



AL-SUWAIQ-AL-HUQAIN DUAL CARRIAGEWAY FULLY OPEN NOW

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Transport, Communications, and IT fully opened the Al-Suwaïq-Al-Huqain, the 20km long dual carriageway project to traffic yesterday. **>A3**



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SAYYID SHIHAB MEETS GCC SECRETARY GENERAL

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik bin Taimour Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs received Dr. Nayef Falah Al Hajraf, GCC Secretary General at Al Murtafaa Camp yesterday.

The meeting exchanged cordial conversations and discussed matters of common concern. Dr. Al Hajraf praised the Sultanate's role in supporting peace and stability in the GCC region and the world at large.

He also commended the Sultanate's endeavours and its constructive stances in extending bridges of understanding and cooperation among various world's countries. The current visit of the GCC Secretary General to the Sultanate was part of a lecture at the National Defence College (NDC) in the Ministry of Defence. The meeting was attended by Air Vice Marshal Eng. Saleh Yahya Al Maskari, NDC Commandant. **-OMA**



Sultanate's GDP reaches OMR18bn

MUSCAT: Oman's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reached OMR18.189 billion at current market prices at the end of September 2020, according to the data released by the NCSI.

The National Centre for Statistics and Information in its latest data said that there was a fall in oil sector by 24.4 per cent at the end of September 2020, registering OMR5.79 billion compared to OMR7.66 billion at the end of September 2019.

The share of petroleum from among oil activities was OMR4.63 billion, which is a decrease of 28.3 per cent from the end of September 2019, when it was OMR6.46 billion.

The activities of natural gas also decreased by 3.5 per cent, reaching OMR1.15 billion compared to OMR1.19 billion at the end of September 2019.

Total non-oil activities fell by 12.4 per cent to OMR13.15 billion.

Services activities were at the forefront of non-oil sector, which was OMR9.28 billion, down by 10.6 per cent over OMR10.38 billion at the end of September 2019.

Hotels and restaurants, wholesale and retail trade, and transport, storage and communication rose by 35.7 per cent, 31.4 per cent and 17.5 per cent, respectively.

In real estate services, financial intermediation and public administration and defence activities decreased by 14.2 per cent, 10.1 per cent and 2.1 per cent, respectively. Industrial activities fell by 19.8 per cent to OMR3.29 billion at the end of September 2020.

The manufacturing of basic chemicals sector fell by 28.8 per cent, manufacturing, construction, and other manufacturing industries also fell by 24.6 per cent, 21 per cent and 20.4 per cent, respectively.

>A3

NCSI DATA

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

The big four killer diseases

1 Cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory diseases are responsible for 72 per cent of all deaths in Oman, the Ministry of Health has said. Eighteen per cent of these mortalities occur prematurely in people, primarily those between the ages of 30 and 69, added the government body. **>A3**

WORLD

Germany extends COVID-19 measures

2 German federal and state governments agreed on Tuesday to extend the current COVID-19 measures until at least February 14. Most shops and schools will remain closed and people will continue to be asked to limit their contacts and stay at home as much as possible for a few weeks. **>A6**

MARKET

Direct imports up at Asyad-run ports

3 Asyad-managed Port Sultan Qaboos, together with ports of Khasab, Suwaïq and Shinas, witnessed a 17 per cent increase in direct imports compared to 2019, managing to handle one million and 722,000 tonnes of general cargo from January to December 2020. **>B1**



Joe Biden sworn in as US president

A7

© Joe Kasele/Getty



Times News Service

Decision in line with WHO guidelines communicated to Ministry of Education along with advice to fully observe other precautionary measures

MUSCAT: Children aged up to 11 are exempt from wearing masks while at school, the Ministry of Health said on Wednesday.

The decision comes days after children in grades one, four, five, nine and 11 were allowed to return to school. This development was communicated to the Ministry of Education, in keeping with guidelines drafted by the World Health Organization, for school-going children up to age 11.

However, other precautionary measures in place to protect students and staff in schools must be adhered to, the ministry warned.

"Children aged five years and under should not be required to wear masks, while children aged 12 and over should wear a mask and follow the same precautionary conditions as adults," said the Ministry of Health statement.

Shedding further light on this decision, an official from the Ministry of Health told the *Times of Oman* that children aged 11 and under might not have the maturity to properly handle their masks, which could lead to more infection to themselves and others.

"You may be wondering why students between six and 11 years of age do not have to wear a mask, except under certain cir-

cumstances," he said. "We consider those under 11 years to still be unaware, and they might not know how to use masks. The student may exchange the mask with his classmates or schoolmates, or wear it once again after it falls on the ground," he added.

"He might wear it after it has gotten dirty or wet, and all of these will help spread infection among the students or cause them to have respiratory problems."

"However, children aged between six and 11 years should wear masks, based on whether there is widespread transmission where the child resides, and the ability of the child to safely and appropriately use a mask. These conditions also depend on "easy access to masks, readily available replacement masks, and adequate adult supervision, so that children know how to put on, take off and safely wear masks. Another factor is the interactions the child has with people who are at high risk of contracting serious illnesses, such as the elderly and those with existing health conditions."

Explaining why mask wearing was compulsory for students above 12, he added, "Children aged 12 and over should wear a mask under the same conditions as adults because we see them as adults, and they know how to follow the precautionary measures carefully. They are aware of the above dangers, so it is possible to say they can be relied upon to wear and use the masks in the right manner." **>A5**

MOUNTAINEERING

'Faced sub-zero weather, 100 kph wind speeds on Ama Dablam climb'



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omani mountaineer Nadhira Al Harthy and her fellow climbers braved temperatures that plummeted to -12 degrees Celsius and bitterly cold winds roaring past at 100 kph in their endeavour to scale Ama Dablam, one of Nepal's most challenging peaks.

Al Harthy and five other climbers took 20 days to scale up and return down the 6,812 metre mountain, after beginning their ascent on January 3, with the adverse weather conditions meaning they had to hurry the last leg of their climb to the summit, which is often the most dangerous part of the journey.

"This was the first time I'd been to Nepal in the winter," says Nadhira, who in 2019, became the first Omani woman to climb

Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world.

"It was very cold: at night, temperatures would fall to -12 degrees, and the wind made it even colder. The wind speed gave us a very small window to climb the summit. The wind speed ranged from 50 to 100 kph. We were waiting there for the wind to die down before being able to climb the summit. We realised there was only a two-day window for us to climb the summit, and when we reached the peak, the wind had reached speed of 45 kph. You can finish the climb in a smaller span of time, maybe 20 days, but because of the weather, and because of COVID-19, it took longer to finish the expedition," she adds.

Nadhira left Oman on December 19 and underwent two weeks' quarantine in Nepal before un-

dergoing much-needed acclimatisation to the high altitude and frigid weather conditions at the base camp erected at the foot of the mountain.

Her aside, the team included climbers from Turkey, Mexico, India, Egypt, and Qatar. They'd signed up with a mountaineering company called Summit Treks, who prepared and organised everything they'd need, such as Sherpas to carry their loads, guides to take them up and down the mountain, their base camp, and a mobile kitchen to cook food.

While she does carry plenty of equipment vital for her to climb the mountains and survive up there, one item that's always with her on these treks is a satellite phone that her family have made it mandatory for her to carry.

"Whichever mountain I go up, I have to keep in touch with my parents: this is the condition under which my mom lets me go," she admits.

"My family is of course, very, very worried whenever I go on these missions. There is a form of Wi-Fi there called Everest Link, which is very, very expensive, but I need it to keep in touch with my mom and the rest of my family.

"When I am at a camp at a higher altitude, I use my satellite phone to give them a call or send them a message telling them I am fine," added Nadhira, whose inspiration to climb Everest came from the late Khaled Al Siyabi, the first Omani to ever scale Mount Everest.

"He actually passed away in 2019, when I was climbing the mountain," she admits. **>A3**



The amended Basic Law of the State introduces new clauses offering more guarantee to human liberties, rights, human dignity and equality among citizens

MUSCAT: Oman Human Rights Commission has said that the Sultanate took tangible steps to foster human rights and preserve human dignity.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Commission pointed out that His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik issued a number of Royal decrees, the most important of which amends the Basic Law of the State and introduces new clauses offering more guarantee to human liberties, rights, human dignity and equality among citizens in terms of rights.

Other decrees restructured the State's Administrative Apparatus to help meet the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and respond to the aspirations of citizens over the coming stage of development, said

the statement.

Oman Human Rights Commission categorically refuted the report of Human Rights Watch on specific human rights issues, by joining more international agreements of relevance.

The statement indicates that the Sultanate joined three agreements in 2020 and that these agreements have had the power after being ratified. They were enshrined in Royal decrees, as follows:

- Royal Decree No. 44/2020 ratifies the Sultanate's joining the International Convention for Protection of All Persons From enforced Disappearance.
- Royal Decree No. 45/2020 ratifies the Sultanate's joining the International Convention Against Torture, Other Cruel, Inhuman or de-

grading Treatment or Punishment.

- Royal Decree No. 46/2020 ratifies the Sultanate's joining the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

As for the right to freedom of expression, Oman Human Rights Commission noted that it spotted no closure of any means of media during 2020.

The Oman Human Rights Commission said that it closely followed up the steps taken by the Government of the Sultanate towards guaranteeing the rights of residents and workers. It noted that expat workers were exempt from any fees or fines or any legal action pertinent to the expiry of their labour permits.

The Commission pointed out that it also followed up other pro-

cedures undertaken in favour of foreign workers and stated that it observed the amnesty granted to hundreds of foreign prisoners and their repatriation to their respective countries in special flights amid coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This is in addition to offer free medication to residents in all governorates of the Sultanate, the Oman Human Rights statement said.

The statement expressed appreciation for the US Atlantic Council network's commendation of the Sultanate's plan to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. It also noted the World Health Organization's commendation of the Sultanate's use of technology to control Covid-19 pandemic and limits its spread among citi-

zens and residents.

Oman Human Rights Commission said in its statement that it observed the Sultanate's cancellation of the No Objection Certificate, which was a pre-requisite to any foreign worker wishing to move from one employer to another. The step secures foreign workers' free access to any work in the market, said the statement.

About gender equality, the Commission said that it followed up the steps undertaken by the Government of the Sultanate, which joined the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Omani women are partners with men in the national building process, and this is further reaffirmed by the Basic Law of the State, said the statement of Oman Human Rights Commission.

As for foreign domestic helpers, the Commission said it has been in touch with the departments tasked with protecting the rights of this segment, including Royal Oman Police and the National Committee for Control of Human Trafficking, among other departments.

In response to the report of Human Rights Watch on gay rights, Oman Human Rights Commission reasserted what it stated in the past that the Sultanate, like many other countries around the world, is governed by principles of religion, manners and social norms which ban such practices (homosexuality). It affirmed that such a behavior is rejected by society.

Yet, Oman Human Rights Commission reaffirmed its willingness to coordinate with Human Rights Watch and other human rights organisations to get or exchange any information and follow up international reports of relevance. It advised that information on Oman should be taken from reliable sources. -OMA

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72 per cent of deaths in Sultanate caused by four lifestyle diseases

Cardiovascular diseases are responsible for 36 per cent of deaths in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory diseases are responsible for 72 per cent of all deaths in Oman, the Ministry of Health has said. Eighteen per cent of these mortalities occur prematurely in people, primarily those between the ages of 30 and 69, added the government body.

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death among non-communicable diseases in Oman, responsible for 36 per cent of fatalities, followed by cancer (11

per cent), diabetes (eight per cent), and chronic respiratory diseases (two per cent).

Persons diagnosed with non-communicable/lifestyle diseases are also more vulnerable to contracting infection from COVID-19, warned the ministry.

They are more likely to suffer from more severe symptoms of the disease, while managing treatment or curing their ailments is also harder at present, as hospitals are preoccupied with treating coronavirus patients.

To spread awareness of the importance of leading a healthy life-



style and not developing non-communicable diseases, the Ministry of Health has launched an awareness campaign, called hematak ma'ana (Arabic for 'support us') in collaboration with pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca.

The campaign begins on Thursday, 21 January, and will target people with chronic ailments and their families, by focusing on the role patients play in managing their own diseases through self-monitoring and incorporating healthy practices

into their lifestyles.

It will use various means to spread awareness, including educational videos and infographics on social media platforms, awareness adverts on TV channels, as well as messages shared on mobile

phone applications and websites.

Health workers will also be provided awareness as part of the campaign's efforts, through workshops and webinars dedicated to the detection and management of chronic lifestyle ailments.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND IT



Al-Suwaiq-Al-Huqain dual carriageway fully open now

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Transport, Communications, and IT fully opened the Al-Suwaiq-Al-Huqain the 20km dual carriageway project for traffic yesterday.

This fully utilises the strategic role of Batinah Expressway by establishing upgraded road links between Al Batinah expressway

with the Al Batinah dual carriageway with new interchanges to keep up with the growing traffic between North and South Al Batinah governorates.

The project features a dual carriageway with two (3.75m wide) lanes on each side, (2.5m wide) external asphalt road shoulders, and (1.5m wide) internal asphalt road shoulders.

It also features 5 roundabouts

to serve surrounding residential and industrial areas, two wadi (ravine) bridges, 20 box culverts for rainwater drainage. It also has 10.5km of service roads stretching along the main road.

Moreover, it comes with traffic safety facilities, including concrete protective barriers, iron fences, iron wire barriers, pavement floor painting, road reflectors, and informative signboards.

ECONOMY

< FROM
A1 GDP growth

Electricity, and water supply increased by 1.1 per cent, whereas other mining and quarrying fell by 0.4 per cent.

The activities related to agriculture and fishery sectors showed an increase of 9.8 per cent to reach OMR571 million at end of September 2020, compared to OMR520.1 million at the end of September 2019. - **OWA**

MOUNTAINEERING

< FROM
A1 Extraordinary feat

"When I heard of his death, it actually inspired me further, because I wanted to do it for him. He was my first and continues to remain my biggest source of inspiration."

Nadhira, who is originally from the region of South Sharqiyah, only seriously began considering mountaineering in 2017, and has never looked back since.

"Whenever I am on a mountain, or even hiking in Oman, I often train alone," she explains. "I love being alone up there. Even when I am with a group, I feel like it is just the mountain and me. I feel the strength and power of nature, and how it impacts me. I feel so small there: when you are on the mountain, you realise that not everything is under your control."

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WATCHING THE WHITE FEATHERED BEAUTIES

OMAN WITNESSES swarms of migratory birds every winter during their seasonal journey between their nesting habitats and the places where they spend winters, especially those birds migrating from Europe and East Asia. One can find them coming from far every winter and normally return by autumn. Watching these white feathered beauties is a sight to behold. Muttrah Corniche recently

witnessed a flock of seagulls who became the centre of attraction during their stopover. Seagulls are known to fly from Alaska, Siberia and other Mediterranean coasts and they stop in Oman before heading further.

There has been a substantial rise in the number of migratory birds to Oman in recent times and this is perhaps because Oman's warm weather. Pictures: N Purushotaman



The secret book that never fails

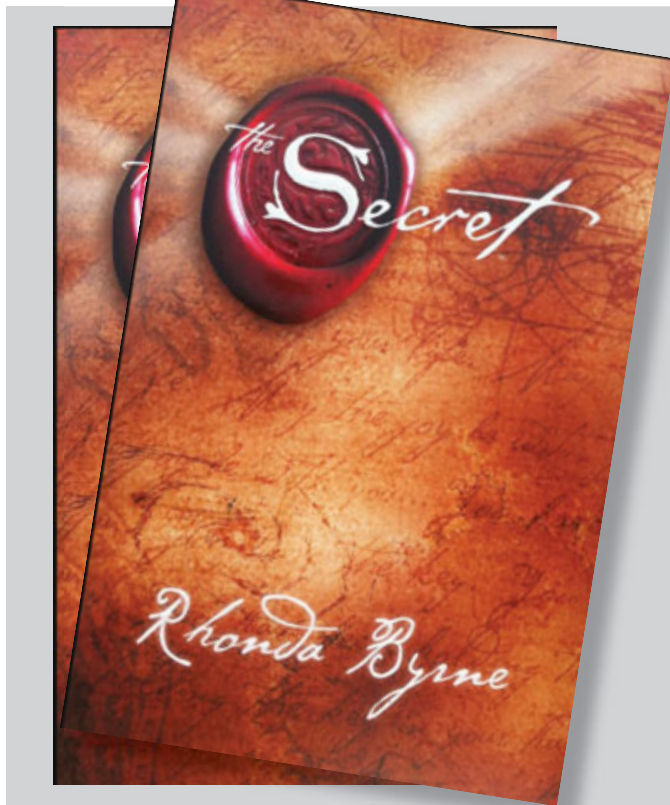
When I started with my PhD earlier this year, few senior colleagues and friends offered me a word of advice-It is not about how many papers you read towards your research, it is more about how many times you read the same paper a number of times to get into the core of the concept and issues revolving around it. This goes the same with the golden book 'The Secret' authored by Rhonda Byrne and first published in 2006. You have to read it over and over to understand it, absorb the information received and implement the learnings in life.

It was during my executive training days at my current organisation more than a decade ago that I got to watch the documentary of this book as part of an on-job learning module and I got introduced to the life-transforming phenomena explained in the book. My first instinct after watching the book was to get hold of the physical copy. Being truthful here, it was one of the costlier books those days, and I had to wait for it to come down to my budgetary expectations. I vividly remember having a passing glance at the book which used to be arranged neatly at the book stand, at the Metro Train Station in Delhi, while commuting back from the college everyday. Soon, I could manage to get

the book and then reading and re-reading it changed my outlook totally. Some key takeaways relevant always are:

Law of Attraction: The book talks about the Law of Attraction which means that repeated thought on something converts it into reality and action. The important thing here is not just thinking of something, but also taking concrete action towards making it a reality. It says that our thoughts become our words, words become actions, actions become habits, habits lead us to our destiny. It is all about realigning one's thoughts and genuinely putting efforts towards what you truly desire and turning it into a reality. The law has secretly been used for centuries by the greatest people in history such as Plato, Shakespeare, Newton, Lincoln, Emerson, Edison, Einstein, and many more. The same thought has also been mentioned in the teachings of Buddha and Swami Vivekananda, great humans from India.

Ask, Believe, and Receive: Rhonda Byrne has suggested a 3-step process to make the law of attraction work in favour of yourself. 'Ask' is being very specific in what you want out of life. Many coaches have emphasised upon the habit of writing your goals and referring to them frequently. Vague questions and



goals without timelines are wasting valuable time and efforts. 'Believe' is having an unswerving faith in your goal and is about having confidence as if you already possess the thing you desire. 'Receive' is imagining how you'll feel once you accomplish your goal. This helps

in channelising the actions and allocating resources in the right direction. "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:24).

Taking cognizance of your feelings: In other words, being mindful. The book helps us in

"The power to anything you want is inside you"
- Rhonda Byrne



Dr. Priti Swarup

learning how to pay close attention to our feelings because our feelings reveal our thoughts. If someone feels good, they'll have good thoughts and hence the right actions. When someone feels sad, angry, frustrated, depressed, the book suggests shifting the focus from problem to solution. The sooner this shift in focus occurs, the sooner one starts feeling better and attract it more.

We are the creators of our destiny: The book accentuates the fact that we are in full control over the vision we have for ourselves. We are the masters over our lives, and everyone must take responsibility for the choices and decisions they make towards their own lives.

Practice gratitude always: The book highlights the fact that the power of gratitude stands above everything else. A big part of 'The Secret' is having an attitude of gratitude every single day and

being thankful for what we already have. This also helps as it shifts the frequency of the mind towards the 'don't haves' to the 'haves' of our lives.

The book has valuable inputs from many great authors, speakers and coaches like Bob Doyle, Jack Canfield, Michael Beckwith, Mike Dooley, Lisa Nichols, Ben Johnson and many more, who have given practical insights and examples, illustrated frequently throughout the book and which makes the book essentially unputdownable.

Since its launch, the book has sold over 35 million copies worldwide and has been translated into 50 languages. And I know the reason why. 'The Secret' has been written in a very lucid manner and the reader is able to associate and engage right from the start. Since then, it has been my go-to-book for self-healing and inspiration to keep moving and emerge better in some possible way every-day. Every single page of the book is valuable and carries meaning. You have got to read to experience it. Besides having an unmatched print quality and pages with creative artwork at required places, The Secret is 200 pages of sheer joy, a delight to read and can be a great gift as well. -Dr. Priti Swarup (drpritiswarup@gmail.com)



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FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES GCC SECRETARY GENERAL

Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister received Dr. Nayef Falah Al Hajraf, GCC Secretary General. The meeting touched on the blessed GCC march. They exchanged views to enhance the GCC joint action particularly in light of the outcomes of the 41st GCC Summit, held on 5 January 2021 in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. – **ONA**



ARTIFICIAL REEF MODULES

Pact signed for second stage of coral reef project in Sur

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MoAFWR) yesterday signed an agreement with Haejo Engineering and Contracting Company (HAEJO) to award the second stage of the artificial coral reef project in the Wilayat of Sur.

The agreement includes designing, manufacturing and unloading artificial reef modules in the Wilayat of Sur, as well as following up the results of their deployment in the marine environment, at a total cost of OMR90,000. The project is funded by the Oman-India Fertiliser Company.

The agreement was signed by Eng. Yaqoub Khalfan Al Busaidi, MoAFWR Undersecretary for Fisheries and HAEJO General Manager.

The project is part of the strategic plans to develop the fisheries sector. The ministry aims to enhance fish stocks and biological diversity in the Sultanate's waters in a manner that ensures the sustainability and prosperity of natural fisheries.

The project will be monitored by surveying and diving operations to ensure that modules are fit and free from breakage or damage. -**ONA**



FISHERIES SECTOR: The pact was signed by Eng. Yaqoub Khalfan Al Busaidi, MoAFWR Undersecretary for Fisheries and HAEJO General Manager. -**ONA**



TENDER

TENDER NUMBER 1/2021/MHUP/1				
DESCRIPTION CONSTRUCTION, COMPLETION AND MAINTENANCE OF (32 TWIN VILLAS) INCLUDING INTERNAL ROADS AT AL-MAHAJ, IN THE WILAYAT AL-AMERAT, MUSCAT GOVERNORATE.				
GRADE EXCELLENT	LAST DATE OF BUYING 21/1/2021	DATE OF SUBMISISON 15/2/2021	DATE OF OPEN 16/2/2021	TENDER PRICE R.O. 120/=

TENDER NUMBER 2/2021/MHUP/2				
DESCRIPTION CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR SUPERVISION OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF (32 TWINVILLAS) AT AL-MAHAJ, WILAYAT AL-AMERAT, MUSCAT GOVERNORATE.				
GRADE FIRST	LAST DATE OF BUYING 21/1/2021	DATE OF SUBMISISON 15/2/2021	DATE OF OPEN 16/2/2021	TENDER PRICE R.O. 25/=

Interested Companies registered with Tender Board (in the above mentioned Grade) may obtain Tender documents from the E.Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document. Tenders should be submitted on line on given website. The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee issued by any bank in the Sultanate of Oman for the value of 1% of the Tender value validity for (90) days, and addressed to H.E. The Chairman of the Tender Committee.

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REOPENING

<FROM A1> Committees at school level to ensure mask use

Committees made up of officials from the directorates of health and education have been set up in each governorate at the school level to ensure school-children, teachers and staff wear their masks properly. Instructions on how to wear masks properly have been distributed to schools in all parts of the country.

“Wearing a mask is stipulated in the health procedure document approved by the Ministry of Education, in coordination with the Ministry of Health,” said a representative from the Ministry of Education.

Procedures

“This document contains the procedures students must follow from the moment they leave home to go to school, until their return.

“This includes their time on the bus, as well as the procedures bus drivers should follow, such as measuring students’ temperature when they get on the bus, and make sure they wear masks,” he explained.

“These must be repeated when students enter the schools.”

Students whose temperatures

are high will not be allowed to enter the school premises.

Those who don’t have a mask, or are carrying one that is torn or damaged, will be provided one at the school entrance.

Damaged mask

Should a student’s mask also get damaged while he/she is at school, staff will provide him/her with another one. Both students and teachers are required to wear their masks while in class.

“There is awareness among the faculty students on the importance of adhering to precautionary measures, including wearing a mask, washing hands, maintaining a distance of two metres, the importance of students avoiding going to school if they suffer from respiratory symptoms or a high temperature, and others,” he explained.

Explained

The ministry official went on to add, “We have also explained to students when and how they need to wear a mask, how to prevent it from getting wet or dirty, and the harm of exchanging masks with classmates and schoolmates, or while on the bus.”

VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCING

Oman, Tajikistan explore ways to boost bilateral relations

MUSCAT: The first session of political consultations was held via video-conferencing between the Foreign Ministries of the Sultanate and the Republic of Tajikistan on Wednesday.

The Omani side was headed by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Diplomatic Affairs whilst the Tajik side was chaired by Khusrav Noziri, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Tajikistan.

Boost relations

The session explored ways to boost relations of the bilateral cooperation in various fields of mutual interest, in addition to exchanging views on regional and international issues.

It also reviewed the growing relations between the two countries and their future in various political, economic, commercial, scientific and cultural fields, as well as supporting joint investments and activating trade exchange between the two friendly countries.

The two sides expressed keenness to develop and strengthen these relations for the interest of the two friendly countries.

The consultations session was attended by officials from the foreign ministries of the two countries. - **ONA**

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Power Company S.A.O.C (DPC) invites reputable contractor for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.



Tender Reference	DPC/Tender/2020/129
Subject	Supply and Installation of Two Panels of 11kv Switchgears for Power Supply to ROP Projects at Raysut & Saada
Tender Fee	RO. 100.000 Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DPC's office or send an e-mail to below mentioned mail id's for tender document.
Pre-Qualification of Tenderer & Experience	Contractors participating in the tendering process shall be registered electrical contractor with Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) Grade – A Apart from the above, the Contractors participating in the tendering process shall have Competent Electrical Person (CEP) certified by DPC and copy of the valid CEP certificate shall be submitted along with bid without which the bids will not be considered for evaluation. Further, Tenderers will be evaluated as per the HSE qualification criterion specified in the Tender documents The Tenderer should have performed similar works in the last 3 years
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 4 th February 2021
Site Visit	10:00 AM on 7 th February 2021
Last date for seeking pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 10 th February 2021
Last date for providing pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 14 th February 2021
Last date for submission of bids	02:00 PM on 21 st February 2021
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, lawrances@dpcoman.nama.om; praveena@dpcoman.nama.om

Tenderers are requested to note that the bids accompanied with Tender Bond (2% of the quoted bid price and having 150 days validity) shall only be considered for evaluation.



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specialized Companies in the field of tender shown below and registered with **Tender Board**, may obtain tender documents from the website through the following link: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) against non-refundable fees until the end of deadline stipulated abelow.

Tender No	No E- Tender	Description of Tender	Tender Fee	Last date to collect the tender	Tender return date	Grade
PRE/ 21/004	(2021/ MM/QS/56)	Removal and Relaying of Road Markings at Filling Stations Accesses Along Muscat Expressway (E – Tender)	Rial 25	04/02/2021	11/02/2021	First

Tender Conditions :-

- Bidders shall submit their offers electronically accompanied with an electronic copy of abond issued by any local bank in Oman addressed to Muscat municipality. The bond shall be (1%) of the tender value valid for ninety (90) days starting from the date of bids submission. Any tenders which do not meet the required bond shall not be accepted.
- Tender Bonds shall be placed in the Tender Bond Box for E-Tendering in the Ground floor at Muscat Municipality Building, Ruwi, before 10:00 am as per the date Mentioned in the above table. All envelopes are to be clearly marked with the name of the Tender being presented and no other marks.
- For any inquiries regarding tenders, please visit e-tendering website: (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) .
- For technical support of e-tendering system please send an email to (etenderhd@ita.gov.om) or call (+96824166670).



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CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN

Germany extends COVID-19 measures until mid-February

BERLIN: German federal and state governments agreed on Tuesday evening to extend the current COVID-19 measures until at least February 14.

Most shops and schools will remain closed and people will continue to be asked to limit their contacts and stay at home as much as possible for the next few weeks.

The governments also agreed to impose stricter mask rules for people travelling on public transport. Medical masks, namely surgical masks or KN95/N95, FFP2 masks will be required for those on public transport and in shops for better protection.



In addition, the German government has also introduced a temporary ordinance requiring employers to allow employees to work from home when conditions permit.

Germany's disease control agency Robert Koch Institute reported on Tuesday 11,369 new infections

in the past 24 hours, raising the country's total confirmed cases to 2,052,028. The number of coronavirus-linked fatalities rose by 989 to 47,622.

As the world is struggling to contain the pandemic, vaccination is underway in many European countries with the already-authorized coronavirus vaccines.

Meanwhile, 237 candidate vaccines are still being developed worldwide -- 64 of them in clinical trials -- in countries including Germany, China, Russia, Britain and the United States, according to information released by the World Health Organization on January 15. **ANI**

OUTGOING PRESIDENT

US Senator McConnell blames Trump for Capitol riot

WASHINGTON: In the strongest public rebuke of Trump yet, Republican Senator Mitch McConnell opened the Senate on Tuesday by squarely blaming the outgoing president for the events at the Capitol that left at least five dead -- including one police officer. McConnell serves as the Majority Leader in the US Senate, making him the most senior lawmaker in the country.

The supporters of Donald Trump who attacked the US Capitol were "fed lies" and "provoked by the president and other powerful people, and they tried to use fear and violence" in an attempt "to stop and overturn the certification by Congress of Democrat Joe Biden's November 3 election victory," McConnell said. "But we pressed on. We stood together and said an angry mob would not get veto power over the rule of law in our nation, not even for one night," he continued.

Thousands of Trump supporters stormed the Capitol on January 6 following a speech by the president in which he repeated his false claims to have won the election. The mayhem came after weeks of Trump, his Republican allies in Congress and his media surrogates spreading falsehoods about voting integrity.

Strong rebuke

While McConnell long stood by Trump, his Tuesday comments mark a clear break with the outgoing leader. The senator leader vowed a "safe and successful" inauguration of Biden on Wednesday at the Capitol, where some 25,000 armed soldiers are standing guard. **BW**



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STOLEN PAINTING

Jack Ma appears for first time since govt crackdown

BEIJING: Jack Ma, the founder of China's largest e-commerce company Alibaba, on Wednesday made his first public appearance since October when he spoke to a group of teachers online.

The Jack Ma Foundation said in a statement Wednesday, "Jack Ma participated in the online ceremony of the annual Rural Teacher Initiative event on January 20." In a 50-second video, Ma congratulated teachers supported by his foundation. China's highest-profile entrepreneur, however, made no mention of his disappearance from public or the government's efforts to tighten control over his companies.

Speculations over Ma's unusual absence were rife in the wake of news this month that the Alibaba founder was replaced as a judge in a reality TV show.

The billionaire, who is widely respected in China, had not appeared in public since October 24, when he blasted China's financial regulatory system in a speech at a forum in Shanghai. The criticism upset the country's authorities who suspended the planned multibillion-dollar stock market debut of Ant Group, a financial platform that grew out of Alibaba's payments



service, Alipay.

Alibaba's Hong Kong-listed shares jumped over 10% on the news of Ma's reappearance. "Jack Ma's reappearance has given investors peace of mind after a lot of rumors, allowing them to pile into the stock which had been a laggard in the market," Steven Leung, sales director at brokerage UOB Kay Hian in Hong Kong, told a news agency.

Regulatory clampdown

Ant's meteoric rise and dominant role in China's financial landscape has caught the attention of Chinese regulators, who have tried to slow the pace of change. The current scrutiny of Ant Group and Alibaba comes as China closely examines the influence of the country's internet sector. **BW**

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Power Company S.A.O.C (DPC) invites reputable Contractors for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region:

Tender Reference	DPC/Tender/2020/128
Subject	Supply of Potable Water to 14 No's Primary Substations
Tender Fee	RO. 100.000 Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DPC's office or send a mail to below mentioned mail ids.
Pre-Qualification of Tenderer & Experience	The Tenderer should be a registered business owner with proper commercial registration with ministry of commerce. The Tenderer must show previous experience in performing similar jobs in the past
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 4 th February 2021
Last date for submission of bids	02:00 PM on 11 th February 2021
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, lawrances@dpcoman.nama.om; praveena@dpcoman.nama.om

Tenderers are requested to note that the bids accompanied with Tender Bond (2% of the quoted bid price and having 150 days validity) shall only be considered for evaluation.



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Joe Biden sworn in as 46th President of the United States

Biden's deputy Kamala Harris also took oath as the 49th Vice-President in a ceremony held on Wednesday. Prominent guests including former US presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton attended the ceremony on Wednesday



INAUGURATION CEREMONY: The event took place on the West Front of the US Capitol building. — dw

WASHINGTON: Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States on Wednesday. He was sworn in by Chief Supreme Court Justice John Roberts. "I, Joseph Robinette Biden Jr, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and will to the best of my ability," Biden said during his oath.

"To preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. So Help me God," he added. "Congratulations Mr President," said Roberts.

Biden, 78, became the oldest President to be sworn in. He was

Kamala Harris Kamala Harris was also sworn in as the 49th Vice President of United States.

Harris is the first female, first Black and first South Asian vice president. "I Kamala Devi Harris do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic," she said.

"That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. That I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. That I will well and faith-

fully discharge the duties of the office of which I am about to enter," she added.

She was sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

The event took place on the West Front of the US Capitol building a few days after former US President Donald Trump's supporters stormed in, ultimately resulting in the five people.

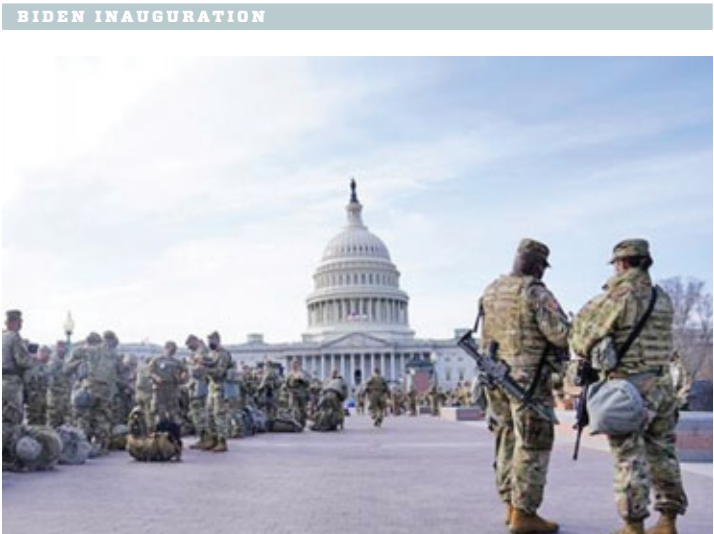
Prominent guests including former US presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton attended the inauguration ceremony.

Donald Trump However, Donald Trump was absent from the ceremony. Trump

left the White House in the morning rather than attend any of the day's events.

Donald Trump has left for his Mar-a-Lago golf club in Palm Beach on Wednesday morning and became the first president skipping his successor's inauguration since 1879 when Andrew Johnson did not attend ceremony for Ulysses S Grant, reported Sputnik.

Outgoing Vice President Mike Pence attended the ceremony after skipping Trump's departure ceremony. The participation of former presidents is tradition to show unity and celebration of a new president. - Agencies



National Guard pulls 12 members from inauguration duty

WASHINGTON: The US military pulled twelve US Army National Guard members from the presidential inauguration, officials said on Tuesday, claiming the reservists had been found to have ties with right-wing militia groups or to have posted extremist views online.

Washington is bracing for potential violence during Joe Biden's inauguration on Wednesday following the deadly riot on the Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump.

The city has been placed in virtual lockdown, with concrete blockades, barbed wire and up to 25,000 National Guard troops patrolling its streets.

Most of them are tasked with protecting a mostly inaccessible "red zone" around the White House and Capitol — where President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris will take their oaths of office.

US defense officials have been worried about a potential insider attack or other threat from service members in wake of the riots. In response to those concerns, the FBI had announced it would be conducting background checks on all the visiting National Guard

troops to further identify potential security risks.

We "want to make sure that we have the right people in the security bubble," General William Walker, head of the National Guard in Washington, told a US broadcaster on Monday.

Abundance of caution The suspect Guard members were sent home "out of an abundance of caution," Pentagon spokesperson Jonathan Hoffman said, noting that not all 12 of them were found to have extremist group ties.

One soldier was removed after troubling text messages were discovered and another guardsman had been reported to a tip line, Army General Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, told reporters.

The other 10 were flagged for various potential issues that may involve previous criminal activity but are not directly related to the inaugural event.

Acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller said in a statement Monday that the Pentagon has found no intelligence so far that would indicate an insider threat and no active plots against Biden have been revealed. dw

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TEST SERIES

Gabba win an icing on cake as India conquered Aussies

NEW DELHI: Moments before India registered an epic draw in the third Test against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground, skipper Tim Paine engaged in a verbal duel with R Ashwin. “Can’t wait for you to reach Gabba, Ash (Ravichandran Ashwin),” Paine said, keeping in mind that the hosts had last lost a game at their fortress back in November 1988.

Being undefeated for 32 years at a single venue gave Paine a sense of pride which bordered on arrogance. The injury woes in the Indian ranks only compounded the problems for the visitors as pundits started questioning if Ajinkya Rahane and boys’ reluctance to play at The Gabba was indeed due to strict quarantine rules or an attempt to avoid a defeat at the Brisbane Cricket Ground. India had already lost Ravindra Jadeja and Hanuma Vihari in the third Test and on the first morning of the final game, it was clear that Jasprit Bumrah and Ravichandran Ashwin wasn’t available. But newbies like Washington Sundar, T Natarajan, and Shardul Thakur showed it is not always about the experience and at times it is also about the urge to punch above the weight. Chasing 328 to win in the final innings on a Gabba wicket without Virat Kohli in the ranks is no



CHAMPIONS: Indian squad with the Border Gavaskar Trophy after winning the 4th test match and the series, at the Gabba on Tuesday.

mean feat. As far as cricketing sense goes, one can say, you need a century from at least one batter if you have to chase a total of 328. But this Indian team showed that if everyone contributes in their own manner, the biggest mountain can be climbed and the flag hoisted. Shubman Gill’s 91, Rishabh Pant’s 89, Cheteshwar Pujara’s 56 are some of the notable performances, but Washington Sundar’s

22 and Ajinkya Rahane’s 24 have the same weight if you look at the context of their innings. In the course of the final innings, Pujara who is being termed as “The Warrior”, was hit on his body multiple times. But the resolve he showed after being hit, was one for the ages. Josh Hazlewood’s delivery that hit Pujara on the helmet, may have thrown many out of their groove, but a single stare from the

Indian batter can be seen as a “major highlight of the series”. Gill and Pant showed the exuberance of youth and how this team is the true ambassador of new India which doesn’t believe in giving up without a fight. Cricketing sense would have made most of the teams go for a draw and retain the trophy, but these youngsters showed that when one can go for glory, one shouldn’t be happy with

a consolation price. This Gabba win helped India retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against all odds, and this will definitely go down as one of the greatest Test series win ever recorded in cricketing history. Before the start of the four-match series against Australia, regular skipper Virat Kohli famously remarked “my personality is a representation of new India where we want to take up challenges and move forward with optimism”, but immediately after, the team was bundled out for 36 and Kohli and boys had to suffer a humiliating loss at Adelaide. This loss forced most of the pundits to predict that the visitors will go down 4-0 Down Under. However, Kohli’s quote can be understood better now that the series has been played out and it gives a whole new context to what he meant. How many would have won a series after being annihilated and not having their main batsman in the line-up? Kohli departed from Australia after being granted paternity leave, but Ajinkya Rahane, a silent assassin, carried the baton ahead and under his leadership, this Indian team showed what resolve and grit is all about. Rahane rose to the challenge and went on to play a match-winning knock at Melbourne as the visi-

tors levelled the series in the second Test. After being bundled out for 36, the Indian line-up showed great character to turn the tables on the hosts who were riding high after the win in the first Test. Indian bowlers went on like workhorses in the second Test, and the absence of Mohammad Shami was not felt as Mohammed Siraj came in and he showed the world that the newbie is here to stay. Siraj had lost his father before the start of the Australian series, but he stayed back to fulfill the dream of his father, and now as the series is over, his father would be smiling from above and he cannot be more proud. There are many stories of “rags to riches”, but Siraj was rich with blessings the moment he decided to stay back in Australia to fulfil his father’s dream. After Melbourne Test, came Sydney. Before the Test, Australian media and fans went berserk and they started targetting the Indian line-up. Firstly, a mountain was made out of a molehill when five Indian players including Rohit Sharma were seen eating at a restaurant in Melbourne. All five were sent in further isolation and the Australian media went all out regarding an alleged “breach of bio-bubble”. **ANI**

Leicester beat Chelsea, top Premier League table

With 19 matches played, Leicester are top with 38 points, one ahead of Manchester United



2-0 WIN: Leicester City will now take on Brentford in the FA Cup on Sunday while Chelsea will face Luton Town in FA Cup.

LEICESTER: Leicester City have secured the top spot on the Premier League standings after an impressive 2-0 win over Chelsea here. With 19 matches played, Leicester are top with 38 points, one ahead of Manchester United, who have played a match fewer and face Fulham on Wednesday. Wilfred Ndidi scored the opening goal of the match, putting Leicester City ahead in the sixth minute. Jamie Vardy’s scooped effort was then kept out on 34 minutes thanks to a touch from Blues goalkeeper Edouard Mendy. James Maddison doubled the advantage for Leicester City in the 41st minute. Leicester City then managed to maintain their 2-0 lead throughout as they claimed three points from the game. While Leicester City’s third consecutive win powered them to the top of the table, Chelsea are now struggling in the eighth posi-

tion with 29 points. Leicester City will now take on Brentford in the FA Cup on Sunday while Chelsea will face Luton Town in FA Cup. Leicester City manager Brendan Rodgers has said that his side will not get “carried away” after securing the top spot on the Premier League table, stressing that they will have to keep working hard. “It means that we are playing well, consistently, so that’s nice. We’re taking our training mentality into the games,” the club’s official website quoted Rodgers as saying.

“I said at the beginning of the season that this is a team that just needs patience and they just need consistency. They’ve been showing that, but we’re not getting carried away. It’s fantastic, it’s a really good start for us, but there’s so much work to do now in the second part of the season, which we’re happy to do,” he added. Reflecting on the team’s performance, Rodgers said his players were excellent and produced a “very good” performance. “It was a very good performance, playing against a really talented team, an outstanding

team, but I thought the players were excellent. [They] showed, through all the lines of the pitch, a great quality and real good defensive organisation. It was a really tough game, but we came through it really well,” he said. “In terms of result, it’s a very good result and performance level, off the back of a tough game at the weekend as well. When you play Chelsea, you know they’re going to really work you, but I thought we showed a really good aggression in the game and a good desire and scored two good goals,” Rodgers added. **ANI**

ICC RANKINGS

Pant becomes top-ranked wicket-keeper in ICC batting list

DUBAI: India wicket-keeper batsman Rishabh Pant and England skipper Joe Root have made considerable gains in the latest ICC men’s Test player rankings after their match-winning performances in Brisbane and Galle respectively. Left-hander Pant’s unbeaten 89 on the last day in Brisbane guided India to a sensational three-wicket victory over Australia and that sees him attain a career-best 13th position to become the top-ranked wicketkeeper in the batting rankings. South Africa’s Quinton de Kock is the next wicketkeeper in the list in 15th position. Root, a formerly top-ranked batsman, has returned to the top five with his highest rating points tally (738) in two years after scoring a first-innings 228 to help England win the first Test against Sri Lanka by seven wickets. Root has advanced six places, overtaking the likes of Pakistan’s Babar Azam and India’s Cheteshwar Pujara in the process. Shubman Gill continued his upward trajectory, moving from 68th to 47th after a crucial 91 in the second innings, Cheteshwar Pujara progressed one place to seventh position after his dogged effort and Mohammad Siraj jumped 32 places to 45th position after

taking six wickets in the match, including a five-wicket haul in the second innings. Australia batsman Marnus Labuschagne’s first-innings century took him past Virat Kohli to third position with a career-best 878 rating points, captain Tim Paine moved up three spots to 42nd after scores of 50 and 27 while fast bowler Josh Hazlewood leapfrogged New Zealander Tim Southee to the fourth spot after grabbing six wickets in the match, including a haul of five for 57 in the first innings. Debutant Washington Sundar and Shardul Thakur too had something to cheer about after useful efforts with both bat and ball. Sundar entered the rankings in 82nd (batting) and 97th (bowling) positions, while Thakur re-entered the batting list in 113th position and the bowling list in 65th position. England spinners Jack Leach and Dominic Bess made notable progress after their five-wicket hauls in Galle. Leach’s second innings return of five for 122 lifted him three places to 40th while Bess’s first innings analysis of five for 30 took him from 67th to 50th. Jonny Bairstow (up five places to 58th in batting) and Sam Curran (up two places to 39th in bowling) also gained places. **ANI**

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Azam stars in big victory for ISM; ISWK and MCCC Yellow win too

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Azam Ali’s splendid all-round performance powered Indian School Muscat (ISM) to a thumping 118-run victory against Boshers Sports Centre (BSC) B in a Junior League Under-19 50-over League clash at OC Turf 2 in Amerat on Saturday. ISM posted a hefty 288 for 8 on the board, thanks to brilliant batting by Azam (71), Ayman Ayaz (60) and Shannugarajan Kuttiraja (47). Pranjal Verma claimed 3 for 40. Nobody except Yash Yogesh (53) batted with authority as BSC crawled to 170 for 7 in 50 overs. Azam Ali picked up 3 for 20 while Mithil and Arjun Rajesh took two wickets each. **Brief Scores** (Junior League U-19): ISM 288 for 8 in 50 overs (Abbas Ajay 118 – 13x4, Chaitra Jitesh 78 – 12x4, Atul Kumar 49 – 4x4) beat MCCC Blue in a Junior League Under-16 30-over League game at Muscat Municipality ground 1. Abbas’s magnificent century and top knocks by Chaitra Jitesh (78) and Atul Kumar (49) powered



Dhyani Deepak of MCCC Yellow

53 – 6x4, Azam Ali 3-20, Mithil 2-19, Arjun Suresh 2-31). **Abbas helps ISWK to win** In another Under-16 match, Dhyani Deepak’s whirlwind 36 off 17 steered MCCC Yellow to an emphatic 10-wicket victory against Sri Lankan School Muscat (SLSM) at Muscat Municipality ground 1. Chasing SLSM’s 66, MCCC Yellow raced to the target in only 5.1 overs, scoring 67 without loss. Openers Dhyani and Aaryan Nishit (27) remained not out. **Brief Scores** (Junior League

ISWK to an imposing 272 for 2. MCCC Blue failed to rise to the occasion, managing a disappointing 131 for 6 in 30 overs. Only Prathiesh Hema played well, scoring 37 as Sidh Mehta and Abbas Ajay claimed two wickets each. **Brief Scores** (Junior League U-16): ISWK 272 for 2 in 30 overs (Abbas Ajay 118 – 13x4, Chaitra Jitesh 78 – 12x4, Atul Kumar 49 – 4x4) beat MCCC Blue 131 for 6 in 30 overs (Prathiesh Hema 37 – 3x4, Siddh Mehta 2-31, Abbas Ajay 2-37) by 141 runs. **MCCC Yellow thrash SLSM** In another Under-16 match, Dhyani Deepak’s whirlwind 36 off 17 steered MCCC Yellow to an emphatic 10-wicket victory against Sri Lankan School Muscat (SLSM) at Muscat Municipality ground 1. Chasing SLSM’s 66, MCCC Yellow raced to the target in only 5.1 overs, scoring 67 without loss. Openers Dhyani and Aaryan Nishit (27) remained not out. **Brief Scores** (Junior League

U-16): SLSM 66 all out in 28.1 overs (Puladith Omidu Medagoda 24 – 1x4, Aum Nrupen Kanani 2-1, Muhammed Hamza 2-5) lost to MCCC Yellow 67 for 0 in 5.1 overs (Dhyani Deepak 36 – 8x4, Aaryan Nishit 27 – 5x4) by 10 wickets. **Brief Scores** (Junior League – U-13): ISWK-B 67 for 9 in 20 overs (Naitik Tusharkumar 12, Arjun Swamy 5-5) lost to MCCC Blue 71 for 0 in 7.4 overs (Mark Mathews 42 – 6x4, Pushkar Maheshwari 12 – 2x4) by 10 wickets. **Brief Scores** (Junior League – U-13): ISM 187 for 4 in 20 overs (Pachisia Ojjus 63 – 9x4, Patel Dhyani Navin 51 – 1x4, Basharat Abyan Basharat 42 – 3x4, Hadi Mohammed 2-39) beat MCCC Red 89 for 6 in 20 overs (Shravan Sharat 41 – 2x4) by 98 runs. **Brief Scores** (Junior League – U-13): PSM 125 for 8 in 20 overs (Asad Kashif 54 – 6x4, 1x6, Saumya Bhavin 2-15, Mohammad Azeel 2-18) lost to ISWK-A 126 (Nilaksh Vats 50 – 8x4, Ayush Shetty 49 – 7x4) by 9 wickets.

SECOND LEVEL COURSE

Oman Cricket Club Salalah conducts umpiring course

Times News Service

SALALAH: Oman Cricket Club-Salalah successfully completed second level course for umpires in Salalah. The course was conducted by A R Srinivasan, level 2 accredited educator in Oman. He has been involved with Oman Cricket for more than 30 years in various roles. Anil Kumar, Secretary of Oman Cricket Club-Salalah thanked Srinivasan for doing online sessions during the lockdown and covering the course in detail which helped umpires in Salalah to learn the basics of the game. The course commenced with Srinivasan giving an introduction to the participants and informing them about the requirements to be followed during the course in view of the COVID-19 regulations. Temperatures of all the members were checked to ensure their safety. All participants were instructed to use masks except dur-

ing tea and lunch breaks and requested to abstain from attending classes if having fever/cold. 22 umpires successfully completed this course out of which 7 were already certified in 2016 and attended the session to refresh only. Four other umpires could not attend as they had to leave Salalah due to personal emergencies. The course was conducted at Olympic Trading hall from January 7 until Jan 9, 2021 with exams conducted on the last day. All the participants were given the Certificate of Participation at the end of the course and the umpires were informed that the Certificate of Completion will be issued only after successfully passing the exams and officiating for one complete season. On the final day, Mayur Toprani, Treasurer Oman Cricket Club Salalah, Hiten Dave and Mohammed Wasim, members Oman Cricket Club-Salalah were present along with Anil Kumar Secretary, Oman Cricket Club Salalah.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by March 2020 reaching \$56.23, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman rose by \$1.17 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$55.06. - OMA

MARKE

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSM index closed at 3,715.81 points, up 0.98 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 0.47 per cent at 531.95 points. Al Madina Investment, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Phoenix Power, down 3.70 per cent, was the top loser.

Asyad-managed ports witness 17% increase in direct imports



At the outset of the pandemic, Asyad managed to maintain an efficient supply chain to sustain the delivery of critical and essential cargo to the local market

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Asyad-managed ports of Port Sultan Qaboos and Ports of Khasab, Suwaiq and Shinas, witnessed a 17 per cent increase in direct imports compared to 2019, managing to handle one million and 722,000 tonnes of general cargo during the period from January to December 2020.

The surge in the volume of direct imports included 245,000 tonnes of fruits and vegetables and 954,000 heads of cattle handled through MARAFI, recording a four-fold and three-fold growth of 381 per cent and 181 per cent respectively against 2019.

The commercial vessels rose to 4,350, a rise of 5 per cent in the number of ships in 2020 versus 2019. The cruise vessels decreased by 72 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, which caused cruising lines to suspend their operations worldwide.

At the outset of the pandemic, Asyad managed to maintain an efficient supply chain to sustain the delivery of critical and essential cargo to the local market; particularly the food supply. With the opening of new markets as well as direct import and exports, goods were delivered cheaper and faster and Oman has become well connected to the major trade hubs.



DIRECT IMPORTS: The surge in the volume of direct imports included 245,000 tonnes of fruits and vegetables and 954,000 heads of cattle handled through MARAFI, recording a four-fold and three-fold growth of 381 per cent and 181 per cent respectively over 2019. - OMA

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



CBO bond issue gets overwhelming response

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) said that it has received an overwhelming response from investors for its 66th issue of Government Development Bonds (GDB) worth OMR100 million.

In a statement issued by CBO's Monetary Operations Department said that it has received applications in excess of over OMR49.619 million at OMR149.619 million, as against the issue value of OMR100 million.

The average yield was 4.86 per cent at an equivalent price of OMR99.695, while the highest yield was 5.03 per cent at an equivalent price of OMR99.230 and the lowest was at 4.55 per cent at an equivalent price of OMR100.555.

The three-years bonds will be issued on January 20, 2021 (Wednesday) and it will mature on January 20, 2024, carrying a coupon rate of 4.75 per cent per annum. The issue was open for subscription from January 10 to 17, 2021. - OMA

JOINT VENTURE

New logo for Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries unveiled

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's OQ and Kuwait Petroleum International (Q8) unveiled OQ8, the new brand for the Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries.

Duqm Refinery, a mega-project refinery, petrochemical plant and pipeline, is a joint venture between OQ of Oman and Q8 (Kuwait International Petroleum Company), owned by Kuwait Petroleum Corporation. The joint venture aims to build a world-class refinery using proven technology to provide high-quality products that are in line with international safety standards and efficiency levels. The design of the refinery, which has a capacity of 230,000 barrels per day, is based on the Hydrogen Cracking Unit (HCR) and the Delayed Coker Unit (DCU). The refinery can process all types of oil. Upon operation, the refinery will produce liquefied petroleum gas, naphtha, jet fuel, diesel, sulphur and coke.

The new logo represents the close relationship between the two countries and the inherent brotherhood between the two nations. The pair of colours tell a much greater story. Centuries before Oman and Kuwait embarked on the OQ8 project, the duo already shared a long history of maritime trade. From small, early sailing vessels, the two enjoyed their earliest cooperation, exchanging goods, and getting to



The new logo represents the close relationship between Oman and Kuwait and the inherent brotherhood between the two nations. - Supplied picture

know each other across the seas. In those early days, shallower, turquoise waters would have meant safety.

As trust between the two grew, both were able to venture into deeper waters, to seek larger, more diverse markets. Today, as great ships prepare to sail forth from OQ8 in the emerging global energy hub of Duqm to carry products to markets around the world, they will begin their journey in the turquoise waters of the Arabian Sea, eventually reach the deep blue of the Indian Ocean, as they head towards their ultimate destination.

During the construction phase of the refinery, the project involved the local community in a number of introductory meetings about the impact the project will have in particular. They were also introduced to the efforts made by the OQ8 to bring many benefits to the local community.

"The consistency between Q8 and OQ strategies in managing the Duqm Refinery Project is strong evidence on the collaboration of our efforts to achieve development and growth for our nations. Since the launch of this project, we have seen the constant growth and development of Duqm Economic Zone and being one of the key industrial hubs in the Gulf region.

"Such a partnership will ensure us a safe channel for exporting the Kuwaiti oil besides creating a considerable number of job opportunities for Omani and Kuwaiti youth. The company is expected to attract talents and play a role in preparing future leaders in both countries, said Sheikh Nawaf Saud Al-Nasser Al-Sabah, CEO of Kuwait International Petroleum and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company.

CONSTRUCTION



Groundbreaking ceremony of Raysut Cement's waste heat recovery system held

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Raysut Cement Company (RCC), Oman's largest cement manufacturer, held a groundbreaking ceremony triggering the start of the construction of its new 9MW waste heat recovery system in its main plant in Salalah, Oman.

The development of 9MW waste heat recovery system, a strategic expansion for the Muscat Stock Market-listed RCC will complement the company's leadership in cement manufacturing because it will support the company's commitment for the reduction of carbon footprint by generating the power via utilising the waste hot gases from the existing plant.

The groundbreaking is a milestone for RCC. It will contribute

significantly to our ambitious targets such as on reducing power consumption capacity by 25 per cent - 30 per cent, reduction in CO2 emission and above all significant reduction in water consumption (reduction by more than 50 per cent of regular water consumption) resulting to direct environmental benefit and making the manufacturing process more energy efficient.

This project is considered one of the most important projects for supporting go green initiative, which will help the company to continue its high production capacity and at a lower energy cost.

Raysut Cement Company has engaged SINOMA Overseas Development Co., Ltd, China as an EPC contractor which has a long experience in this type of project.

STRATEGIC PROJECT

First phase of Maysan-Square Duqm launched

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Maysan Properties launched the first phase of the 'Maysan Square - Duqm' project, which consists of an office complex, residential apartments, a business hotel, entertainment venues and many other facilities that will be constructed in stages according to the growing demand in the Special Economic Zone of Duqm.

The event was held in Muscat City Centre in Seeb under the patronage of Eng. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Dheeb, Deputy Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones. The Chief Executive Officer of Maysan Properties, Sadiq bin Jaffer Sulaiman stated that the first phase of the constructions will commence in the coming April, and is expected to be completed in the last quarter of 2022, explaining that the first phase consists of an office complex consisting of 3 wings and comprising 229 commercial units and retail stores available for ownership under the usufruct system. The complex will be built on a plot of 12,000 square metres, while the building area is 30,000 metres.

In his speech, he added that the growth witnessed by the Special Economic Zone of Duqm encouraged the company to invest in the region, and it is expected that real es-



STRATEGIC PROJECT: The first phase of the constructions will commence in April, and is expected to be completed in the last quarter of 2022. - Supplied picture

tate activity will increase due to the expected growth of Duqm. He also added, the growth of the real estate market in any region requires business opportunities, growth in company establishment and population growth, and all of these factors are available in the Special Economic Zone of Duqm, so Duqm is seen as a promising real estate market for the next five years.

From his side, Engineer Yahya bin Khamis Al Zadjali, in-charge of managing operations of the Special Economic Zone of Duqm, said that the project is one of the real estate projects that are consistent with the vision of the Special Eco-

nomi Zone in Duqm in encouraging Omani companies to invest in the zone, noting that over the past years, Duqm has attracted many real estate projects that are characterised by innovative designs that contribute at the same time to meeting the demand for office and housing solutions.

The Maysan-Square Duqm project is strategically located in the centre of Duqm, 10 minutes away from the port and 15 minutes from Duqm Airport. Office prices range between OMR27,000 Omani and OMR50,000 Omani according to their space that varies between 45 metres and 75 metres. The pro-

ject will be equipped with security systems, central air conditioning, and smart management of parking lots and waste, with the provision of office furnishing service upon request. The CEO of Maysan Properties said that safety and civil defence measures had been approved, and the site plot has had geological studied and its soil was examined.

He pointed out that priority is given to the citizens of Al Wusta Governorate in general to own in the project as it was agreed with the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zone to allocate an entire floor of the project to be marketed to the next



March, besides giving them preferential prices, and the main contractors are directed to prioritise using Duqm made materials in the

constructions works. The company will also start a marketing campaign for the project targeting regional and international markets such as the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Maysan Properties is a closed joint stock company, established in 2018 by Omani investors with expertise in the construction, real estate development and retail sectors. Since its inception, the company has implemented the 'Rose Village' project in 'Muscat Hills' and 'Orchid Residence' in Al Mawaleh. The company is expected to deliver most of its projects during 2021.

MARKET

MSM index ends higher

Al Madina Investment, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Phoenix Power, down 3.70 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,715.81 points, up 0.98 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 0.47 per cent at 531.95 points. Al Madina Investment, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while Phoenix Power, down 3.70 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Al Madina Takaful was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded and Bank Muscat was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 898 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR2.48 million, with more than 15.96 million shares changing hands. Out of 42 traded stocks, 16 advanced, 8 declined and 18 remained unchanged. At the session close, local Investors were net sellers for OMR258,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net buyers for

OMR199,000 followed by foreign investors for OMR58,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 5,654.15 points, up by 0.74 per cent. Al Madina Investment, Oman Qatar Insurance, Al Sharqia Investment, Al Madina and Takaful, United Finance were up by 9.09 per cent, 5.68 per cent, 4.17 per cent, 3.90 per cent, and 2.17 per cent respectively. Bank Nizwa and Bank Muscat were down by 1.03 per cent and 0.99 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 4,608.14 points, up 1.38 per cent. Galfar Engineering, Jazeera Steel, Al Anwar Ceramic and Al Maha Ceramics were up by 8.16 per cent, 5.05 per cent, 2.81 per cent, and 0.40 per cent respectively.

Services index was up by 0.24 per cent before closing at 1,622.78 points. — United Securities

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

OMAN STOCKS

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSM 30 INDEX	3,715.91	3,681.27	3,715.81	3,679.68	36.13	0.98
FINANCIAL INDEX	5,654.15	5,615.05	5,654.15	5,612.88	41.27	0.74
Services Index	1,618.77	1,618.93	1,622.78	1,618.93	3.85	0.24
Industry Index	4,615.13	4,564.38	4,608.14	4,545.23	62.91	1.38
MSM Shariah Index	533.48	530.62	531.95	529.46	2.49	0.47
MSM TR INDEX	4,240.69	4,201.16	4,240.58	4,199.35	41.23	0.98

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
15,961,540	2,488,158	898	20,302,705,101	16	8	18	42

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST RD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
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REGULAR MARKET

OM0000003234	RENAISSANCE SER.	759,368	270,889	47	0.350	0.386	0.350	0.356	0.340	0.016	4.706	0.366	0.364	0.362	0.100	84,161,960
OM0000003440	AL SHARQIA INV.	1,555,457	117,133	90	0.074	0.077	0.073	0.075	0.072	0.003	4.167	0.076	0.075	0.079	0.100	6,750,000
OM0000003276	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	345,120	78,663	58	0.223	0.232	0.220	0.227	0.218	0.009	4.128	0.220	0.220	0.222	0.100	28,351,837
OM0000003968	OQEDDOO	349,892	146,706	63	0.410	0.422	0.410	0.418	0.408	0.010	2.451	0.418	0.416	0.418	0.100	272,094,688
OM0000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	345,000	32,775	16	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.083	0.002	2.151	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	231,278,140
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	189,401	50,554	9	0.270	0.270	0.265	0.266	0.261	0.005	1.916	0.270	0.270	0.275	0.100	88,012,141
OM0000001772	AL ANWAR HOLDING	748,400	51,275	39	0.088	0.089	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.001	1.493	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.100	13,600,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	215,281	68,890	6	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.316	0.004	1.266	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.100	258,487,145
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	59,146	43,627	21	0.728	0.740	0.728	0.736	0.728	0.008	1.099	0.740	0.740	0.748	0.100	552,000,000
OM0000003005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	64,150	16,193	15	0.253	0.253	0.251	0.252	0.251	0.001	0.398	0.252	0.250	0.252	0.100	13,860,000
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	51,200	15,972	3	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.000	0.000	0.310	0.280	0.310	0.100	62,000,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST&FIN.	992,077	92,212	48	0.093	0.094	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.092	0.093	0.100	18,400,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	151,158	6,500	9	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.000	0.000	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.100	13,207,282
OM0000003077	AL OMANIYA FINS.	382,478	25,091	34	0.069	0.070	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	20,143,227
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,215,651	486,481	45	0.400	0.402	0.400	0.400	0.404	-0.004	-0.990	0.400	0.400	0.408	0.100	1,299,939,016
Total		7,403,779	1,502,862	503												

Parallel Market

OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	10,000	240	1	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.022	0.002	9.091	0.024	0.023	0.024	0.100	4,971,633
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	2,166,720	114,836	57	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.049	0.004	8.163	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.100	15,368,974
OM0000003679	OMAN QATAR INSUR.	35,900	3,341	4	0.092	0.094	0.090	0.093	0.088	0.005	5.882	0.090	0.090	0.092	0.100	9,300,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	3,966,208	288,571	122	0.079	0.082	0.079	0.080	0.077	0.003	3.896	0.081	0.081	0.084	0.100	14,000,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	526,888	156,344	28	0.287	0.286	0.287	0.286	0.285	0.011	3.860	0.304	0.302	0.304	0.100	87,679,250
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	167,285	17,403	9	0.102	0.105	0.102	0.104	0.101	0.003	2.970	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.100	311,620,549
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	43,021	30,115	11	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.000	0.000	0.700	0.696	0.700	0.100	110,250,000
OM0000001426	OMAN REFRIGERANT	789	927	1	1.215	1.215	1.215	1.105	1.105	0.000	0.000	1.215	1.215	0.000	0.100	42,250,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	99,678	14,553	12	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.000	0.000	0.146	0.146	0.160	0.100	237,388,168
OM0000001562	OMAN FISHERIES	112,500	9,699	6	0.086	0.088	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.088	0.088	0.090	0.100	10,750,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMBRATES HO.	37,865	1,701	5	0.045	0.045	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.000	0.000	0.045	0.044	0.046	0.100	5,362,500
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDSTR	50,000	22,500	5	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.000	0.000	0.450	0.428	0.450	0.100	40,365,000
OM0000002036	Muscat Thread MILL	2,242	161	2	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.000	0.072	0.000	0.072	0.100	1,257,168
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	3,000	375	1	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.121	0.121	0.000	0.000	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.100	199,608,553
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	51,300	2,401	9	0.047	0.047	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.046	0.045	0.046	0.100	16,060,643
OM0000003000	AL MAHA MARKETING	3,500	2,940	2	0.640	0.640	0.640	0.672	0.672	0.000	0.000	0.640	0.640	0.672	0.100	46,368,000
OM0000003265	NAT. DETERGENT	109	73	1	0.672	0.672	0.672	0.672	0.672	0.000	0.000	0.672	0.672	0.000	0.100	11,432,400
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	530	24	1	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.000	0.000	0.045	0.000	0.045	0.100	9,945,450
OM0000004925	ALBATHINAH POWER	5,500	276	2	0.050	0.051	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.050	0.051	0.100	33,744,372
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	70,544	3,623	6	0.091	0.092	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.091	0.092	0.100	36,434,723
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	631,700	165,416	58	0.265	0.265	0.255	0.261	0.262	-0.001	-0.382	0.255	0.255	0.260	0.100	15,979,315
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	579,795	56,165	18	0.096	0.097	0.096	0.096	0.097	-0.001	-1.031	0.097	0.097	0.100	0.100	244,000,000
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	243,000	21,599	23	0.091	0.091	0.087	0.088	0.089	-0.001	-1.124	0.087	0.086	0.088	0.100	1,954,288
OM0000004735	SEMBAKORP SALALAH	30,000	2,850	1	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.097	-0.002	-2.062	0.095	0.095	0.097	0.100	90,684,335
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	6,000	558	1	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.096	-0.003	-3.125	0.093	0.093	0.095	0.100	11,160,000
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	43,881	2,287	7	0.054	0.054	0.052	0.052	0.052	-0.002	-3.704	0.053	0.052	0.053	0.100	76,055,276
Total		8,487,929	917,978	393												

S&P REPORT

Top-tier Indian banks lead digital change

SINGAPORE: India's digital disruption poses a relatively low risk to the longstanding market position of its top-tier banks, S&P Global Ratings said.

In a report titled 'Tech Disruption in Retail Banking,' it said COVID-19 restrictions have been a boost for Unified Payment Interface (UPI). The value of transactions processed via the UPI almost doubled in June to

November 2020 from the same period a year ago.

"We expect this shift in consumer preferences to remain. Rising smartphone penetration, increasing internet connectivity, and the young, tech-savvy demographic segment present vast opportunities in India for existing banks and new players."

The Reserve Bank of India and the government have also been piv-

otal in laying the foundation and raising the bar for the development of fintech in the country, said S&P. Many banks in India have been quick to embrace new technologies to cater to a vast and growing, young, tech-savvy customer base.

Some non-bank financial companies have made considerable traction in having technology-led banking solutions omnipresent in their core business models. —ANI

ASSET QUALITY

Banking systems in emerging markets face deterioration

SINGAPORE: Banking systems in emerging markets face the expected deterioration in asset quality indicators as regulatory forbearance measures are lifted while vaccine rollouts in several countries continue, S&P Global Ratings said.

It said there remains a high degree of uncertainty about the evolution of coronavirus pandemic and its economic effects. Widespread immunisation, which certain countries might achieve by mid-year, will help pave the way for a return to more normal levels of social and economic activity.

"But we expect non-performing loans to continue increasing and cost of risk to stabilise at high levels as central banks start to remove regulatory forbearance measures in some of the markets where such measures were implemented and banks start recognising the full extent of asset quality deterioration."

Like peers in developed markets, said S&P, emerging markets central banks acted swiftly through a combination of lifting some regulatory requirements (particularly for problem loans recognition) and liquidity injection to help banks cope with the severe economic contractions. —ANI



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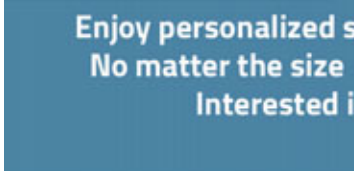
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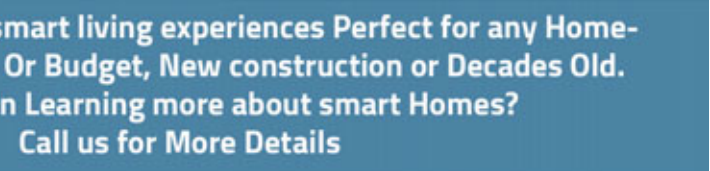
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5000 BEDSPACE AVAILABLE Quarantine Facility also available

Staff Accommodation Separate / Dry stores / Land rent. Gold Store / Parking yard / Workshop area / Laundry Ladies Accommodation in separate camp Catering services with site delivery

With Covid-19 protocol we are providing 100, 300, 500, 1000 ACCOMMODATION BY SEPERATE BLOCKS

E-mail: mjm968@yahoo.com
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94 900 800

WAREHOUSE
For Rent/ Sale
1000 SQM in Al Ansab, Bousher & Misfah.
Direct from owner
Contact 92951654, 99332902

FOR RENT
Super Deluxe 1, 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Panasonic VRF A/Cs, Free centralize gas, Kitchen appliances, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system, Free Unlimited High Speed Fiber Optic WiFi & Secured Car Park.
Behind Mazoun Complex, Ruwi
Fully Furnished Apartment Also Available
Contact: 96707247 or 24704141

FOR RENT
Deluxe 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Split A/Cs, Fixed wardrobes, Kitchen appliances, Free Unlimited Broadband WiFi, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system & Secured car park.
Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj
Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-
Fully Furnished Apartment And Transport For Office Also Available
Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

FOR RENT
Super Deluxe 1, 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Ducted VRF A/Cs. Free centralize gas, Built in wardrobes, Kitchen appliances, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system, Free Unlimited High Speed Fiber Optic WiFi & Secured car park.
Next to Sri Lankan School Wadi Kabir
Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-
Fully Furnished Apartment and Transport for Office also available
Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

FOR RENT
3 BHK Penthouse Flat with Split A/Cs, Free Unlimited Broadband WiFi, Security access system, Pvt. Terrace & Secured car park.
Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj
Contact: 99657906 or 24702141

FOR RENT

Unfurnished single room available Sharing Bathroom Kitchen. Al Khuwair RO 95 all inclusive. Contact 71463870

Al Athaiba - 2BHK near Al Zubair Motors Rent RO 250/- Contact 99879939

Ruwi Al Falaj - 2BHK with AC's Rent RO 260/- Contact 99879939

Qurum heights - Luxury 3BHK 170sm, swimming pool + Gym Rent RO 500/- Contact 99879939

Ruwi Heights - Near Kims hospital/ Gulf Nursery, 3BHK with AC's Rent RO 260/- Contact 99879939

Warehouses, flats available in Ghala near Bridgestone tyres. Ghala Contact 99349311

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NRI
Residential Plot for Sale in Udumalpet. 74 Cents. Near IDBI Bank. Palladam Road. Contact +91 9994375419.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement of Capital Reduction

In accordance with the provisions of Article 150 of the commercial Companies law. The company Oman data Park(SAOC) which is registered with the Commercial Registration No 1130280, hereby announces that it is going to reduce its capital from Omani Rials 4,750,000.000 to 1,750,000.000. Whoever has any objection to the foregoing shall present the reasons for such objection to the Secretariat of Commercial registry at the Ministry of Commerce & Industry within 30 days from date hereof.

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Used Bio Medical Equipments For Sale

- 1) Operation Theatre Equipments
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- 5) ENT Unit & Ob and Gyne Items
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4. ELECTRICAL SUPERVISOR - 5

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6. COOK (ARABIC AND CONTINENTAL) - 1
7. HVAC TECHNICIAN - 2

8. HDPE TECHNICIAN - 2

9. ELECTRICIAN CUM PLUMBER - 2

10. WELDER - 2

11. ALUMINIUM AND STEEL FABRICATOR - 2

Interested candidates with GCC experience only need to apply,
E Mail: info@dggrouppoman.com / manager@dggrouppoman.com

Preference will be given to the candidates currently available in Oman
with NOC and valid GCC driving License.

REQUIRED URGENTLY

- Electrical Works:**
- 1) **Electrician (DCRP License holder):** Minimum 3 years of experience in ITI or vocational Electrical training along with a secondary certificate.

2) **Cable jointer Technician (License holder):** Cable jointer certificate (issued by Raychem or REPL) along with technical certificate & secondary certificate, Minimum 5 years of experience.

- Aluminium Fabrication:**
- 1) **Production Supervisor:** Minimum 5 + years of GCC experience, in all aluminium related fabrication / installation, works including ACP wall panelling.

Email id: remuscatjobs@gmail.com

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FOR REPUTED MODULAR KITCHEN MANUFACTURING COMPANY

- 1) GENERAL MANAGER

2) SALES / MARKETING EXECUTIVE (D/L is must)

3) SALES CO-ORDINATOR

4) FACTORY / SITE SUPERVISOR (D/L is must)

5) QUALITY CONTROLLER

6) ACCOUNTANT

7) DRAUGHTSMAN

8) STORE KEEPER

Please send CV: mdigcoman@gmail.com

URGENT REQUIREMENT

Service Technician for Diesel Generators

BE or Diploma, 5 years' experience
in installation, commissioning, load
testing, repairing, engine overhauling,
trouble shooting, maintenance.

Email CV to:
recruitment@satalc.co.om

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CONTACT 71137439

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We are providing online solutions.
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Contact: 90608097

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**Indian Chef/Cook
for Private Family
with experience
in Arabic and
Indian dish**

Please contact: 99735820

JOB VACANCIES

ACCOUNTS

Urgent Requirement Office Assis-
tants in Sohar (single status basis)
commerce background preferred.
Age limit 35years visa available.
Email: career.hrdinfo@gmail.com

DOMESTIC HELP

Looking for experienced **Srilankan
housekeeper** for a English family.
Contact 99888143

JOB VACANCIES

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

Urgently required for a Contract-
ing Co in Salalah - Oman - RO Plant
Operator, attractive salary.
Fax 23210495
email itqsesal@gmail.com

**Urgent Requirement for Indian AC
Technicians** with minimum experi-
ence of 5-10 years in maintenance
of cassette, Ductable, package, AHU
units.Email najeebairtech@gmail.com.
Contact : 99899028

MISCELLANEOUS

**Looking For Electrician, Plumber,
Carpenter, Foreman, Office Staff.**
Contact 24709144
Email: atf24704415@gmail.com

MANAGER

**Urgently wanted experienced
supervisor** for a super market in Qu-
rum.Previous experience on similar
position is must. please whatsapp
the resume to 91444677

Property Leasing Manager, send
CV-vepsupervisor@gmail.com

MEDICAL

**Urgently required a Pharmacist
& staff Nurse** with MOH License to
work in a well reputed clinic.
Contact 79947844.
Email drsubualath@yahoo.co.in

Pharmacy Sales Representative
for a medical supplies company
based in Muscat. Minimum 2 years
experience and a valid driving
licence. E-mail:
magedaltafaol@gmail.com
whatsapp only: 71554549

Wanted for Pharmacy, B.Pharm
with 2 yrs experience in Oman.
Contact 99471699

SALES/MARKETING

Urgently required a Tally Sales Ex-
ecutive with a minimum of 3 to 5yrs
experience. Contact +968-92770324.
Email: tallysales456@gmail.com
Whatsapp +91-9743546518

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NOTICE

**Baraem Qatar Trad & Cont joint
company** announces that it is regis-
tered with the commercial register
secretariat at the Ministry of Trad
& Industry under No 1145067 an-
nounces that it is in the process
of transferring its legal from joint
- company to One Person company
in accordance with Article No 19 of
the Commercial Companies Law No.
74/4 .. and its amendment and on
the all anyone who objects to this
must submit the reasons for his ob-
jection to the Commercial Registry
Secretariat at the Ministry of Trad
& Industry within a period of one
month from the date publishing of
this announcement.

**Shumukh Al Batinah Diamond for
Trad company** announces that it is
registered with the commercial reg-
ister secretariat at the Ministry of
Trad & Industry under No 1058251
announces that it is in the process
of transferring its legal froma joint -
company to a One Person company
in accordance with Article No 30
of the Commercial Companies Law
No. 18/2019 .. and its amendment
and on the all anyone who objects
to this must submit the reasons for
his objection to the Commercial
Registry Secretariat at the Ministry
of Trad & Industry within a period
of one month from the date publish-
ing of this announcement.

BUSINESS

**A reputed Omani business group
wants to purchase GP clinics/poly-
clinics in Muscat and interior towns
of Oman including Salalah.Send
WhatsApp message to 95092995 or
mentioning name of clinic, location,
contact number.**

**AC Technician & mainteance,
AMC.** Contact 78374904,
95308363

For Auditing, Accounting, Taxa-
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cal, shifting. Contact Mundhir
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99450130



JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

**MBA, 29 Indian, 7 yrs experience in
Accounts & procurement with tally,
peachtree, SAP FICO & MM software
certificates with DL.**
Contact 968-71220318, 71331413.
rizwanthayyalashraf@gmail.com

Part-time Accounting with
proficiency in VAT and Income
Tax,seeks job. Contact 96975454,
Email: connect@myacsys.com

Accounting Manager/Chief Ac-
countant, 12 years' experience
in Oman-MIS-Budget- Planning-
Finalization-Tax Returns etc., Have
NOC looking for suitable position -
Contact 95570425 (Call/WhatsApp)

Accountant Indian male, B Com 10+
years Oman experience with D/L
and NOC, seeks suitable placement,
available to join immediately.
Contact 96395258

**Looking for Senior Accountant
Position.** Having 10 Years Experi-
ence, and driving license also. Mob
- 79202007

Finance, ERP, audit & taxation,
project & market study business
modelling, business process with
professional & corporate experience
full time or part time. # 93671585

Accounting manager / Chief ac-
countant, 15+ years of experience
in Oman & UAE, have NOC on visit.
Contact: 79007124 / 78039524
Email: shkkader@gmail.com

Female looking for a part time job in
accounts. Contact 97125362

Senior accountant, 18 yrs experi-
ence in accounts & finance along
with 14 yrs experience in Oman
seeking suitable replacement.Oman
DL. Independently can handle ac-
counts upto finalization, tax returns
etc. Contact 93653482

Accountant, office administration.
Indian Male B.com + Diploma Oman
Experience. Tally , Peachtree, QB
, Tradeasy knowledge and have
DL.Contact : 79841591Email : murshidmuchchi4513@gmail.com

**Accountant (CA Inter) - Indian
(male)** with 10 years' experience Ac-
counting. Oman DL. # 94450401.

BCom Graduate with DL & Experi-
ence looking for suitable placement.
Contact 92695069.
Email: zameelpvj@gmail.com

MBA Finance 16+ Exp of Oman in
Accounts up to finalization,looking
for suitable senior position Contact:
92383882

Indian Male Bcom MBA. 19 years
experience in Finance, MIS,Audit,
Budget, banking, Tax, Payroll, ERP
(Orion, Tally, Sage, Epicor). NOC
available. GSM 91190552.

Indian Male, Senior Accountant
over 16 years Oman experience in
Accounts looking for a Job & have
NOC. Contact: 95851920, 78258270

Indian male B.Com, tally
experience,accounts upto finaliza-
tion with DL. Contact 94532610.
varghesekutikkattil@gmail.com

Male accountant M.S finance, 7yrs
gulf experience with DL.Contact
95318382. Email salmanriaz1988.thumrait.int@gmail.com

Indian male 18+ yrs experience in
finance,debt collection & credit,audit
operation available for immediate
joining. # 95500941, 78159940.
Email tatabrezaziz@gmail.com

**Looking for Senior Accountant
Position.**Having 10 Years Experience,
and DL also. Mob - 79202007

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER
11+ Yrs of experience (10 Yrs Oman experience)
• On Engineer Visa (Expiry - Feb 2022), Can get release also.
• Experience in **Building and Factory projects with Ministry & Private Clients.**
Looking for fulltime/part time job. **Having Omani DL.**
GSM: 94125368 ; premjithpremanathan@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer
Indian Male 29yrs with 7 Plus years of Experience in handling High End Building Construction Projects, Infrastructure, MEP, Interior finish and Landscaping works looking for any suitable job in immediate. Having Knowledge of MS Project & Primavera P6. NOC & Oman D/L Available.
Please contact me on 95051103, Email: loyannavildsouza@gmail.com

Omani Mechanical Engineer
Omani, looking for a job, Bachelor in Mechanical Engg from the United States of America, +2 yrs of experience in Oil & Gas. + NEBOSH certification Holder.
Contact: 95070748 Email: siyabi430@gmail.com

Facility Manager / Operation (Project-Civil) Manager
B.E. (Civil) with 24 years expertise in Facilities Management, Civil Construction Management, Project Management, Maintenance Management, Construction Site Inspection & Audit, Process & Documentation, Security & Surveillance, Contracts & vendor management, Budgeting & cash flow. Available to join immediately. Omani DL & NOC is available.
Contact: +968-96180303 shiv60769@gmail.com

Architect/ Interior Designer
36 yrs old, 12 yrs working in Design, Consultancy & project execution. Experience working in commercial, Institutional/Educational, residential construction, Hospitality, Interior design/ fit-out work. Knowledge on CAD/ MS office/ Planning/ Tendering/ Estimation & execution. Ready to join immediately with D/L and NOC available
Contact: 78371040

Senior MEP Manager
Indian Male: Btech, having 23 years GCC experience with valid Oman driving licence seeks suitable placement.
Contact GSM: 79880377 Email: jaksona8081@gmail.com

Accountant Indian Male
MBA Finance 2 years experience in india with good knowledge in tally seeks placement.
9539 1786

Structural/Civil Engineer
with 14 years of experience (**8 years in USA and 4 years in Oman**) in PEB, RCC, Pipeline, Offshore, and Marine structures and have Master degree from USA. Seeking for placement as Project Engineer or Manager.
Please contact me on +968-93368626 irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com

SR. Manager/GM/VP (Plant)
Indian Male, with more than 23 years exp. in repair/ maint/deployment/logistic/procurement of Vehicles/Heavy construction equipment in a large reputed construction industry seeks suitable placement in senior management level. NOC available.
Contact: 79198709

ELECTRICAL MANAGER
Graduate Electrical Engineer & MBA (Project Management) with 28 years' experience in Industrial Projects & Maintenance looking for senior role. NOC Available and can join immediately.
Contact: 968-94029112 Email: sakthiveljothi@gmail.com

Senior Civil Engineer
Indian Post graduate civil engineer with 37 years of professional experience in Oman in property development and construction management seeks senior management opportunities in similar field.
Contact 96504377 jobsearchzac@gmail.com

MBA, seeking job, 27 yrs experience in capable managerial candidature with rich experience in Business operations, Vendor development, Procurement and HR generalist. Can join immediately.
Whatsapp: 7730012111 Mobile: 94268870 Email: mvssmgr@gmail.com

Moroccan Sales Engineer with over 6 years of industrial experience in Oman looking for suitable opportunity.
GSM: 93823132 Email: mehdikassen@yahoo.com

SENIOR CORPORATE AND RETAIL BANKER
With over 30 years experience in Credit Management, Relationship Management, Credit Administration, Operations Management and Recoveries/ IFRS9 Provisioning Methodologies seeks suitable placement.
Email: DolphinOcean367@gmail.com

Project Engineer
32 yrs old - Having 10 years of experience (6 yrs in Oman) in oil & gas field - Intense work experience in fabrication of Pressure Vessels, Structural Steel fabrication & erection, Manufacturing of Skid Packages, Piping Spools & supports, Storage Tanks, Stack & Ducts, Pig Traps. EPC & Turnaround projects.
Having DL & Current Visa expires in Feb 2021.
Contact # boopathiraja88@gmail.com / 97412105

QUALITY MANAGER
Indian, Quality Manager, 18 years exp, 4.3 years at Abu Dhabi, looking for top/senior management position in quality. Coordinating RFQ to Mass production, Time, Resource & Quality planning, Process design, Project execution, etc. Available to join shortly.
Contact: 91-9952022345, venkatavaradu@rediffmail.com

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION/CEO OFFICE/OPS/HR /CORPORATE COMMUNICATION/ADMIN/MKTG
Smart Indian, Masters, excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman exp including Multi-Billion Airports Project, Hospital, Media, EPC handling Project Administration, CEO Office Management, Corporate Communication, Admin, HR, Operations, Customer Relations. # **99283938**

Experience more than 20 years of experience working in: Public Administration, Human Resource, Public Relations, Preparation and Writing of Reports, Coordination and Preparation of Meetings, Business Development, Marketing, Management and Retail Real Estate.
Contact whatsapp: 99477009 Email: abualmutsum@gmail.com

PURCHASE + STORES + ADMINISTRATION
Indian Male 10+yrs experience in Oman [Currently available in Oman]. Experience in Engineering / Construction, Manufacturing, Trading Concern & Structural Steel Projects. Materials Management with administrative skills. Looking for suitable placement and ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.
Contact: 78235621/bsda@ymail.com

OMANI HR/PRO
Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.
Mob: 95073054 Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

INDIAN, female, MBA, 4 years experience in Office administration and customer service (Banking & Construction field), knowledge of MS packages, currently on family visa, residing in Ruwi.
Mob: 95073054 Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

Finance Manager / CFO
Indian Chartered Accountant and Cost Accountant with 25 years experience in Finance, MIS, Budget, Strategy, Projects, VAT seeks suitable placement.
Contact: 99884291 / 99741875 VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)
CA, CPA, BSc. (Accountancy & Business Finance) Special with 12 years of experience (6th year in Oman) is looking for an opening. DL, NOC are available.
GSM: 78259755

Indian female B Com graduate having 7 years' experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP 9). Seeking suitable placement in Accounts/ Admin.
Contact: 92999419 d.kaiyaria1986@gmail.com

General Manager/ Sr. Manager Role, Indian Professional (BE, MBA, PMP, FIDIC) with 25 years experience into Civil and Infrastructure Constructions and Project Management. NOC available.
Contact 94634053

Senior Software Test Engineer
Indian Female 25yrs, BCA, M.tech, 5+ years experience in Wipro technologies. Key Skills – Web Application testing, Anti money laundering, Agile methodology, Manual Testing, Automation testing, selenium, Java, SQL, Appium and API testing.
Contact: 71792368 / 99295161 / nibesh.cmn@gmail.com

Graduate Civil Engineer
From India with over 11 years Project Management Experience with Consultant and Client in Oman with local release & driving license seeks suitable opportunities.
Email: contactsyedshams@gmail.com; GSM: +968 98500235

Indian male, bachelor's degree, Graduate (B.Com, B. Ed) looking for secretary, exec assistant, office administration jobs, 18 years experience, 7 years in Oman.
Call 97015841 Email khalid.bin.umar@gmail.com

Junior Architect with 3-years Oman experience in designing, proficiency in AutoCAD, Sketchup, Lumion Vray & Photoshop. Has worked in quantity estimations. Looking for suitable placement in Muscat.
Contact 95972625

MicroMasters in Supply Chain Management, B-Tech in Mechanical Engineering 3 years industry experience as a Sales Engineer, Valid Oman DL.
Contact: 99137115 Email: adimurali7@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER
16+ Years Experience In Site Supervision, Structural Engineering, ETABS, STAAD, ROADS, BRIDGES, Project manager, INDUSTRIAL. WORKED WITH SOHAR ALUMINUM AND OCC. WITH ALL SAFETY Training & KNOWLEDGE. Available Noc & Valid Driving License.
Call or Wts app 98333185

Finance/Accounts Manager
Indian male (MBA Fin) with 20 yrs working exp as Accounts & Finance Manager (Strategic planning, Procurement, Finance, Accounting, HR Admin, Audit, Tax, VAT) seeking suitable post. Valid Oman DL. NOC available.
Contact No.99705790 email: thoms_mat@yahoo.com

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)
MBA, B.Sc and CA (Intermediate) with 18 years of experience (12th year in Oman) in Retail, FMCG, Leasing and Property management sectors. Immediate joining. DL. NOC is available.
M: 9641 6394 / Mail: scms.acc133@gmail.com

Bsc In Civil Engineering, MBA in Project Management, PMP certified, having 14 yrs experience (12yrs in Oman) with experience of construction of 4 star hotel, Airports, commercial & residential buildings, factories, Oil stations, is looking for a suitable placement. Having Oman Driving licence with NOC.
Contract: 99721926, tanvircivil@gmail.com



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JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Indian Male 40 yrs old 16 yrs Exp in Business Dev. & Customer Service looking for a job Mob: 96072016

Smart Indian, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman experience including Airport Projects, Hospital/Healthcare, Media. Immediate, NOC. 99283938

Indian Male with 3+ years of experience with valid Oman D/L looking for Administrative, Business Development or Sales/Marketing opportunities. Contact: 91400234. shaheemraf@gmail.com

Indian male graduate 14 years of experiences in Secretarial and office administration seeking a suitable position Mob 99341481, mhd82ajaz@gmail.com

Indian Female 7 years experience Exe. Secretary, Admin Asst, Project Asst, Collection Followup. # 92243552

Looking for job Document Controller/Admin/Camp boss, 11 years experience. Contact 79245674

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Autocad draftsman with an experience of 8+ yrs (GCC) in drafting. Looking for an opportunity part/ full time immediate joining. Contact 79828683

DRIVER

Driver job wanted. Contact 99797810, 97612115

Looking for Driver job. Contact 95137694

LOGISTIC

Seeking opportunity in managerial position in logistics, having 4 yrs exp in administering logistic through air, sea, land & documentation within Oman & 6 yrs in India. Contact 98347003 Email jibyjohn28@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Irani Civil engg +18 yrs experience in GCC, looking for job. Contact 79135430

Electrical Engineer having 7 years of experience in construction sector in Oman in MEP, Data cabling, BMS works, ELV systems looking for opportunities. Contact: +968-96335725

Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDD, Diwan, Abu Dhabi, group of companies as GM. Contact/ Whatsapp 79122818

A Civil engineer with a valid D/L, 9 years experience in Oman seeks job. Contact 97646908

30 Yrs Male, Steel Fabrication Engineer, 6Yrs in Oman, Mechanical CAD, Shop Drawing, Ph: 97097688.

Project / Site Engineer, B.tech Civil, 8+ yrs Gulf Experienced in Major Projects, Oman D/L Ph-99857800.

B.Sc in Civil Engineering having 13 years experience in Oman. Hand on experience in Ministry of Health, MOD, ROP and RCA prestigious project. Available in Oman with NOC and Valid DL. Contact 92180869, E-mail: mamuns02@yahoo.com

Omani HSE engineer with 1.5 yrs experience in Oil & Gas & construction seeks job. DL available. Contact 70707011. Email malisyabi@gmail.com

Looking for a job for the post of Electrical Engineer with Btech and 15 years exp in Oman. NOC and Release available. Contact 92254336. Email ameen1667@gmail.com

Indian male having diploma in mech engg & valid Oman DL have 6 yrs experience in Oman # 95645241

Civil Engineer, Indian female with 3 yrs experience in Oman, 28 yrs old, looking for a suitable job in a construction Company. Oman DL, valid visa. # 99772710, 99256371

Mechanical Engineer, 10 yrs exp with Oman DL, looking for sponsor/ position in MEP solar, Oil & Gas. Contact 79550976, +919446253959. Email afsalhyder@gmail.com

Arabic/English speaking Civil engineer, 5 yrs experience in Projects coordination, preparing submittals & engineering software, resident & have valid DL. Contact 95432250

Senior Civil engineer with 12 yrs exp in government & private construction projects, looking for a suitable position. Contact 95962450. email solanki.ahmed@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer having over all 14 yrs Experience in building & Roads with consultant and contractor. NOC available immediate joining. Contact 94011294. Email: adnanluky@gmail.com

Planning Engineer, Indian 20 yrs experience in using Primavera P6 for oil & gas, water pipeline & building, MEP works scheduling seek suitable senior position with release & Oman DL. # 92651105, 90643701 rejil_mathai@hotmail.com

Safety officer (engineer), two years experience in Oil field in Oman, nebosh IGC, valid D.L. # 79318246

Planning Engineer: Pakistani National with BE Civil, 13 years of experience including 8 years in Oman in Project Planning, Scheduling and Delay Analysis looking for a suitable position. Local transfer - NOC, Contact: 97018909.

Mechanical Engineer (B.E) with 7+ yrs exp in MEP projects, Oil & Gas piping projects. NOC & Oman DL available. Contact 91293770. email jebilk212@gmail.com

Senior civil engineer with over 10 yrs experience on high end projects (RE) Contact 78270396

MISCELLANEOUS

Plumbing, painting maintenance works. Contact 96191837, 98937266

Driver plumber Electrician, looking for job. Contact 96750080

MANAGER

Electrical Project Manager with 10 Years Experience in (Primary & Distribution) Substations and Over head lines, Oman DL. # 99022692

MEDICAL

Lady G P. With M O H licence. Full or part-time, for Capital area only. Contact 99470508

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Sri Lanka male in Oman seeking a job as, procurement, store manager, operation & Administration, Degree, fluent in Supply Chain Management- Oracle ERP. Contact 98878815

Keralite, 31 yrs purchase assistant, 10 yrs working experience in Oman, valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable jobs. Contact 98615731 Email sanalk73@gmail.com

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Store Incharge, Sales associate, customer service, retail, warehouse logistics and merchandiser with driving license. Contact no. 95042824

Indian male (29) MBA, 6 years' experience in procurement and sales coordination with valid Oman D/L. available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194

IT

CRM, ERP & MIS analyst, experience 5 yrs. Contact 71561266

Sudanese, Male, BSc with honors in Computer Science. 5 yrs Experience in IT support, Android apps Development, ERB Systems, and systems management & Administration. Contact 96606209. Email Blackmode21@gmail.com

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Business development Executive with vast marketing knowledge 20 yrs experience seeks employment. Whatsapp 95950370

Sales Executive, 14 yrs experience in FMCG/IT/Oilfield supplies with DL, looking for suitable placement. Contact 90174597

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ROUND-UP

Bank Muscat opens 4 more Green Sports fields in North Al Batinah

The bank recently opened four new sports fields in North Al Batinah in line with the bank's commitment to community development and promoting Oman as a sporting nation



MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, continues to open new sports fields across the Sultanate as part of its flagship Green Sports programme.

The bank recently opened four new sports fields in North Al Batinah in line with the bank's commitment to community development and promoting Oman as a sporting nation.

The opening of the Al Faw Sports Team's field in the Wilayat of Suwaiq was attended by Abdul Mohsin Al Ajmi, Chairman of the team. The bank also inaugurated the Al Bareek Sports Team's sports field in the Wilayat of Al Khabourah, in the presence of Hilal Bin Ali Al Rubaei, a member of the board of

directors of the team. Another field was handed over to the Al Muntaser Sports Team in the Wilayat of Suwaiq at an event attended by Musabbah Bin Hashel Al-Suli, Vice Chairman of the team.

The fourth sports field was handed over to the Al Nusoor Sports Team in the Wilayat of Suwaiq in the presence of the Jassim Bin Hassan Al-Awadi, Treasurer of the team. Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al Shizawi, Regional Manager – North Al Batinah, Bank Muscat, handed over project completion certificates to the teams at the handover events, which were organised in full compliance with COVID-19 norms.

The total number of teams, which have benefitted from the

programme until the end of last year has now reached 123, confirming the great success of the programme. On this occasion, Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al Shizawi, Regional Manager – North Al Batinah, Bank Muscat, congratulated all the teams and their members for this achievement and for what they have done during the recent past. The bank has already handed over 118 sports fields and more will be inaugurated soon. He added that Green Sports fields add to the green spaces across the country and are also used by local communities for a number of activities apart from sports.

The scope of support under the Green Sports programme included the installation of artificial turf or

natural grass on sports fields, flood-lighting and water-desalination systems. There is no doubt that it has been greatly contributing to further build Omani sporting talent. The programme is providing an excellent means to channelise the energy and talents of Omani youth productively, besides helping local communities develop stronger bonds. Importantly, it is building a pipeline of talented players who can represent the country at all levels in the future. There is no doubt that it also has a positive impact on the environment. Bank Muscat's longest-running CSR programme will continue to support and serve the community as it implements the bank's vision of "serving you better, every day".

OFFER



Benefits on Toyota Hybrid Electric vehicle

MUSCAT: Toyota Hybrid vehicles are leading the way in technological advancements that are beneficial in terms of both fuel efficiency and the environment. Toyota has pioneered the Hybrid Electric technology that is self-charging without compromising on a powerful performance. Toyota hybrid vehicles make for the most exciting ownership experiences.

Those looking forward to owning a Toyota Hybrid Electric Vehicle can benefit with a cash gift from OMR2,300 up to OMR4,200, service 3 years / 30,000km up to 4 years / 40,000km (Whichever is earlier), 1-year insurance (comprehensive Oman only) or from OMR175 up to OMR300 in lieu. (Prospective buyers are advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & Conditions apply. Please visit the nearest Toyota showroom for exact details).

In Oman, Toyota Hybrid vehicle range includes Corolla, C-HR, Camry, RAV4 and Highlander.

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WOMENI 2020

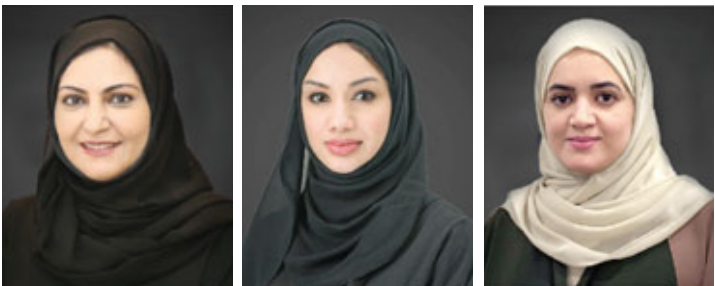
Three Bank Nizwa employees listed among top 300 influential women in Islamic finance

MUSCAT: Oman's pioneering and most trusted Islamic bank, Bank Nizwa, has been a frontrunner in promoting gender diversity at workplace, giving equal opportunities to women employees to prove their mettle.

In recognition of these efforts, three of the bank's employees have featured in the Womeni 2020 report's list of 300 most influential women in Islamic business and finance globally, released by the prestigious Cambridge Institute of Islamic Finance.

The three employees, holding senior positions in the bank, are Haifa Abdul Ali Al Lawati, Head of HR, Sayyida WisamJaifer Al Said, Head of Marketing and Corporate Communications and Amal Said Al Juma, Chief Manager – Wealth Management.

Speaking about empowering Omani women as a key focus area for Bank Nizwa, Khalid Al Kayed, CEO, Bank Nizwa, said, "Banking and finance are growing to be a preferred career choice among women. We have seen an increased interest from female candidates in



Islamic finance jobs as well.

"To that effect, we believe it is our duty to provide the necessary impetus to aspiring women of Oman, creating an environment for them to learn, skill and take on leadership roles as well.

"The bank places great value and responsibility in its female staff members and believes in encouraging our women employees to achieve new milestones, accolades, and appreciation, both locally and internationally."

Bank Nizwa considers its employees as a key driving force behind its success. Paying keen attention to developing the Omani workforce, Bank Nizwa conducts

various programmes that are tailored especially for their employees, thus encouraging them to lead the way and drive change in the industry.

"We are indeed proud of the three Omani women in our organisation who have been recognised as among the top 300 most influential women in the field of Islamic business and finance. They have earned their place by demonstrating utmost perseverance, professionalism, and dedication in their respective fields of specialisation. We believe they will pave the way for new women leaders in the nation and serve as an inspiration for others to follow."

INVESTMENT CONTRACT

Hyundai advances hydrogen strategy with new fuel cell system plant in China

DUBAI: Hyundai Motor Group announced that it signed an investment contract with the government of Guangdong Province to establish an offshore fuel cell system production facility in Guangzhou, China. The investment advances the Group's global hydrogen leadership and supports its push into China's rapidly developing hydrogen industry.

Attendees at the signing ceremony included KwangGuk Lee, President and Head of China Operations at the Group; Hyuk Joon Lee, Senior Vice President and Chief Government Affairs Officer of Hyundai Motor Group China Ltd.; Lin Keqing, Executive Vice Governor of Guangdong Province; Hu Hong, Vice Mayor of Guangzhou Municipal Government; and Chen Yong, District Chief of Huangpu District Guangzhou Municipal Government.

Construction is scheduled to begin next month and will be completed by the second half of 2022. The plant will be the Group's first fuel cell production base outside



of Korea, with the initial capacity to produce 6,500 units of fuel cell systems per year. The Group will gradually increase the capacity in line with market demand.

The Guangzhou plant will leverage the Group's extensive expertise in fuel cell system production to secure a technological leadership position in China's rapidly developing hydrogen industry. At the new plant, the Group will manufacture the same proven fuel cell systems that are used for Hyundai Motor's NEXO fuel cell

electric SUV.

Moreover, the Group will work with Chinese companies to participate in the Guangdong government's hydrogen-related pilot project and initiatives, which will help Hyundai secure a competitive advantage in China's hydrogen industry. Global companies from Japan, Germany, the UK and other countries have also been working with the Chinese partners to develop technology related to fuel cell vehicles and to advance the local hydrogen industry.

In October 2020, the China Society of Automotive Engineers released a technology roadmap, under the guidance of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology. The roadmap reflects China's ambition to foster a hydrogen economy, adding that the country aims to have 1 million FCEVs on its roads by 2035 centring on commercial vehicles.

In December 2018, Hyundai Motor Group announced its long-term roadmap, 'Fuel Cell Vision 2030', to reaffirm its commitment to accelerate the development of a hydrogen society by leveraging its global leadership in fuel cell technologies. As part of this plan, the Group aims to produce 700,000 fuel cells annually to meet demand from various industry sectors.

The group has decades of experience in fuel cell system development, having introduced the world's first mass-produced fuel cell electric vehicle, the ix35, in 2013, followed by the second-generation NEXO, in 2018.

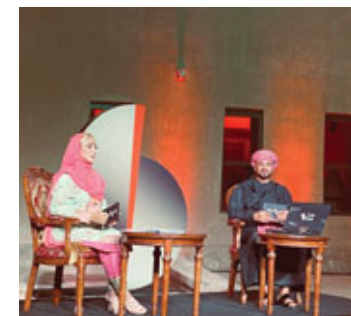
PRIZE SCHEME 2020

Sohar International picks year-end grand draws winners for 2020

MUSCAT: Concluding Sohar Prize Scheme 2020 that encouraged a prudent savings culture in Oman and enabled winning journeys for many of its customers, Sohar International announced the lucky winners of its biggest draws with a total prize of OMR400,000.

During the dedicated virtual event, which took place at the Barka Castle, and was streamed live on the Bank's official Instagram page on Tuesday, January 19, two customers from the General segment and two Wealth Management account holders won RO 100,000 each. Sohar International also shared the celebration with its valued followers who tuned into the live stream on Instagram, by allowing them to win cash prizes worth a total of RO 2000 simply by answering questions during the stream. Receiving an overwhelming response, the event witnessed a live audience of around 5000 followers, the highest ever for any virtual grand draw.

Khalil Al Hedaifi, Chief Retail



Banking Officer, said, "Ever since its launch, Sohar International's prize scheme has extensively contributed in raising awareness on the importance of savings, and in adding an evolved and progressive customer base to the bank's premium service offering. The unforeseen challenges of 2020 have reassured the importance of savings, making people realise the benefits of financial prudence and security. At Sohar International, our programs and schemes have supported customers in making the right choices to secure their future, urging them to start their journey

of saving, particularly to prepare for tough times. On behalf of Sohar International, I would like to congratulate each of the winners of the year-end grand draws and would also like to highlight that with our new prize scheme for the year 2021, customers will now have even bigger chances of winning if they continue with their saving habits and make the most of the coming prize draws. So, stay tuned for the reveal of the 2021 campaign, which will have more winners and more chances for our customers."

During the event, Khalil spoke about the bank's successful journey and its achievements as well as the Sohar Prize Scheme 2020 along with benefits of cultivating the habit of saving. Opened by the Drum Corps band, the draws ceremony was an amalgamation of celebration and engagement as the bank conducted the draws and also rewarded five individuals from the live audience through a simple Q & A contest. The Drum Corps band concluded the ceremony leaving spectators in a spirit of high energy.

ROUND-UP



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Dhofar Auto celebrates its 10th anniversary

The anniversary marked its progress in achieving its strategic objectives at all levels, including the training and forming of the working teams, investing in human resources and achieving the targeted Omanisation percentage



sents in the local market, Dhofar Automotive provides only the highest quality services to deliver unmatched customer satisfaction.

The celebration also recognised key members of the team, who have been a part of Dhofar Automotive since its inception, highlighting their efforts over their 10 years of dedicated service.

Commenting on this occasion, Hatem El-Naggar, General Manager at Dhofar Automotive, said, "We are happy to celebrate the 10th anniversary since the establishment of Dhofar Automotive. A decade of success and achievements that could not have been possible without the patience, perseverance and tireless efforts of each and every team member. I would also like to thank our partners, who are the renowned brands that we represent, for their immense support in providing us with the best models and services which adds on to our accomplishments. I am also grateful for our valued customers for placing their trust in us and consider them as a part of our family. We express our appreciation for their continuous loyalty, by continuing to provide them with high-quality services. With their support, we have gone from strength to strength and continue to introduce new and modern vehicles and services to the local automotive market."

Dhofar Automotive was established in 2010 as a joint venture between The Zubair Automotive Group and Shanfari Automotive, becoming the only authorised distributor for Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, RAM, Fiat, Fiat Professional, Alfa Romeo, and Mopar brands in Oman. Over the years, Dhofar Automotive has built a strong reputation by delivering on its robust commitment of providing innovative and exceptional customer service in both sales and after-sales. The company continues to invest heavily on network expansion and facility enhancement, currently comprising of a network of six showrooms and nine service stations across the county, positioning itself amongst the strongest dealership networks in the country.

"Ten years since our beginning, we can proudly say that we have made immense steps forward in achieving our long-term plans. We continue to deliver on our commitment to provide even better sales and after-sales services, in line with international standards, to provide our customers with a satisfying ownership experience to exceed their expectations. We aim to further invest in our human resources by implementing learning and training programmes for the team in developing their performance. This is coupled with our constant

efforts to expand our facilities, service centres and showrooms to meet all the aspirations of our valued customers," Hatem added.

Jamal Al Balushi, General Manager of Human Resources and Admin at Dhofar Automotive Company said, "The celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of Dhofar Automotive Company is an occasion held dear to all members of the team. This achievement would not have been possible without the immense efforts, dedication and high-quality services extended by our professional team, who have been working efficiently. Today, we would like to reassure our customers that we continue our efforts to provide them with the best available services and look to maintain the company's leading position in the local market."

Rashid Abdullah Al Hooti, General Manager of Corporate Affairs said, "Since the establishment of Dhofar Automotive Company in 2010 as the official distributor in the Sultanate of Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Fiat, Fiat Professional, RAM, Alfa Romeo, Mopar brands, it has strived to bring in exceptional models and provide after-sales services, on par with international standards. This has been one of our most important factors for success. Additionally, over the past few years, Dhofar Automotive has been able to provide companies with superior transportation solutions and strengthen its vehicle fleet, efficiently and reliably. This has made us join hands with our partners in various sectors to collectively accomplish success and achieve our desired goals. We are proud to be the official distributor of well-known brands that are renowned for their great capabilities, distinctive designs and modern technologies. Over the coming period, we will continue to introduce several new models from various brands that will enhance our presence and will be a great addition to the Omani automotive market."

MONEY EXCHANGE



Unimoni opens new branch at Al Khuwair Square

MUSCAT: Unimoni, a leading remittance, foreign exchange and payment solutions brand in the Sultanate of Oman, has opened its branch inside New Integrated community mall Al Khuwair Square, near Al Khuwair park.

The branch was formally inaugurated by Mohammed bin Salim Al Busaidi, Chairman of Omran and former member of Majlis Shura (Shura Council) in the presence of Sheikh Fahad bin Mohammed Al Khalili, Founder and CEO of Bayan Investment House, Tonny George Alexander, Director of Unimoni Oman, Boban MP, CEO of Unimoni Oman and other senior officials.

The new branch offers a broad range of financial services like instant money transfer, real-time account credit facility for Individual and corporate customers, foreign currency exchange, and utility payment. The branch will remain open from 9.30am to 9.30pm on all days.

"The opening of the branch is in line with our retail expansion plans and reaffirms our commitment to provide customers with

seamless money transfer and foreign exchange solutions. In addition to the services available at the branch, on-the-move customers can use our online money transfer service to conveniently transfer money through Unimoni Oman app or web portal. The new branch also will have the self-service kiosk facility," said Boban.

Unimoni Oman commenced its operation in the Sultanate of Oman in the year 1995. In a very short period, it has exponentially grown and expanded its branch network to 58 outlets, which is the largest in the Sultanate.

The only exchange house in the Sultanate to have the SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication connectivity). An ISO certified brand and member of prestigious global associations have been recognized and awarded for its quality and business excellence over the years which included the "Most Trusted Brand award for 2020". Unimoni Oman, on October 3, 2020, completed 25 glorious years of excellence in customer service in Oman.

LUXURY LIFESTYLE AWARDS

W Muscat named among top 5 best luxury boutique hotels in Oman

MUSCAT: Cementing its position as one of the hospitality industry's best and brightest, W Muscat has been named among the top 5 Best Luxury Boutique Hotels in Oman at the Luxury Lifestyle Awards.

Since opening in 2019, W Muscat has showcased its unique brand of luxury to guests in the Sultanate, from its super stylish rooms to a Whenever/Wherever attitude that caters to every whim and quirk.

Highlighting the signature W brand passion points – Music, Fuel, Design and Fashion- and a penchant for the unexpected, the hotel is home to a number of the city's trendiest venues, including the achingly chic Chinese restaurant, Ba Ban, and the dazzling rooftop paradise, Siddharta Lounge by Buddha-Bar, all designed with glamour in mind.

"We are thrilled to have been named in this prestigious global award, which is a welcome recognition of our efforts to redefine luxury hospitality for the modern traveller. We've been open for under two years but in that time, we have introduced dozens of new and exciting happenings, and are constantly finding ways to shake things up. Combining our signature W energy with the amazing surroundings and rich culture of Oman, we are transforming the



Sultanate's hospitality industry with the kind of personalised and authentic experiences that we believe true luxury should stand for," said Gerald Chevasson, General Manager of W Muscat.

Built in collaboration with

Omran, the country's largest hotel investment company, W Muscat has brought the world-famous W brand to Oman. A true disruptor in its aesthetic, the hotel is an eye-catching ode to the brand's passions, offering

a playful take on the Sultanate's natural beauty and rich heritage. With 279 sleek rooms and suites and an array of show-stopping dining venues, the beachfront hotel continues to find new ways to thrill its guests.

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