan	1	0	1	0	0	-0.620	0		
Ireland	1	0	1	0	0	-2.467	0		
Australia	1	0	1	0	0	-4.450	0		

GROUP 2									
Team	P	W	L	N/R	T	PTS	NRR		
Bangladesh	1	1	0	0	0	+0.450	2		
India	1	1	0	0	0	+0.050	2		
South Africa	1	0	0	1	0	-0.000	1		
Zimbabwe	1	0	0	1	0	-0.000	1		
Pakistan	1	0	1	0	0	-0.050	0		
Netherlands	1	0	1	0	0	-0.450	0		

Today's match

 **3:00pm**

Australia vs Sri Lanka



TASKIN SHINES IN BANGLADESH WIN

It's a good sign for Bangladesh that they can still prevail with smaller contributions from Shakib Al Hasan and Litton Das

HOBART, AUSTRALIA: Bangladesh have got their ICC Men's T20 World Cup campaign underway in style by registering a hard-fought nine-run victory over the Netherlands in Hobart on Monday.

Taskin Ahmed (4/25) set the tone when he removed Vikramjit Singh and Max O'Dowd with the first two balls of Netherlands' run chase on his way to career best figures and he was well supported by Hasan Mahmud (2/15).

Skipper Shakib Al Hasan (1/32) was relatively expensive during his four overs and a pair of run outs in the field made it a good day for Bangladesh as they got their tournament started with a victory.

Shakib and Litton Das are among Bangladesh's most experienced batters, but the pair combined for just 16 runs between them as the Netherlands produced a disciplined bowling effort.

It was left to Afif Hossain to step up and the young left-hander produced the good with a quickfire 38 from just 27 deliveries to ensure his team was able to post a decent total.

Bangladesh vs Netherlands

Scoreboard

BANGLADESH		NETHERLANDS	
N Hossain c van Beek b Pringle	25	V Singh c Ali b Taskin	0
S Sarkar c de Leede b van Meekeren	14	MO' Dowd run out	8
L Das c Cooper b van Beek	9	B de Leede c N Hasan b Taskin	0
Shakib Al Hasan c de Leede b Ahmad	7	C Ackermann c M Hossain b Taskin	62
A Hossain c Edwards b de Leede	38	T Cooper run out	0
Y Ali b van Meekeren	3	S Edwards c Mahmud b Shakib	16
N Hasan c van Meekeren b de Leede	13	T Pringle b Mahmud	1
M Hossain not out	20	L van Beek c Ahmed b Mahmud	2
Taskin Ahmed c van Beek b Klaassen	0	S Ahmad c Mahmud b Taskin	9
H Mahmud not out	0	F Klaassen not out	7
Extras (lb 8, w 7)	15	P van Meekeren c Das b Sarkar	24
TOTAL: 144/8 in 20 overs (RR: 7.20)		Extras (nb 1, w 5)	6

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-47, 3-60, 4-63, 5-76, 6-120, 7-129, 8-134

Bowling: F Klaassen 4-0-33-1, C Ackermann 1-0-4-0, P van Meekeren 4-0-21-2, B de Leede 3-0-29-2, T Pringle 2-0-10-1, S Ahmad 3-0-27-1, L van Beek 3-0-12-1

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-0, 3-13, 4-15, 5-59, 6-66, 7-81, 8-96, 9-101, 10-135

Bowling: Taskin Ahmed 4-0-25-4, H Mahmud 4-1-15-2, Shakib Al Hasan 4-0-32-1, M Rahman 4-0-20-0, S Sarkar 3-0-29-1, M Hossain 1-0-14-0

SA, Zimbabwe share points as rain plays spoilsport

HOBART, AUSTRALIA: South Africa and Zimbabwe were forced to share points as their Super 12 encounter at the Bellerive Oval in Hobart on Monday didn't yield any result, with rain causing frequent interruptions and delays.

At first, the match was reduced to nine overs per side due to frequent interruptions caused by rain. Even though it kept drizzling lightly, the match went on fine until the first over of the South African innings.

Zimbabwe scored 79/4 in their nine overs and the Proteas were set a DLS target of 85 to chase down in their quota of nine overs initially, but that was reduced to 64 from seven overs after the interruption.

South Africa kept cruising towards the target but the match couldn't resume again when rain caused another interruption after the third over. Despite all the doom and gloom caused by rain, there were a couple of good things to talk about. So, let's have a look at them.

It was left-arm pacer Wayne Parnell who triggered the collapse with Zimbabwe skipper Craig Ervine's wicket in the second over of the innings. But the real damage was done by Lungi Ngidi who got rid of

Ireland vs Sri Lanka

Scoreboard

ZIMBABWE		Bowling: K Rabada 2-0-20-0, W Parnell 2-0-6-1, L Ngidi 2-0-20-2, K Maharaj 1-0-10-0, A Nortje 2-0-10-1	
R Chakabva c de Kock b Ngidi	8		
C Ervine c Ngidi b Parnell	2		
S Williams run out	1		
S Raza c de Kock b Ngidi	0		
W Madheveru not out	35	Q de Kock not out	47
M Shumbac de Kock b Nortje	18	T Bavuma not out	2
Extras (b 1, lb 7, w 2, pen 5)	15	Extras (nb 2)	2
TOTAL: 79/5 in 9 overs (RR: 8.77) 79/5		TOTAL: 51/3 in 3 overs (RR: 17.00)	
Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-12, 3-12, 4-19, 5-79		Bowling: T Chatara 1-0-23-0, R Ngarava 1-0-17-0, S Raza 1-0-11-0	

Regis Chakabva and the in-form Sikandar Raza in the very next over, with just 12 runs on the board.

The situation became worse for Zimbabwe when David Miller sent Sean Williams back to the dug out with a superb run out.

Zimbabwe were staring down the barrel at 19/4 but Wesley Madheveru played a superb knock of an unbeaten 35 from just 18 deliveries to help his team to a competitive total of 79/4. Madheveru added 60 runs for the fifth wicket with Milton Shumba, who supported him well with an individual contribution of 18 from 19 deliveries.

De Kock realised the necessity to press on the accelerator with rain-threat looming large and he started going on the charge from the very beginning as he smashed Tendai Chatara for 23 runs in the first over of the innings.

He didn't stop there and continued playing his shots all around the ground. Even the interruptions caused by rain didn't break his rhythm as he looked in sublime touch.

Unfortunately, he had to stay stranded on an unbeaten 47 from 18 deliveries as the officials had to call off the match with South Africa needing just 13 runs in four overs.



OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by November 2022 reaching \$88.62, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 14 cents from the price of Friday, which was \$88.76. - **OMA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,373.86 points, down by 0.99 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.26 per cent at 469.83 points. Muscat Thread Mill, up 7.41 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser.

EXHIBITION

Project Oman kicks off in Muscat

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Inaugurated by Minister of Economy, Dr Saeed bin Mohammed Al-Sagari, Project Oman 22 was officially inaugurated yesterday in Muscat.

Organised by International Fairs & Promotions (IFPGroup) and Al Nimr International Exhibition Organisers, Project Oman, the international construction technology, infrastructure, and building materials exhibition is being held from October 24 to 26 at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre.

For three consecutive days, Project Oman brings together project owners, specifiers, and stakeholders aiming to source building materials, products, and equipment for their projects. With the participation of 200 exhibitors, the exhibition underlines investment opportunities in Oman and optimises international trade relations and business partnerships.

Following the opening ceremony, the minister and guests toured the exhibition which has attracted hundreds of local and international construction and infrastructure exhibitors from Oman, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon,



Austria, and others.

Project Oman is organised to accelerate innovation and highlight current and future trends in the construction sector, and it is hosting specialised workshops,

led by experts who will discuss the latest developments and technologies in the sector.

For more information about the exhibition, and workshops, visit www.project-oman.com

PUBLIC AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES

Opaz approves policy of whistleblower protection and whistleblowing

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) issued a decision approving its policy of whistleblowing and whistleblower protection by opening an official communication channel on its website, which serves to protect whistleblowers and ensures confidentiality.

By establishing this policy, Opaz aims to preserve its positive image and good reputation, as well as improve the quality of its services and promote transparency, integrity, impartiality and fairness. This also reflects its keenness to apply best practices in preserving its assets and raising performance efficiency by informing employees and all those dealing with Opaz to report any committed violations or wrong practices that are in violation of the laws, regulations and systems



in force in Opaz. Accordingly, this policy guarantees the confidence, protection and confidentiality of the whistleblower.

The policy stipulates that Opaz adheres to the highest standards

of integrity and best practices in delivering its responsibilities and business, which are considered a basis for success and building a good reputation by reporting unprincipled or illegal work practices.

MARITIME INDUSTRY



Fisheries Development Oman participates in Oman Maritime Confex

Times News Service

MUSCAT: In affirmation of its role in the fishing industry, Fisheries Development Oman (FDO) is participating in Oman Maritime Confex.

The expo is being held at Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre from October 24 to 26, under the patronage of Dr Saud bin Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agricultural, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources, along with the participation of many local and global companies to offer their products and services and to share experiences in maritime aspects.

Oman Maritime Confex aims to enhance Oman as a global destination in the maritime industry, raising its prominence in developing the national economy, and linking the various

economic sectors related to the maritime industry.

FDO participates as one of the Confex sponsors for being the arm of the government in fisheries investments in Oman.

In addition, it is a specialised group working on the development of the commercial fishing industry and sustainable aquaculture, as per Oman Investment Authority policies which encourage many industries.

Through the Confex, FDO is seeking to promote its products in both local and global markets, share experiences and encourage investments in economic industries related to the maritime aspect to meet "Oman Vision 2040" aiming at optimising fishery resources, along with creating investment opportunities that promote economic development.

OIL PRICES FALL

Oil prices slide as China demand data disappoints

SINGAPORE: Oil prices fell on Monday after China released much-delayed trade data which showed that demand in the world's largest crude importer remained lacklustre in September as strict

COVID-19 policy and fuel export curbs depress consumption.

December delivery

Brent crude futures for December settlement slid 40 cents, or 0.4 per

cent, to \$93.10 a barrel by 03:40 GMT after rising 2 per cent last week. US West Texas Intermediate crude for December delivery was at \$84.66 a barrel, down 39 cents, or 0.5 per cent. - **BNA**

Invitation form Bank Muscat (S.A.O.G)

For an Extraordinary General Meeting and an Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank

Bank Muscat "SAOG" takes pleasure in inviting all its shareholders to an Extraordinary General Meeting and an Ordinary General Meeting at 4 pm on Wednesday, 9th November 2022, through the electronic platform to hold the general meetings, which can be accessed via the Muscat Clearing and Depository's website (www.mcd.gov.om). If the quorum for this meeting is not met, a second meeting will be convened at 4 pm on Thursday, 10th November 2022, through the same electronic platform. The meeting will consider and decide on the following Agenda:

First: The Agenda for the Extraordinary General Meeting:

1. To consider and approve the proposed increase of the authorized share capital of the Bank from RO. 450,000,000/- to RO. 800,000,000/- and amend the Articles of Association, accordingly. The proposed amendments shall not, however, be effective and valid unless have been approved by the regulatory bodies.
2. To approve the issuance (by way of dividend) of 375,319,853 subordinated, perpetual bonds to the Bank's shareholders list as on the meeting date and that is in accordance to the conditions.
3. To authorise the Board of Directors or whoever they delegate to take all necessary actions and approvals to complete the aforesaid transaction.

Second: The Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting:

1. To approve the distribution of bonus shares at the rate of 1 bonus share for every 1 share held by the shareholders of the Bank on the meeting date, from the share premium reserves of the Bank for the financial year ended 31st December 2021. The approval of the distribution of bonus shares will result in an increase in the issued share capital of the Bank from 3,753,198,531 shares (aggregating to R.O. 375,319,853) to 7,506,397,062 shares (aggregating to R.O. 750,639,706).
2. To authorise the Board of Directors or whoever they delegate to take all necessary actions and approvals to complete the aforesaid transaction.

In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Bank and the regulations for holding general meetings using modern technology issued by the Capital Market Authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- (a) A Juristic person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the general meetings and vote on its behalf through the electronic platform, provided that this natural person has an investor number at Muscat Clearing and Depository Company.
- (b) Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the meetings until the end of the voting process during the meeting, in the event that the shareholder's shareholding balance is changed by increase or decrease, the voting process will be canceled, and he will have to vote again on the day of the meetings.

For any clarifications in respect of the agenda of the above meetings, please contact Ms. Fatma Malallah Mohamed Al Lawati, at the Secretariat to the Board of Directors, Tel. No. (24768345) or E-mail (fmallalah@bankmuscat.com).

Khalid bin Mustahai Al Mashani
Chairman of the Board of Directors

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MARKET



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MSX index ends lower

Muscat Thread Mill, up 7.41 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,373.86 points, down by 0.99 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.26 per cent at 469.83 points. Muscat Thread Mill, up 7.41 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Fisheries, down 10.00 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Bank Dhofar were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 418 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR2.8 million, with more than 12.32 million shares changing hands. Out of 40 traded securities, 6 advanced, 24 declined, and 10 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for OMR333,000 while domestic investors were net buyers for OMR277,000, followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR56,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,005.68 points, down 0.55 per cent. Prices of Ominvest and National Bank Oman, were up by

0.61 per cent and 0.39 per cent respectively. Prices of Muscat Finance, Oman Arab Bank, Taageer Finance, Al Sharqia Investment, and Bank Nizwa were down by 7.41 per cent, 4.72 per cent, 4.17 per cent, 2.78 per cent and 2.08 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,977.86 points, down 1 per cent. Price of Muscat Thread Mill was up by 7.41 per cent. Prices of Oman Fisheries, Oman Packaging, Raysut Cement, Oman Cement, and Voltamp Energy were down by 10.00 per cent, 9.43 per cent, 3.40 per cent, 2.41 per cent and 2.30 per cent respectively.

Services Index was down by 1.18 per cent before closing at 1,538.24 points. Prices of Al Maha Marketing, Barka Desalination and Majan College were up by 1.81 per cent, 1.42 per cent and 0.69 per cent respectively.

Prices of Al Batinah Power, Renaissance Services, Oman Oil Marketing, Ooredoo, and OIFC were down by 5.41 per cent, 4.44 per cent, 4.26 per cent, 2.45 per cent and 2.36 per cent respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES						
Index.....	High.....	Low.....	Value.....	Prev. Value.....	Diff.....	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX.....	4,431.00.....	4,373.86.....	4,373.86.....	4,417.50.....	-43.64.....	-0.99.....
FINANCIAL INDEX.....	7,060.12.....	7,005.68.....	7,005.68.....	7,044.42.....	-38.75.....	-0.55.....
Industry Index.....	6,028.55.....	5,977.86.....	5,977.86.....	6,038.02.....	-60.16.....	-1.00.....
Services Index.....	1,559.50.....	1,538.24.....	1,538.24.....	1,566.64.....	-18.41.....	-1.18.....
MSX Shariah Index.....	475.84.....	469.83.....	469.83.....	475.84.....	-6.01.....	-1.26.....
MSX TR INDEX.....	5,588.53.....	5,516.45.....	5,516.45.....	5,571.50.....	-55.04.....	-0.99.....
FINANCIAL TR IDX.....	7,387.63.....	7,330.66.....	7,330.66.....	7,371.20.....	-40.55.....	-0.55.....
SERVICES TR IDX.....	1,619.39.....	1,597.31.....	1,597.31.....	1,616.43.....	-19.12.....	-1.18.....
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX.....	6,256.62.....	6,204.01.....	6,204.01.....	6,266.45.....	-62.44.....	-1.00.....
Trading Summary						
Volume.....	Turnover.....	Trades.....	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....
12,322,362.....	2,798,069.....	418.....	23,032,123,975.....	6.....	24.....	10.....
						40.....

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY OCTOBER 24

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF. IND	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM0000003000..... AI MAHA PETROLEUM	747	670	2	0.884	0.900	0.884	0.900	0.884	0.016	1.810	0.900	0.000	0.892	0.100	62,100,000
OM0000001533..... OMINVEST	61,160	20,193	8	0.330	0.332	0.330	0.332	0.330	0.002	0.606	0.332	0.330	0.332	0.100	221,897,321
OM0000001483..... NATIONAL BANK OMAN	17,050	4,433	4	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.259	0.001	0.386	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.100	422,746,053
OM0000002200..... AHLI BANK	275	37	1	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.000	0.000	0.135	0.132	0.135	0.100	263,203,758
OM0000002796..... BANK MUSCAT	1,260,474	729,842	118	0.574	0.584	0.566	0.566	0.566	0.000	0.000	0.566	0.566	0.510	0.100	2,124,310,369
OM0000003398..... SOHAR INT. BANK	286,800	27,227	10	0.096	0.096	0.094	0.094	0.095	-0.001	-1.053	0.094	0.094	0.095	0.100	431,465,855
OM0000003026..... OMAN TELECOM	803,330	684,541	24	0.860	0.860	0.852	0.852	0.864	-0.012	-1.389	0.852	0.852	0.780	0.100	639,000,000
OM0000002168..... AL ANWAL CERAMIC	56,994	20,258	4	0.356	0.356	0.354	0.354	0.360	-0.006	-1.667	0.354	0.354	0.354	0.100	77,880,000
OM0000001525..... OMAN INVSTR FIN.	997,597	49,508	20	0.125	0.125	0.124	0.124	0.127	-0.003	-2.363	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.100	29,388,000
OM0000001749..... OMAN CEMENT	79,683	22,545	1	0.283	0.283	0.283	0.283	0.280	0.003	1.044	0.283	0.283	0.283	0.100	93,636,977
OM0000003969..... OOREDOO	319,018	129,417	5	0.400	0.406	0.398	0.398	0.409	-0.010	-2.451	0.398	0.398	0.398	0.100	259,075,804
OM0000002440..... AL SHARQIA INV.	9,500	665	6	0.068	0.070	0.068	0.070	0.072	-0.002	-2.779	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	6,300,000
OM0000003281..... TAAGEER FINANCE	154,819	14,536	7	0.095	0.095	0.092	0.092	0.096	-0.004	-4.167	0.092	0.092	0.094	0.100	23,796,886
OM0000003224..... RENAISSANCE SER.	172,176	75,954	9	0.440	0.446	0.430	0.430	0.450	-0.020	-4.444	0.430	0.430	0.406	0.100	101,656,300
Total	14	3,620,503	1,779,795	219											
Parallel Market															
OM0000002036..... Muscat Thread MILL	100	6	1	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.054	0.004	7.407	0.058	0.050	0.058	0.100	932,214
OM00000008710..... BARKA DESALINATION	303	43	1	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.141	0.002	1.418	0.143	0.133	0.143	0.100	10,799,646
OM0000001897..... MAJAN COLLEGE	10,000	1,460	1	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.145	0.001	0.690	0.146	0.146	0.000	0.100	13,140,000
OM0000001160..... NATIONAL GAS	490	66	1	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.110	0.106	0.110	0.100	9,350,000
OM0000001772..... ALANWAH INVESTMENT	591,711	45,222	16	0.076	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.076	0.077	0.077	0.078	0.100	15,400,000
OM0000002275..... SHELL OMAN MRK	20	16	1	0.820	0.820	0.820	0.820	0.820	0.000	0.000	0.820	0.820	0.864	0.100	77,900,000
OM0000004248..... SMN POWER HOLDING	351,500	10,545	26	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.100	5,989,068
OM0000004776..... TAKAFUL OMAN	69,500	2,989	3	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.000	0.000	0.043	0.043	0.000	0.100	10,750,000
OM0000003963..... PHOENIX POWER	500	22	1	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.000	0.000	0.044	0.000	0.044	0.100	44,354,464
OM0000004788..... MADINA TAKAFUL	1,360	118	2	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.088	-0.001	-1.136	0.087	0.080	0.087	0.100	15,225,000
OM0000002267..... GULF MUSHROOM P	6,200	1,428	2	0.232	0.232	0.230	0.230	0.233	-0.003	-1.288	0.230	0.221	0.230	0.100	9,569,212
OM0000001319..... ALUMINIUM PROD.	10,000	761	2	0.077	0.077	0.076	0.076	0.077	-0.001	-1.299	0.076	0.076	0.077	0.100	2,551,430
OM0000002549..... BANK DHOFAR	5,205,555	743,981	5	0.142	0.143	0.141	0.141	0.143	-0.002	-1.399	0.141	0.141	0.141	0.100	422,485,552
OM0000002374..... UNITED FINANCE	354,054	22,352	20	0.062	0.067	0.062	0.067	0.069	-0.001	-1.471	0.067	0.062	0.067	0.100	23,392,476
OM0000004735..... SEMBOOP SALALAH	81,500	4,721	5	0.060	0.060	0.057	0.057	0.058	-0.001	-1.724	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.100	54,410,601
OM0000004420..... BANK NIZWA	1,230,350	117,550	52	0.094	0.096	0.094	0.094	0.096	-0.002	-2.083	0.094	0.094	0.097	0.100	210,273,585
OM0000003661..... VOLTAMP ENERGY	110,381	9,477	6	0.086	0.087	0.085	0.085	0.087	-0.002	-2.299	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	6,919,234
OM0000001418..... RAYSUT CEMENT	50,059	7,108	10	0.145	0.145	0.141	0.142	0.147	-0.005	-3.401	0.142	0.140	0.142	0.100	28,400,000
OM0000002972..... OMAN OIL MARKETING	2,000	1,800	2	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.940	-0.040	-4.255	0.900	0.900	0.920	0.100	55,147,500
OM0000003260..... OMAN ARAB BANK	71,894	8,699	6	0.121	0.121	0.121	0.121	0.127	-0.006	-4.724	0.121	0.118	0.123	0.100	201,966,610
OM0000004925..... ALBATINAH POWER	63,800	2,233	4	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.037	0.037	-0.002	-5.405	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.100	23,621,060
OM0000001590..... MUSCAT FINANCE	269,350	14,026	9	0.053	0.053	0.052	0.052	0.055	-0.003	-5.455	0.052	0.052	0.054	0.100	15,971,609
OM0000001608..... OMAN PACKAGING	6,000	1,491	2	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.265	-0.025	-9.434	0.291	0.291	0.291	0.100	7,784,606
OM0000001566..... OMAN FISHERIES	211,312	19,139	17	0.085	0.085	0.090	0.090	0.100	-0.010	-10.000	0.090	0.090	0.094	0.100	16,387,056
Total	24	8,698,059	1,015,254	197											

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Bank Muscat organises seminar for more than 300 Omani entrepreneurs in Salalah

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat recently organised a seminar for more than 300 Omani entrepreneurs in Salalah by noted business consultant and coach Ahmed Al Mutawa.

The seminar focused on the initial steps of starting a business, growing already existing businesses, gaining knowledge about sources of capital and also how to handle challenges. It was attended by Taya Eid Bait Sabaea, Deputy General Manager – Interior Region, Bank Muscat as well as many bank officials and was well received by customers in Dhofar.

Speaking on the occasion, Taya Sabaea expressed his gratitude for the excellent participation of the owners and management of small businesses in the seminar organised by the bank's Najahi Business Banking department. The bank has always been an enabler of opportunities for budding entrepreneurs to bring about sustainable development and financial inclusion in Omani society.

He stressed how Bank Muscat's Najahi Business Banking offers a range of non-financial support for small businesses including training sessions and mentoring programmes, which are helping Omani entrepreneurs guide their businesses through vital phases of growth and development. The



Deputy General Manager extended his thanks and appreciation to Najahi customers for their constant support and trust in the bank and to all attendees for the interest expressed in the products and services of Bank Muscat.

Bank Muscat's Najahi has been playing a major role in supporting the SME sector since its launch in 2014. Over the years, Najahi has been growing from strength to



strength in expanding its suite of products and services and has won praise from customers for the excellent financial support through collateral-free financing and non-financial support it extends to the SME sector.

Bank Muscat's Najahi strategy is closely aligned with the overall developmental goals of the Sultanate of economic diversification, job creation and increasing GDP.

IN-HOUSE PROGRAMME

Omantel programme creates new opportunities for innovative employees

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omantel, the leading provider of integrated telecommunication services in the Sultanate of Oman, has launched an in-house programme for employees who submit innovative ideas that could be converted into solutions or projects, offering them rewards like the opportunity to join a world-class accelerator, potentially gain funding, and get one year of paid or unpaid leave.

The initiative is considered to be one of the advanced projects that Omantel is currently working on to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among employees. The initiative is called 'Fikra' which provides a platform that delivers solutions related to innovation within technology, and anything that would add value to Omantel and maintain its position as a leading telecommunication company.

Through the Fikra portal, employees can submit startup ideas, project ideas, and challenges that can be incubated, supported or addressed through Omantel Innovation Labs – a platform that was created to leverage Omantel's strengths to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in new and emerging technologies.

"The Fikra programme stems from Omantel's philosophy of nurturing and incentivising our talent and enabling them to turn



their ideas into great products and solutions that help overcome different challenges," said Dr Ghalib bin Saif Al Hosni, Chief People Officer at Omantel.

"Our employees are our most precious asset, and we have a firm belief in their creativity and ability to propose innovative solutions because of their familiarity with the customer's needs. Through this programme, we hope to generate fresh ideas from our employees and thus boost innovation within the organisation, with the ultimate goal of raising the bar in our industry."

He added, "The programme builds on the presence and capabilities of Omantel Innovation Labs. We are confident that the

program will be the catalyst for our employees to unlock their true potential while enabling the Company to further contribute to achieving the objectives of Oman Vision 2040."

To qualify for the Fikra programme, Ghada Jaifair Al Said, Senior Manager of Omantel Innovation Labs, further explained the process, "The selection is based on set criteria including the value addition to Omantel, the viability of the idea, and individual capabilities. An extensive educational program, which includes relevant workshops, will complement the programme and emphasise the fundamental frameworks and skillsets required to succeed.

"Our team is also available to

support the employees in improving their submissions and developing their ideas."

The assessment will be carried out by an internal committee which includes members from relevant departments within the company.

Omantel is the Sultanate's first and leading integrated telecommunications services provider, enabling the digital society to flourish, allowing new ways of doing business and delivering a world of information, news, and entertainment. While striving to ensure optimum customer satisfaction, Omantel plays a key social role to provide the required support and assistance to all sectors of the Omani society.



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Offer valid from 1st October to 31st December 2022. Raffle draws will be held at Oasis Water Company, Azaba with a total of 3 raffle draws. Dates: 3rd November, 5th December 2022 and 4th January 2023. Winners will be intimated directly. Oasis Water Company employees are not eligible to participate in this promotion. Gifts shown are for illustrative purpose only. Actual may vary. Promotion at Lulu, Nesto, Carrefour, Makkah Hypermarkets & The Sultan Center.

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STRICT PARENTING CAN GENETICALLY LEAD CHILDREN TO DEPRESSION

As a result of strict parenting, the way the body perceives the children's DNA might alter. Children who grow up with restrictions may have these modifications "hard-wired" into their DNA, increasing their biological risk of depression in adolescence and later in life.

Presenting the work at the ECNP Congress in Vienna, Dr Evelien Van Assche said: "We discovered that perceived harsh parenting, with physical punishment and psychological manipulation, can introduce an additional set of instructions on how a gene is read to become hard-wired into DNA. We have some indications that these changes themselves can predispose the growing child to depression. This does not happen to the same extent if the children have had a supportive upbringing".

The researchers from the University of Leuven in Belgium chose 21 teenagers who said their parents were good parents (for example, they were supportive and gave their kids freedom), and then compared them to 23 teenagers who said their parents were tough parents (for example, manipulative behaviour, physical punishment, excessive strictness). All of the adolescents ranged in age from 12 to 16, with a mean age of 14 for both groups. 11 adolescents in each group were boys, indicating that the two groups were comparable in terms of age and the distribution of boys to girls. Many people who had parenting "strict parenting displayed early, subclinical indicators of depression.

The range of methylation was then evaluated at more than 450,000 locations in each subject's DNA, and the researchers discovered that it was much higher in people who reported having had a difficult upbringing. Methylation is a standard process that takes place when a small chemical molecule is added to the DNA, altering how the instructions contained in your DNA are read. For

instance, methylation may cause a gene to generate more or less of an enzyme than it would otherwise. Depression has been linked to increased methylation variation. According to Evelien Van Assche, "We based our strategy on earlier work with identical twins. Two independent groups found that the twin diagnosed with major depression also had a higher range of DNA methylation for the majority of these hundreds of thousands of data points, as compared to the healthy twin".

Dr Van Assche (now working at the University of Munster, Germany) continued "The DNA remains the same, but these additional chemical groups affect how the instructions from the DNA are read. Those who reported harsher parenting showed a tendency towards depression, and we believe that this tendency has been baked into their DNA through increased variation in methylation. We are now seeing if we can close the loop by linking it to a later diagnosis of depression and perhaps use this increased methylation variation as a marker, to give advance warning of who might be at greater risk of developing depression as a result of their upbringing".

In this study, we investigated the role of harsh parenting, but it's likely that any significant stress will lead to such changes in DNA methylation; so in general, stresses in childhood may lead to a general tendency to depression in later life by altering the way your DNA is read. However, these results need to be confirmed in a larger sample".

Commenting, Professor Christiaan Vinkers, Department of Psychiatry, Amsterdam University Medical Centre, said: "This is significant work to understand how adverse childhood experiences have life-long consequences for both mental and physical health. There is a lot to gain if we can understand who is at risk, but also why there are different effects of parenting strict parenting. -ANI

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SPORTS



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Barcelona follow Real Madrid, Atletico Madrid defeat Betis

One of Barca’s best performances of the season coincided with Bilbao’s worst as Barca led 3-0 at the break thanks to Ousmane Dembele’s 12th-minute header

MADRID: FC Barcelona remain three points behind Real Madrid at the top of La Liga after a 4-0 win at home to Athletic Bilbao on Sunday night.

One of Barca’s best performances of the season coincided with Bilbao’s worst as Barca led 3-0 at the break thanks to Ousmane Dembele’s 12th-minute header, followed by Sergi Roberto’s 18th-minute shot, which took a slight deflection to lift it over Athletic



keeper Unai Simon.

Robert Lewandowski added a third in the 22nd minute and Bilbao weren’t helped by Ander Herrera limping off injured.

Herrera’s replacement Dani Garcia also had to go off injured in what was a relatively tepid second half which saw Ferran Torres score Barca’s fourth following a pass from Dembele.

Atletico Madrid moved third after a 2-1 win away to Real Betis thanks to two goals from Antoine Griezmann.

The Frenchman’s first goal was a near-post corner that nobody was able to cut out, and his second was a finish from a narrow angle that went through the legs of Betis keeper Rui Silva.

Nabil Fekir pulled a goal back for Betis with six minutes left, but the home side were unable to find an equalizer, leaving Betis coach Manuel Pellegrini to complain Atletico had taken the lead “without even having a shot on target.”

Ten-man Villarreal won at home to Almeria in a dramatic game. Almeria opened the scoring in the 31st minute thanks to Gonzalo Melero. Alex Baena scored Villarreal’s equalizer in the 56th minute, but was then harshly sent off for a

second yellow card after lifting his shirt to show a message of support for the club’s former vice president, who died last week.

Villarreal held on with 10 men and got their reward in the 94th minute when Nicholas Jackson scored the winner from a Dani Parejo cross.

Elche remain bottom of the table, but took a valuable 2-2 draw away to Espanyol, who continue to struggle for a win.

Pere Milla put Elche ahead early in the game, but although Javi Puado and Martin Braithwaite turned it around for Espanyol, Gonzalo Verdu snatched an equalizer with seven minutes left to play.

Girona climbed out of the bottom three with a 1-1 draw at home to Osasuna, with defender David Lopez scoring a 46th minute goal to cancel out Kike Barja’s opener for the visitors, six minutes earlier.

On Saturday, Real Madrid had a convincing 3-1 win at home to Sevilla, with Luka Modric putting them ahead in the fourth minute.

Madrid dominated the first half, but were stunned by Erik Lame-la’s 53rd-minute goal for Sevilla, before Vinicius set up substitute Lucas Vazquez for Madrid’s second in the 78th minute and Fede

Valverde continued his excellent recent form with another powerful shot to make it 3-1.

A first-half goal from Valladolid striker Sergio Leon ended Real Sociedad’s run of eight consecutive wins that had lifted them to third in the table.

VAR ruled out goals for both sides for questionable fouls, before Real Sociedad also had a late equalizer disallowed for a tight offside.

Lee Kang-in scored an 83rd-minute winner against his former club as Mallorca came back from a goal down to stun Valencia 2-1 at the Mestalla Stadium.

Edinson Cavani’s 51st-minute penalty put Valencia ahead, but another penalty allowed Vedat Muriqi to level from the spot just 12 minutes later, and Lee won the game for the visitors with an excellent finish after a pass from Dani Rodriguez.

Cadiz ended up with nine men as they crashed 5-1 away to Rayo Vallecano. The visitors looked solid until Iza was sent off in the 41st minute after conceding a penalty.

Isi Palazon scored the penalty and Alvaro doubled their lead before half-time.

-Xinhua

Oman Olympic Committee takes part in Seoul General Assembly

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Olympic Committee (OOC) participated in the 26th General Assembly of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) held in South Korea from October 19 to 21.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 187 National Olympic Committees in Seoul, with the participation of representatives of 16 committees online.

The opening function was attended by Yoon Seok-yeol, President of the Republic of South Korea, and Thomas Bach, President of International Olympic Committee (IOC), and representatives of international and continental federations and the organising committees of the tournaments.

Khalid bin Muhammad Al-Zubair, OOC Chairman, headed the delegation, accompanied by Taha bin Sulaiman Al-Kishry, OOC Secretary General.

South Korean President Yoon Seok-yeol opened the 26th ANOC General Assembly last Wednesday at the Seoul Convention and Exhibition Centre in which he thanked ANOC and all NOCs for their great efforts to keep the Olympic spirit alive, especially in the years that South Korea



shares the values set by the IOC in achieving independence and solidarity through sport.

He noted that South Korea had previously hosted the 1988 Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, and is preparing to host the 2024 Winter Youth Olympics in Gangwon.

In his part, Dr. Robin Mitchell, Acting President of ANOC said that representatives of about 200 NOCs participated in the meetings of the General Assembly, and President of the Korean Olympic Committee Lee Ki-hyung mentioned in his speech that it is the

3rd time that Seoul hosts the meetings of the General Assembly of ANOC after two years 1986 and 2006.

Olympic city

IOC President, Thomas Bach, gave a brief speech in which he pointed out that Seoul is a great Olympic city, and called on all NOCs to join hands and stand united together to advance the Olympic movement.

During the 3rd day meetings, ANOC Board of Directors was elected for the new term (2022-2026), where Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani, President of Qa-

tar Olympic Committee, won the position of First Vice President of ANOC, and Robin Mitchell was recommended as President.

During the meeting, the minutes of ANOC twenty-fifth meeting, held in Greece last year, were approved.

The president of ANOC and the Secretary General reviewed reports and recent developments. It also reviewed a report from the World Anti-Doping Agency, and reports from the organising committees of the upcoming Olympics represented in the 24th Winter Olympics to be held in Beijing this year, the 2023 World Beach Games, the 2024 Paris Olympics, and the 25th Winter Olympics in Italy 2026.

On the second day of the meetings, an awards ceremony was held in which the best athletes, sports teams and distinguished Olympic committees for the past year 2021 were honoured.

The committee consisted of representatives from each of the continental federations, the Chairman of the Athletes Committee, the Secretary General of ANOC, and the President of the Asian Football Federation. The meetings came out with important decisions in the interest of international sports and athletes.

Korean university awards honorary doctorate to Kishry



Times News Service

MUSCAT : A top Omani sports administrator has been awarded an honorary doctorate recently.

Taha Al Kishry, who wears many hats as a sports administrator, was awarded a honorary doctorate by the Korea National Sport University (KNSU) in Seoul.

Kishry, who is the president of the Oman Swimming Association (OSA) and secretary general of the Oman Olympic Committee (OOC) was honoured for his “distinguished services and efforts to support international and continental sports organisations”.

After receiving the doctorate, Kishry said: “The doctoral degree is a landmark moment in my sports administration career.”

Kishry is also the president of the Arab Swimming Federation, secretary general of the Asia Swimming Federation, member of FINA (International swimming governing body) Bureau and executive member of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

Kishry said: “This honour was possible only due to the strong support I have received from His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth. I thank the OOC chairman Sheikh Khalid bin

Muhammad Al Zubair for his trust and all my fellow administrators at the OOC who have believed in me and backed my stints with the international sports organisations.”

The top Omani sports administrator added: “The decision by Korea National Sports University to grant me the honorary doctorate is a great honour not just for me but for Oman. It is a reward to my decades of work in sports field at national and global level. Among those previously awarded were IOC President Thomas Bach and IOC Vice-President Ser Miang Ng in 2017 for their contribution to the promotion of international peace through the Olympic Games.

Kishry said: “This occasion is an exceptional event and a historic milestone in my sports career. This will motivate me more to contribute more to sports at all levels.”

Dr Ahn Young-kyu, President of the Korea National University of Sports presented the award to Kishry.

He said: The honour is awarded to sports personalities who have contributed to enriching the international sports movement and in recognition of their great services that had a positive and tangible impact on the development of the Olympic movement locally and internationally”.

ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD

Richard Gould appointed ECB’s new CEO

LONDON: The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced Richard Gould as its new Chief Executive Officer on Monday.

Mr Gould, 52, will take up the post at the end of January, moving from his current role as CEO of Bristol City Football Club. He

brings significant leadership experience from major organisations across sport, having served as CEO at first Somerset County Cricket Club and then Surrey County Cricket Club before taking up his current role in 2021.

The Nominations Committee unanimously recommended Mr

Gould to the ECB Board who ratified the decision on Friday. Clare Connor will continue as Interim CEO until Mr Gould’s arrival in a statement released by ECB.

As CEO, Mr Gould will work to deliver the vision set out by ECB Chair Richard Thompson to make cricket the most inclusive sport

in the country. At Surrey, he was instrumental in the launch of the ACE Programme in 2020, which is now an independent charity designed to engage a new generation of children and young people from Black communities within the recreational game and talent pathway. -ANI

13TH VICTORY

Max Verstappen claims United States Grand Prix title

TEXAS: World champion Max Verstappen claimed an emotional constructors’ world championship for Red Bull on Sunday when he clinched a record-equalling 13th victory this year at the United States Grand Prix.

Red Bull co-founder

Verstappen’s record-equalling 13th win of the season, and the squad’s championship triumph, came a day after Red Bull co-founder and owner Dietrich Mateschitz passed away - a milestone fifth F1 constructors’ title for the Milton Keynes operation sparking emotional celebrations.

Verstappen appeared to be headed for an easy victory at the Circuit of The Americas after taking the lead early on and avoiding the drama behind when Carlos Sainz and George Russell collided at Turn 1. Verstappen handled repeated Safety Car restarts while keeping his pace under control.

However, a sluggish last pit stop allowed Hamilton and the recuperating Charles Leclerc to pass both of them, and the defending world champion did so with only six laps left to take the checkered flag first.

Leclerc saved a podium fin-

ish for Ferrari as the Italian team mathematically pulled out of contention for the constructors’ title. Despite his valiant attempts, Hamilton had to settle for second place, prolonging Mercedes’ quest for a 2022 victory.

Safety Car

Leclerc rose from P12 on the grid after his power unit adjustments thanks to a quick stop under the early Safety Car, which was deployed as a result of Valtteri Bottas’s accident into the gravel. Perez finished fourth following his own engine penalty.

“It was a tough one. It was all

looking good and then, of course, the pit stop was a bit longer than we would like, so I had to fight my way forward again. But we gave it everything out there today,” said race winner Verstappen as quoted by Formula1.com.

“Of course, it’s a very difficult weekend for us, so this one is definitely dedicated to Dietrich himself. What he has done for everyone... the only thing we could do today was a win and, even though after the pit stop it was not looking great, I gave it everything out there and pushed it to the limit to come back,” he added.



-ANI



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ROUND-UP



Zubair Auto organises leadership training to boost employees’ skills

Organised within the framework of the group’s policy, the programme was aimed at providing specialised training in employee development, training, and growth

MUSCAT: The Human Resources department of the Zubair Automotive Group recently organised a leadership development programme for its employees. The programme involved 23 employees from across the group and its subsidiaries. Organised within the framework of the group’s policy, the programme was aimed at providing specialised training in employee development, training, and growth. Through it, employees

were introduced to a variety of leadership skills presented by specialists in the field. Jamal bin Mouhamed Al Balushi, General Manager of Human Resources & Admin at Zubair Automotive Group, explains, “Leadership is essential to any organisation’s success. The Group is known for its uniqueness in this regard, continually providing its employees with the skills they need to become highly qualified workers capable of mastering practical



leadership skills.” The Zubair Automotive Group represents some of the most recognisable global automotive brands in Oman. The list includes Mitsubishi Motors, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Alfa Romeo, and Fiat. From saloon cars and 4-wheel-drive pickups to luxury SUVs and high-performance sports

marques, these brands reflect the varied tastes of Omani customers. Further adding to the extensive Zubair Automotive Group product portfolio is a wide choice of commercial vehicles, such as buses, trucks, transport carriers, and other construction-related vehicles and equipment, from several globally renowned brands.

AWARD

OIFC recognised for its business excellence

MUSCAT: Oman Investment and Finance Company’s (OIFC) superior customer service and its portfolio of state-of-the-art digital products found validation at the OER Business Summit, which honoured it with the prestigious Business Excellence award. Said Ahmed Saffar, Chief Executive Officer, OIFC received the Award on behalf of the Company, at the iconic Summit, held at the Sheraton Oman Hotel, recently. Hosted by Sheikh Salim bin Mus-tahail Al Mashani, the summit was presided over by Ahmed Al Dheeb, Deputy Chairman of Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz), as the guest of honour, and His Highness Dr Ad-ham Turki Al Said, Founder of The Firm for Business and Economic Consulting as the keynote speaker. Having demonstrated its calibre as a one-stop store for customers to view their bills and make payments -anytime, anywhere - with ease and convenience, the Business Excellence Award came as an acknowledgement of OIFC’s safe and secure payment platforms that have inspired confidence among users in the country. Of particular significance is its encryption technology that keeps accounts secure, enabling a strong, reliable, and safer unified platform. The summit featured extensive discussions on the economy (Thriving in an agile and disruptive economic environment) and



HR (Growing and developing talent – the lifeline of organisations), with panellists providing their takes on business and human capital. On his part, Said Ahmed Saffar talked about the company’s digital transformation journey and the exponential growth it had witnessed in digital solutions. He highlighted the company’s remarkable growth, with statistics for 2021 demonstrating an increase of 128%, over 2020, in the number of transactions on the Khedmah mobile application. This growth, he said, had escalated further in the current year, with a steady increase in the number of downloads, which he attributed to the confidence of users in the safety and security that

the app endowed. Responding to a query on customer convenience during the panel discussion, he charted the process undertaken by OIFC to set up and implement services to operate as a Payment Services Provider (PSP) and to create an electronic wallet (eWallet). These, he noted, would enhance customer convenience and establish newer options for users to make hassle-free payments. He also focused on OIFC’s contribution to the ambitious Oman Vision 2040 by investing its resources to develop and upgrade innovation and technology in all its operations. It continues to partner with the government in fulfilling

the objectives of Vision 2040 with its robust digital transformation and enhanced sustainability. As one of the leading investment and services companies specialised in billing, collection and debt factoring for electricity, water and telecom services in the country, Khedmah has ensured the highest standards of customer service. The company keenly studies the market and stays up-to-date with global technologies to maintain its position in the sector. The Company complements its on-ground branch network through the many automatic payment machines distributed across Oman, and its electronic platforms, such as the Khedmah application and website.

LONG-STANDING PARTNERSHIP

Shell Oman and Precision Tune celebrate 23 years of partnership

MUSCAT: Underscoring the importance of customer satisfaction in its long-standing partnership with Precision Tune Auto Care, Shell Oman Marketing Company has reiterated its intent to leverage its status as Sultanate’s trusted energy partner in creating newer avenues for customer care. As ‘a local company with a global brand’, Shell Oman Marketing Company has, through its 23-year-long partnership with Precision Tune Auto Care (PTAC), connected people with relevant and reliable repair and maintenance services. It has facilitated convenient and affordable solutions - whether it is car repairs or routine vehicle maintenance –with easy access PTAC service centres, located in different locations and at Shell Oman’s Mobility sites, both within and outside the capital city of Muscat. Calling the over two-decade-long partnership with PTAC a significant contribution to Shell Oman’s growth trajectory, Mahmoud Al-Abri, Commercial Lubricants – General Manager, Shell Oman, said: “This partnership is a reflection of our commitment to make a difference to our customers’ everyday experiences; customers who understand the importance of timely and efficient auto care in the business of fuels and lubricants. We are



committed to providing our customers easy access to auto care assistance in partnership with trusted service providers in the country. Our long association with PTAC is aligned with our vision to maintain our leadership position in the lubricants sector and deliver the best value to our stakeholders.” Issa Al-Harthy, Vice Chairman of PTAC, said, “As a one-stop shop for repairs and maintenance service, we are recognised in the market for our fast and affordable solutions. We specialise in preventive maintenance services and our state-of-the-art facilities, located at some of the prime Shell Oman landmarks, have demonstrated our target to be the first point of reference for car owners during their routine car oil change and maintenance.”

SPECIAL OCCASION



Ominvest celebrates Omani Women’s Day

MUSCAT: Aligned with its core values of excellence and collaboration, Oman International Development & Investment Company (Ominvest) recently celebrated Omani Women’s Day with the inauguration of its ‘Leadership Development Programme for Women’, as well as a number of activities including team building and motivational speeches. The day’s celebrations were centred around empowering the women working at Ominvest, and marking the vital contribution they make to the success of the company. Attended by the Group CEO AbdulAziz Al Balushi and other members of the leadership team, it was the women of the organisation and their wellbeing that was at the centre of activities, with a speech by a female staff member and the announcement of the ‘Women Leadership Development Programme’ the highlight of the day. A firm believer in the devel-

opment of talents, AbdulAziz Al Balushi, Group CEO at Ominvest, said, “Through our core values, we always seek to bring strategies to life that sharpen our people’s expertise and give them the confidence to succeed. Over 30% of our workforce, and out of 9, 2 of our board members, are women, and we hope for this percentage to grow in the coming time, across key functions. “The ‘Leadership Development Programme for Women’ is an essential step in providing our female colleagues with equal opportunities to excel and exceed. It is also the right step in becoming more ESG-compliant, putting people at the centre of our activities.” Al Balushi added, “Omani Women’s Day is a celebration of all the mothers, daughters, sisters and friends we are lucky to know. We are proud to take part in an occasion that ultimately sheds light on their achievements in transforming our nation.

“At Ominvest, we know that ensuring the empowerment and well-being of all our colleagues, but especially our female colleagues will prove to elevate performance, productivity and organisational profitability, as well as help us accomplish more towards our purpose of “Transforming Businesses to Enrich Societies. I wish a Happy Omani Women’s Day to all the women of Oman.” The ‘Leadership Development Programme for Women’ will see the upskilling of female Omani talents within Ominvest at global standards, empowering them to take up future leadership positions. Executed by internationally recognised Leadership Management International (LMI), the programme is one of the many initiatives Ominvest supports to work towards global ESG goals, adding long-standing value to the business and society at large by increasing the number of female leaders.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

Majan College champions fight against contract cheating

MUSCAT: This year Majan University College (MUC) marks its seventh year by supporting the International Day of Action Against Contract Cheating (a form of cheating in colleges and universities that happens when students submit academic work that was done by another person, usually for payment). Integrity is one of MUC’s core values, hence the college has zero tolerance when it comes to academic misconduct. The one-day event is designed to spread awareness in a fun yet educational way rather than highlighting the penalties for academic misconduct. It was organised by the eLearning and Innovation Department which oversees the college’s Learning Management System (LMS), and all initiatives in the areas of educational technology and innovation. Higher education institutions from many parts of the world will be involved in the day of action, including those from North America and Europe. MUC’s participation reflects its determination to uphold the probity of higher education in the Sultanate. MUC’s Deputy Dean (Academic Affairs), Nabila Al Macki officially opened the event by addressing the student audience and stressing the importance of academic integrity and professional ethics. Dr Brian Poole (Associate Dean for Teaching and



Research) and Professor Ehsan Rassaei (Head of Research) spoke about the relevance of academic integrity and the importance of self-worth among students. The event was attended by members of its alumni and they engaged in an intriguing panel discussion which was organised by the eLearning and Innovation Department. The panel discussion sparked debates on banning essay mills in the region and the reasons that lead students to contract to cheat. The team produced a lively awareness video that involved MUC’s multinational staff and

student members who shared their views on academic integrity. The event featured a graffiti wall where students wrote and drew creative awareness messages. Students were encouraged to take part in a ‘Say No to Contract Cheating’ awareness campaign on social media by tagging the global #excelwithintegrity and #myownwork event hashtags. MUC hosts a weekly digital quiz on its LMS for students that includes questions that trigger their general knowledge, and on this special day, the team designed an academic integrity quiz. Multiple prizes were awarded to students who won the graffiti wall, social media campaign and quiz competitions. As part of the awareness campaign, the Head of eLearning and Innovation, Roshan Kolar, designed and launched a plagiarism severity detection tool using a Google Form. This form helps users to understand whether they have plagiarised in recent academic work through a series of questions, and if the work is plagiarised, it also helps the person further identify the severity of the plagiarism violation. Roshan said, “No amount of contract cheating is acceptable at Majan University College, so we will continue to hold events like this one to raise awareness among students and counteract this deplorable form of cheating.”



ROUND-UP



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Right time to own luxury SUV Infiniti QX50 is now

The premium mid-size SUV which boasts of world-first technologies, stand-out design and unrivalled interior space is available on special offer

MUSCAT: Hope of owning an INFINITI QX50, that delivers the promise of a premium motoring experience, is made easy for you this season by INFINITI Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles.

The premium mid-size SUV which boasts of world-first technologies, stand-out design and unrivalled interior space is available on special offer.

Customers who purchase INFINITI QX50 during the promotion period are eligible for free registration, periodic vehicle maintenance, manufacturer's warranty, AAA/Road assistance card. The special promotion is valid till November 24.

The scheme is applicable for all the customers purchasing INFINITI QX50 for personal use only. Vehicles purchased with commercial registration will not be eligible for the scheme. Vehicles bought for taxi, driving school, ministries, fleet, and rent-a-car usage will not be eligible for this scheme. The scheme is applicable for retail billing only.

The highly rated INFINITI QX50 has been created to meet the needs of today's premium car buyers and to deliver ultimate levels of comfort, design and technology. Its key features include ample space, engine power and efficiency rolled into one unique vehicle.

A senior spokesperson at INFINITI Oman said, "Customers can benefit much by making best use of the INFINITI Oman's special offer on INFINITI QX50. The crossover embodies everything the brand stands for – beautiful design, advanced technology, and empowering performance."



All customers purchasing INFINITI QX50 during the scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle registration.

Customers purchasing INFINITI QX50 in the scheme period will get free Periodic Vehicle Maintenance of three years or 50,000 kms (whichever is earlier). This offer excludes battery and wear and tear components. This offer includes only the service intervals of 10,000Kms.

INFINITI QX50 purchased during the scheme period will have a 3 years / 100,000 Kms Manufacturer's Warranty.

Free AAA / Road Assistance card will be given on the purchase of INFINITI QX50 for the first year only and as supported by AAA Oman & UAE.

Convincing performance
INFINITI QX50 provides the highest level of versatility, efficiency, and performance in luxury mid-size crossovers. The VC-Turbo engine delivers the strong and convincing performance of a V6 and the fuel economy of a 4-cylinder engine, which allows users to harness the exhilarating performance of 268 hp and 380 nm at 4,400 rpm of torque.

The appearance of the INFINITI QX50 highlights the influence of human artistry in the design process to emphasise the car's premium quality with intelligent packaging and deep character lines with INFINITI signature design cues.

The VC-Turbo engine is the world's first production-ready variable compression ratio engine, transforming on demand. A breakthrough in combustion engine design, the 2.0-litre VC-Turbo engine adjusts its compression ratio to optimize power and efficiency.

A multi-link system continuously raises or lowers the pistons' reach to transform the compression ratio. High compression ratios aid efficiency, while low ratios enable greater power and torque. The VC-Turbo offers any compression ratio between 8:1 (for performance) and 14:1 (for efficiency), maximizing driver control.

The engine delivers 268 hp (200 kW) and (380 Nm) and fuel economy of 14.1 km/l combined, front-wheel drive; 13.6 km/l combined, all-wheel drive). Front-wheel drive models offer a 35% improvement in fuel efficiency over the previous V6 gasoline QX50; all-wheel drive models offer a 30% improvement. The engine is paired with a continuously-variable transmission (CVT), for seamless power delivery. Its infinite number of gears perfectly matches the engine's ability to transform.

Engineered with flexibility
The QX50 is built on an all-new platform, featuring a front-engine, front-wheel drive-based layout. Engineered with flexibility of application in mind, the new platform sets new standards for refinement, rigidity and interior space in

the compact premium SUV segment. The platform's layout allows for higher levels of packaging efficiency than before, resulting in the QX50's ideal interior proportions for passengers and cargo.

The QX50 represents the first automotive use of SHF (Super High Formability) 980 MPa high-tensile steel, further strengthening the all-new platform. The high-tensile material can be moulded into unprecedented shapes, saving weight and representing a torsional rigidity improvement of 23% over the current QX50. This rigidity allows the car to resist flex and vibrations, as well as reduce the level of noise transmitted to the cabin.

Authentic sophistication
Remaining true to the design of the QX50 Concept and QX Sport Inspiration, the QX50's aerodynamic exterior reinterprets INFINITI's distinctive Powerful Elegance design language and signature design cues for the SUV segment. It combines a confident stance with intelligent packaging, while deep character lines highlight the influence of human artistry in the design process.

At 1,678 mm in height, the QX50 stands out on the road. Its elevated driver position maximizes visibility, for a clear view whether driving or parking. Aerodynamic efficiency is key to the QX50's design – the drag coefficient is reduced by 6% compared to the previous QX50.



bp Oman signs pact with Oman Sail to sponsor Para Sailing RS Venture Connect World Championships

MUSCAT: Oman Sail announced that bp Oman is the title sponsor of the upcoming RS Venture Connect World Championships; the first exclusive parasailing event to be held in Oman.

In collaboration with Oman Sail, bp Oman has been heavily involved in the development of para sailing in Oman as supporters of the SailFree initiative. This is the region's first para sailing programme, launched in 2019 as part of bp Oman's social investment programme, and will now continue its association at the championships, taking place at Barceló Mussanah Resort from November 22-27.

Dr Khamis Al Jabri, Oman Sail CEO, said, "We are very pleased to welcome bp Oman as title sponsors of the RS Venture Connect World Championships and deliver the very first sailing championship in Oman solely devoted to para sailing. Their support for SailFree has been invaluable and has changed the lives of hundreds of people across Oman, and we hope that exposure to the RS Venture class during the championships and the Oman Sailing Festival will inspire even more people with disabilities to discover sailing."

Thuraya Al Taei, C&EA Manager, bp Oman, Kuwait and Qatar said, "bp in Oman is committed to supporting Omanis with disabilities ensuring opportunities are inclusive for all people within community. We are excited to be sponsoring the RS Venture World Championship to deliver on our aim. Over the past three years, we have seen first-hand the

success of our social investment programme 'SailFree' which has now allowed a national parasailing team to compete internationally. We look forward to working with Oman Sail to deliver a successful championship and continue supporting 'Sail Free'."

SailFree is a joint initiative between Oman Sail, bp Oman and the Oman Paralympic Committee, and is the region's first para sailing programme. Launched in December 2019, it has since introduced over 200 men and women from the ages of 16 to 30. It has since become a model for inclusivity, diversity, and empowerment, and continues to offer opportunities for people with disabilities across Oman.

The RS Venture Connect World Championships will feature 36 teams from 19 nations, as well as a three-day Para Sailing Development Program (PDP) clinic organised by World Sailing, the global governing body for the sport, to provide training for coaches and race officials.

As with the previous RS Venture Connect Class World Championship, this year's World Championship will once again feature a 'Para' as well as an 'Open' category for teams entered. This will increase the participation opportunities for sailors who previously didn't meet the requirements of the World Sailing Minimal Disability Classification criteria required to participate in the Para category. The inclusion of the 'Open' category means that the event will present awards for both 'Para' and 'Open' Venture Connect Class Champions.

Oman's first & only integrated luxury resort village, Muscat Bay announces special promotion for Nameer Island Villas

MUSCAT: Showcasing the extraordinary lifestyle and amenities on offer, Muscat Bay recently announced a special sales promotion for the Island Nameer Villas. Discerning customers can now avail this limited offer of special prices along with exclusive benefits including a 5-year easy payment plan and immediate handover upon a 10% down payment for ready Island villas.

Offering stunning views of the majestic Hajar mountains and the waterfront, the exquisite 3- and 4-bedroom amber villas are designed for maximum comfort, privacy, and opulence. Each villa ensures luxurious family living with features including private landscaped gardens and swimming pools, and access to world-class amenities. Residents can also avail services at the region's award-winning global luxury hospitality brand, Jumeirah Muscat

Bay through a unique Residents Club. The Club provides services such as private cooking classes, wellness events, end-to-end event execution along with a variety of discounts and loyalty program benefits in the 5 Star resort hotel.

Commenting on the promotion, Paul Jessup, SVP at Muscat Bay said, Muscat Bay stands at the forefront to serve clients efficiently across the residential and retail sectors. Our team is always looking for ways to deliver an unmatched buying experience and we are proud to announce a special offer designed to help enrich the lives of our clients, which is a top priority for us. The fast-selling Nameer Villas, are a testament to our strong brand reputation and operational excellence."

To reach a wider network of customers, Muscat Bay has expanded its offices to the Shatti Waterfront, Qurum and the Mall of Oman with



its head office at the Experience Center in Qantab. Customers can also visit the Muscat Bay website to discover more about the special offers and register their interest.

Nestled in between the majestic Al Hajar Mountains and the beaches of the Gulf of Oman, Muscat Bay is a unique offering for discerning individuals and families

from across the world.

It features meticulously designed residential enclaves to suit every need along with shops, restaurants, and a variety of leisure

and sporting activities set amidst lush, landscaped gardens and parklands.

Muscat Bay's resort village is a vibrant, yet serene brand that truly embodies inclusivity and offers a boutique luxury address for the discerning customer.

Muscat Bay's select residential range includes The Wajd Senses Grand Villa Collection, regal 5-bedroom palatial dwellings located on the hilltop overlooking the bay below; Nameer's opulent Island Villa Collection, Zaha's cool Clubhouse Waterfront & Parkland Villas, the Sky Garden Penthouses, as well as a selection of luxury 2 and 1-bed lifestyle residences that provide fantastic investor returns. Only a few residences from the low-density, 260-luxury portfolio remain unsold given the harmonious setting and resort services on offer, only 20 minutes from downtown Muscat.



Winter Offers

Offer valid from 14th August to 13th November 2022. Existing Oman Oasis 5 Gallon returnable bottle customers and Oasis Water Company employees are not eligible for the offer.

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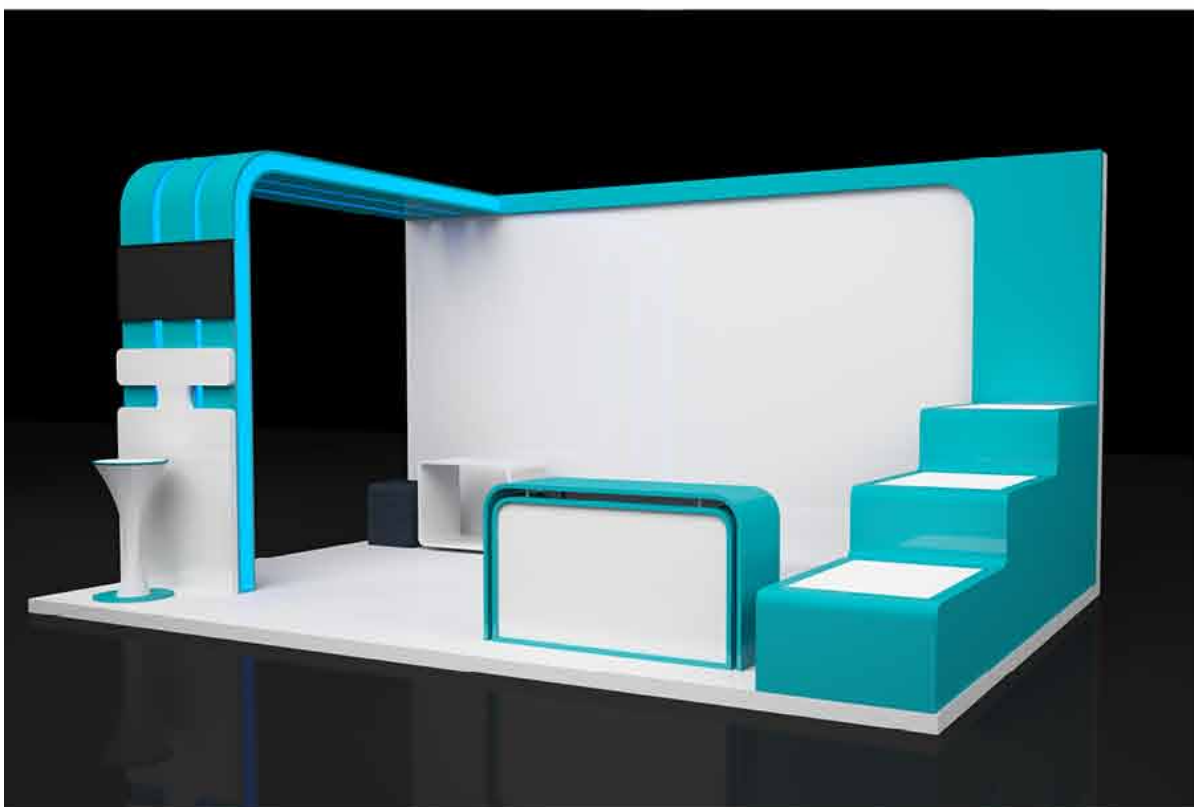
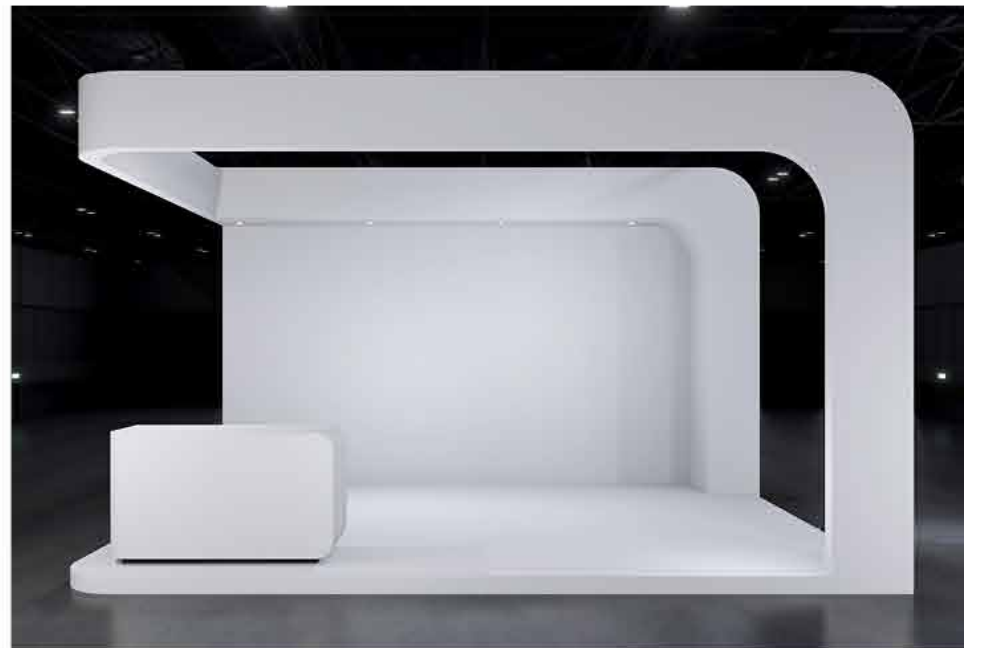
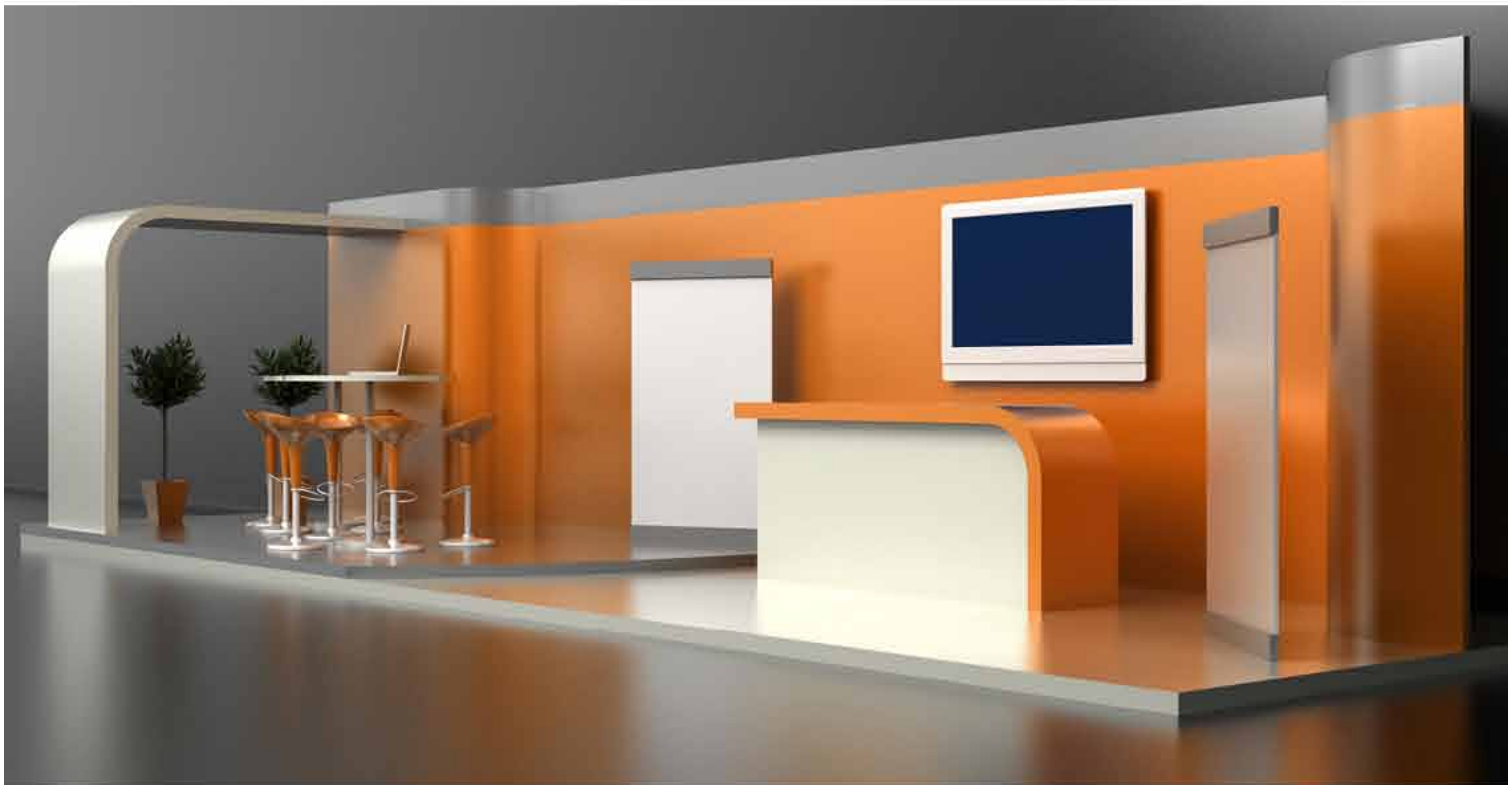
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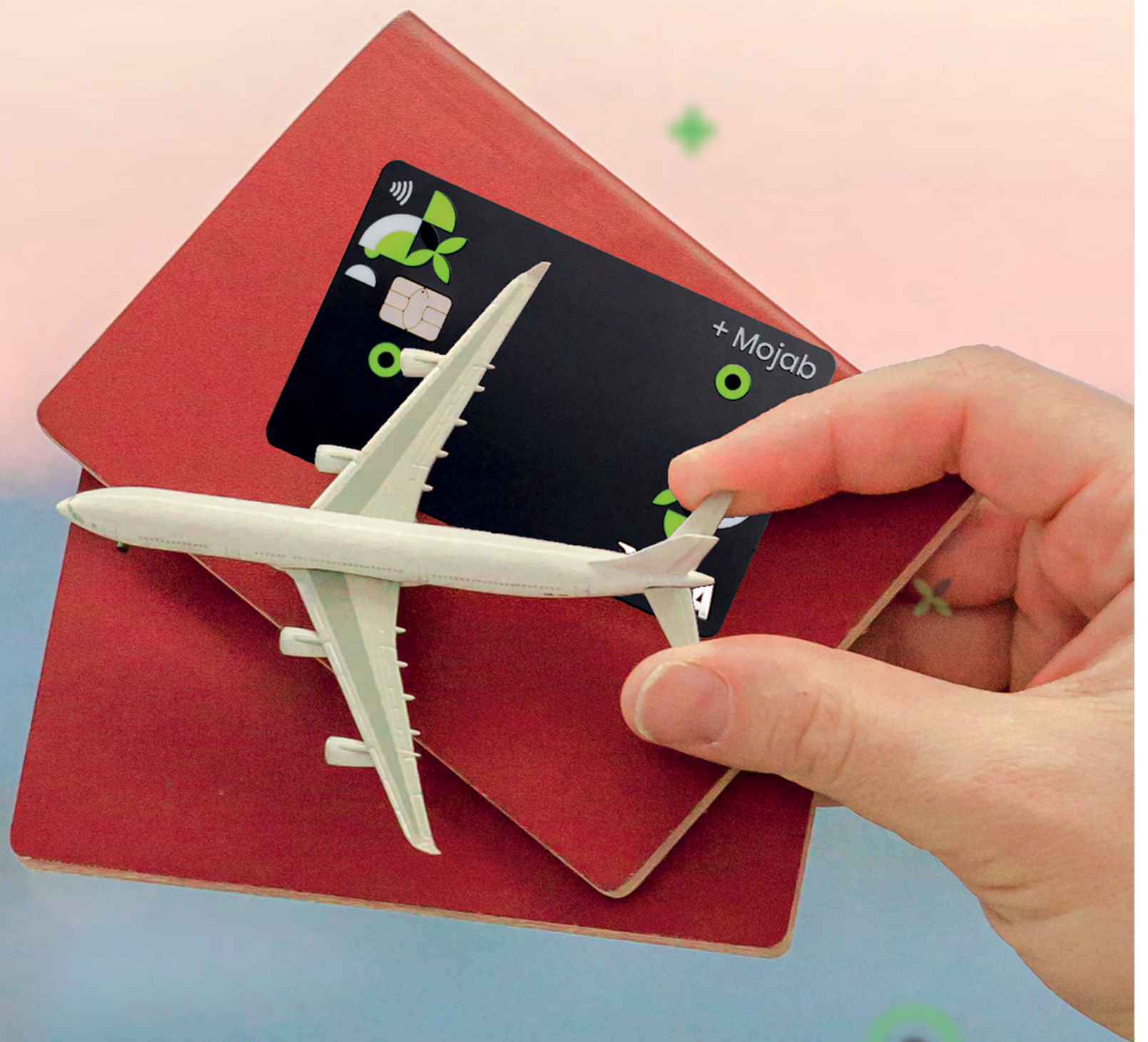


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