

OMAN, UNITED KINGDOM
REVIEW BILATERAL RELATIONS

Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Chairman of the Supreme Committee tasked with tackling developments resulting from coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic received on Wednesday Hamish Cowell, Ambassador of the United Kingdom (UK) to the Sultanate. **>A6**



928 MORE COVID CASES REPORTED
IN OMAN: HEALTH MINISTRY

MUSCAT: As many as 928 new cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) were registered in Oman, in addition to 9 new COVID-19-related death cases. This brings the total number of positive COVID-19 cases to 192,326 in the Sultanate. The total number of COVID-19-related death cases reached 2001, the Ministry of Health said. The Ministry also pointed out that 919 new cases have recovered, bringing the total number to 171,848 recoveries. The Ministry also pointed out that 99 cases were hospitalised over the past 24 hours. **-ONA**



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MEETING

Sayyid Fahd receives Iranian Foreign Minister

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers received here on Wednesday Dr. Mohammad Javad Zarif, Foreign Minister of Iran.

The guest conveyed greetings of President Dr. Hassan Rouhani of the Islamic Republic of Iran along with best wishes of permanent success to His Majesty the Sultan and the government, and the Omani people further progress and growth. The meeting reviewed the existing bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and means of supporting them in several fields. **>A6**



APPOINTMENT OF NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADORS

His Majesty the Sultan issues Royal Decree

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik on Wednesday issued a Royal Decree No. 41/2021 appointing non-resident ambassadors.

Article (1) appoints Dr. Ahmed Salim Mohammed Ba'omar, the Sultanate's Ambassador to the Italian Republic as extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino.

Article (2) appoints Saleh Sulaiman Ahmed Al Harthy, the Sultanate's Ambassador to the Republic of Kenya as extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of Malawi.

Article (3) appoints Dr. Mohammed Said Khalifa Al Busaidi, the Sultanate's Ambassador to Japan as extraordinary and plenipotentiary

non-resident Ambassador to New Zealand.

Article (4) appoints Saleh Mohammed Ahmed Al Saqri, the Sultanate's Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam as extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Article (5) appoints Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Salim Hamad Al Harthy, the Sultanate's Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands as extraordinary and plenipotentiary non-resident Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Article (6) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from its date of issue. **- ONA**

JOB PLAN FOR OMANIS ON TRACK

10,000 JOBS FOR OMANIS DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR ● NEW LABOUR LAW IN THREE-MONTH TIME

We exceeded the required objective and that is a great success, said the Minister of Labour

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Minister of Labour, Dr. Mahad bin Said bin Ali Ba'owain, said on Tuesday that the Ministry was able to provide almost 10,000 jobs to Omani job seekers during the first quarter of the current year.

In an interview with Oman TV, the minister said, "According to the directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to provide jobs for Omanis, the Ministry of Labour announced in January 2021 that 32,000 jobs would be provided to job seekers as per the implementation of the plan. During the past three months, we were able to provide between 9,800 and 10,000 new jobs to Omanis."

Government sector

"About 4,000 job opportunities were given in the government sector and tests were conducted for them, and about 4,000 Omanis job seekers gained employment for the first time, while another 2,000 got other job opportunities coupled with training," he explained.



According to the directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to provide jobs for Omanis, the Ministry of Labour announced in January 2021 within its implementation plan that 32,000 jobs would be provided to job seekers, so during the past three months we were able to provide 9,800 to 10,000 new jobs for Omani job seekers.

Dr. Mahad bin Said bin Ali Ba'owain
Minister of Labour

"This is how we achieved about 10,000 jobs, whose creation we announced at the start of the year, as part of our efforts that need to be completed by the end of 2021.

First quarter

"With this number, we have achieved in the first quarter of 2021 almost 30 per cent of the 32,000 job opportunities that were previously announced," the minister added. "We exceeded the required objective and that is a great success. We thank God that we were able to achieve it."

The minister has confirmed that the quarterly report of the ministry is ready and will be announced on Sunday, May 2, 2021. He also

added that, "When we look at the number of expatriates working in the country: about 1,500,000, we find that only 10 per cent of them are replaceable, while the rest of the jobs are low paying ones where we cannot pressure employers to replace expatriates with Omanis."

"So with this 10 per cent, we can have 140,000 to 200,000 job opportunities for which we can replace expatriates with Omanis, and the replacement process involves training, qualification and experience for some jobs, so we need time to do that and we will work hard to achieve this," he went on to add, pointing out that efficiency and sincerity at work are qualities present among Omanis,

but some jobs require specific expertise and skills.

The most difficult hurdle, according to the minister, is in the development of Omani human resources to improve work and contribute to production, while employment is easy because there is an economy that grows in the Sultanate, and of course, there are jobs that arise and are soon distributed among job seekers according to qualifications and work experience.

"We also put pressure on the public and private sectors to replace expatriates with Omanis, and we inform them that we are ready to provide for any qualification or training required for this

replacement," he added.

He said, "We are heading in the right direction despite the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which are now more severe than before, as we have returned to square one of the corona pandemic, unfortunately."

He has appealed to all workers in the private sector to adhere to health procedures and follow the instructions issued by their employer to protect them and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

"The Ministry of Labour has an impact on every household in Oman, whether as an employee, a job seeker, an employer, or seeking permits for domestic or private workers, so you find that every per-

son has to deal with the ministry. So you find everyone has issues and a great interest in the ministry and follow up all the developments," the minister added.

"An expert finds that the Ministry is a regulatory body based on specific data, structures and different systems. We try in the Ministry to reconcile them. There are two major parts in the Ministry, namely the human resource development sector and the labour sector," he added.

Regarding the labour law, he confirmed that the drafting of its articles and clauses was completed in December 2020, and it is not recent, as it began in 2015-2016, but its provisions and articles have been updated in line with the current phase and new developments that have recently popped up, such as remote work, part-time work and organising an employee's relationship with the employer.

"When I stated in January 2021, I did not expect that there was a need for review from different sides and it will take a long time, but the fact that the comparison of the new work affects everyone, everyone has made an effort and reviewed it very carefully," he added.

"A ministerial committee has been formed from the relevant ministries, such as the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs and the Ministry of Labour. This committee will carefully review the law for more than 140 articles." **>A5**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN Dar Al Atta'a Association app launched

1 Dar Al Atta'a Association on Wednesday launched the smart phone application under the auspices of His Highness Sayyid Faher bin Fatik bin Faher bin Taimur Al Said, on the premises of the Association in Ghala. **>A7**

WORLD India reports biggest spike in COVID cases

2 India reported over 3.60 lakh fresh COVID-19 cases and close to 3,300 related deaths. **>A11**

MARKET MSX index closes slightly higher

3 The MSX index closed at 3,734.87 points, up 0.46 per cent from the previous close. **>B2**

CELESTIAL PHENOMENON

Pink supermoon lights up Oman skies

Times News Service

MUSCAT: People in Oman took to their rooftops and selected the best outdoor areas from where they could catch a glimpse of the supermoon on Tuesday.

Many were happy to experience the first supermoon of the year, and attached great importance to it, because of it occurring during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

"We live by the beach in Azaiba so we thought it would be a good idea to watch it from near there, because it offers us a good view of the horizon without any distractions," said Maimoona Tehreem.

"My husband and I went to watch the moon straight after Maghrib prayers," she added. "It was amazing to see this moon, with its pink hue, surrounded by a blue sky. I wish we could've watched it for longer, but our view was soon obstructed by clouds so we could only watch it for 10 minutes," she added. **>A6**



HAPPY COINCIDENCE: The first supermoon of the year, is being seen as specially significant as it has occurred during the Holy Month of Ramadan. — Photo by Sanak Roy Choudhury

**RAMADAN PRAYER TIMINGS**

Dhuhr	12.09pm
Asr	3.35pm
Maghrib	6.39pm
Isha	7.55pm
Fajr (Tomorrow)	4.14am

Muscat

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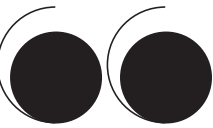


Ramadan

► **IFTAR TIMING**

6:39 pm

► **RAMADAN WORDS**



“He created the heavens and earth in truth and formed you and perfected your forms; and to Him is the [final] destination” [Quran 64:3] ...



► **HEALTH TIP**

Eat dates after a long day of fasting. It will help the body’s blood glucose levels to quickly return to normal. Dates also helps to avoid overeating. They are easily digested and are a quick source of energy and nutrients.

► **RECIPE OF THE DAY**



SPICY CHICKEN SAMOSA

- INGREDIENTS**
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
 - 1 small onion, peeled and finely chopped
 - 2 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
 - 1 thumb-sized piece ginger peeled and minced
 - 1 red chilli
 - 2 tsp garam masala powder
 - 1 tsp ground coriander
 - ½ tsp cumin
 - ½ tsp turmeric
 - ¼ tsp chilli powder
 - ¾ tsp salt
 - ¼ tsp black pepper
 - 1 cup minced chicken
 - 1/2 bellpepper (medium sized), finely chopped
 - 6 sheets filo pastry
 - 3 tbsp melted butter
 - 1 tbsp finely chopped fresh coriander to garnish
 - 1 tsp chilli flakes to garnish

- PREPARATION**
- Preheat the oven to 175C.
 - Heat oil in a medium frying pan and add the onion. Cook for 2-3 minutes until starting to soften. Add the garlic, ginger, chopped chillies, garam masala, ground coriander, cumin, turmeric, chilli powder, salt and pepper. Fry, stirring regularly for 2 minutes until aromatic.
 - Add the chicken, and mix together. Cook, stirring regularly, until the chicken is browned and cooked well(about 7 minutes). Add in the bell pepper and stir.
 - Turn off the heat.
 - Whilst the chicken is cooking, lay the filo sheets out and brush melted butter on top of each sheet.
 - Layer up the sheets, so you have 2 piles of 3 sheets. Use a cookie cutter to cut out circles.
 - Take a muffin tin, and brush with melted butter. Fill each hole with a pile of the filo sheets.
 - Spoon in the chicken mixture.
 - Place in the oven for 12-15 minutes until the filo pastry is crisp and browned.
 - Remove from the oven and serve hot, topped with a sprinkling of fresh coriander and chilli flakes. -by Oneza Tabish

► **GOOD DEED**

DECLUTTER AND DONATE

As you are spending more time at home this Ramadan why not do things that help you to stay more organised and disciplined? And what could be better than re-arranging your own closet? You will not only get more organised but will realise that you have plenty of clothes that you can donate to those who need. Look for clothes that are new but doesn't fit you anymore. You might find clothes that you haven't worn in a long time. Collect them and donate. This Holy Month it's time to do more good and give back.





الميرة
Al Meera

Promo Valid Till May 04, 2021



Awafi UHT Milk 4x1 ltr

12x 1 ltr

RO 2.750

4pcs RO 0.950



Noor Sunflower Oil 2x1.5 ltr

2pcs

RO 2.490



Mai Dubai Water Cup 24x200 ml

24pcs

RO 0.490



India Gate Basmati Rice 20kg+5kg

25kg

RO 26.250

Many More Offers In Store

FIGHTING PANDEMIC LABOUR LAW

< FROM **A1** Efforts to improve employer-worker ties

HAVE YOUR SAY
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haveyoursay@timesofoman.com

	AL SUWADI POWER COMPANY SAOG P.O. Box: 39, P.C. 103, Bareeq Al Shatti, Sultanate of Oman, alsuwadipower.com																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT	UNAUDITED CONDENSED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE THREE MONTH PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Dear Shareholders,																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
On behalf of the Board of Directors of Al Suwadi Power Company SAOG (the "Company"), I have the pleasure to present the Directors' Report of the Company for the three months ended March 2021.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
Operational Results The ongoing COVID 19 pandemic that began in early 2020 has persisted. Nevertheless, due to our plant operator's timely implementation of staff work shift scheduling and meticulous staff safety precautions, the plant has witnessed seamless operation and has run smoothly and efficiently. We appreciate the diligent services of STOMO, our plant operator. The plant delivered 1070 GWh to the Oman grid as compared to 762 GWh delivered in Q1 2020. The plant achieved an excellent reliability of 99.96%. The plant successfully conducted the Annual Plant Performance test on 7th April 2021. The Plant's good operational performance was achieved with no Lost Time Accidents as a result of our staff, thereby clocking 3,560 Lost Time Accident free days since inception, and is reflective of our continued internal focus on Health, Safety, Environment and Quality Management.	<table> <tr> <th></th><th>2021 RO'000s</th><th>2021 USD'000s</th><th>2020 RO'000s</th><th>2020 USD'000s</th></tr> <tr> <td>Revenues</td><td>13,835</td><td>35,982</td><td>11,042</td><td>28,717</td></tr> <tr> <td>Direct costs</td><td>(13,592)</td><td>(35,350)</td><td>(10,312)</td><td>(26,818)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gross profit</td><td>243</td><td>632</td><td>730</td><td>1,899</td></tr> <tr> <td>General and administrative expenses</td><td>(231)</td><td>(601)</td><td>(232)</td><td>(604)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Profit before interest and tax</td><td>12</td><td>31</td><td>498</td><td>1,295</td></tr> <tr> <td>Finance costs (net)</td><td>(1,964)</td><td>(5,106)</td><td>(2,244)</td><td>(5,836)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Profit/(loss) before tax</td><td>(1,952)</td><td>(5,075)</td><td>(1,746)</td><td>(4,541)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tax expense</td><td>(492)</td><td>(1,280)</td><td>(475)</td><td>(1,189)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Net profit/(loss) for the period</td><td>(2,444)</td><td>(6,355)</td><td>(2,203)</td><td>(5,730)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Earnings per share</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Basic earnings per share (Baizas / cents)</td><td>(3.42)</td><td>(8.90)</td><td>(3.08)</td><td>(8.02)</td></tr> </table>		2021 RO'000s	2021 USD'000s	2020 RO'000s	2020 USD'000s	Revenues	13,835	35,982	11,042	28,717	Direct costs	(13,592)	(35,350)	(10,312)	(26,818)	Gross profit	243	632	730	1,899	General and administrative expenses	(231)	(601)	(232)	(604)	Profit before interest and tax	12	31	498	1,295	Finance costs (net)	(1,964)	(5,106)	(2,244)	(5,836)	Profit/(loss) before tax	(1,952)	(5,075)	(1,746)	(4,541)	Tax expense	(492)	(1,280)	(475)	(1,189)	Net profit/(loss) for the period	(2,444)	(6,355)	(2,203)	(5,730)	Earnings per share					Basic earnings per share (Baizas / cents)	(3.42)	(8.90)	(3.08)	(8.02)																																																																																																																																																																							
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CONDOLENCES

The Partners, Management and Staff of
Bin Hayl Group

express their heartfelt condolences to the
Family Members

On the sad demise of
SAEED SALEEM KHAWAR
Chairman, Bin Hayl Group



May God Almighty bless the
departed soul with eternal peace and
grant enough strength to all family
members to bear this irreparable loss.





COVID VACCINE



Times News Service

"I could not find a job with which to earn money to help myself get married, raise a family, buy a car, and build a home for myself," said the Seeb native. "I had set up a project to sell poultry and meat in 2016, but could not fully devote myself to it because of my academic studies, and this has now provided me an opportunity to become independent," he added.

"Therefore, I ask the government to provide jobs for me and other aspiring Omanis, so that I can use what I have learned during my academics, as well as my other skills and experiences, to serve the country, take care of my family, and help our community move forward."

In a press briefing on Tuesday, Health Minister Zahid Maleque

A technical experts' committee recommended that the vaccine be approved on Tuesday noon after reviewing all necessary documents and its efficacy. **ANI**



Dhofar Poultry Company (S.A.O.G)

P.O. Box 2855 – PC 211 – Salalah . Phone : 23288605- admin1@dpcoman.com

Board of Director's Report for 31st March 2021

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st March 2021

On behalf of board of directors of Dhofar Poultry Company, I have pleasure in presenting the un-audited financial statements for the 1st Quarter and the period ended 31st March 2021

Financial Performance:

Total sales revenue for 1st Quarter of year 2021 is RO 2,327 Million compared to RO 2,384 Million same period last year showing a decrease of 2.40%. The Net Profit for the period is RO 1.9 K compared to Net Loss of RO (141.1 K) for the same period last year 2020. The Profit of the period was mainly due to cost reduction in Hatching Eggs & Feed and Payroll cost due to Expat Employees resignations, though Finance Cost has increased by 11 %.

The Company is working hard to provide and maintain poultry products availability to customers around all Oman Regions as it is one of the main food securities products. The Management also plan to improve operation efficiency by optimizing the use of company resources and upgrade of production facilities capacity. The Company policy is to reduce inputs imported from outside and reduce risk of dependence of imports and increase Company sale from fresh products.

Despite of high market competitions, the Company has addressed sale and marketing sector and focus on Brand building activities as their primary and emphasize on fresh products as a better alternative from health and hygiene aspects as compared to frozen products and improve company products realization.

The Management entered into strategic agreements with local and regional partners to enhance Company brands and reach new UAE markets through New Branch functioning to sell products directly to Secured customers and focused on product quality by ensuring strict implementation of Halal, ISO and HACCP standard and support our regional markets.

Corporate Governance :

During the 1st quarter of this year 2021 the Board have taken all possible measures and action to ensure full compliances of CMA rules, code of corporate governance and performed executives performance evaluation. During 1st Quarter of this year, the Board of Directors and Audit Committee reviewed Internal Audit Reports and related party transactions. The company's internal audit regulations and procedures were also reviewed to ensure application of CMA rules and decisions. The Company Annual General Meeting for the year 2020 was held virtually On-line on 31/03/2021 as per CMA Directives , due to Covid Situation .

The BOD reviewed remuneration and incentive policies for high level executives staff and other employees, and fulfil the Consultant recommendations regarding Directors performance evaluation through Remuneration and Executive Committee

Future Outlook :

Although poultry meat market demand is increased in last few years and country frozen chicken imports increased. Management is targeting high value product consumers segments by improving product quality and introduction of new value added products. The Company is also working with strategic partners to increase local and regional sale volume and increase operation efficiency.

On behalf of the Board, I express my sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Bin Taimur for his wise leadership, support and generous attitude towards private sector. Finally, I would also like to thank my colleagues & fellow board members, management & staff for their consistent efforts and our customers for their continuous support.

Salim Bin Abdullah Al-Awadi
Chairman

	31/03/2021 RO	31/03/2020 RO.
ASSETS		
Non-current Asset:		
Property, plant and equipment	7,181,635	7,339,560
Intangible asset	56,748	63,840
Right to use Asset	45,388	69,935
Deferred Tax Asset and Other Expenses	44,532	16,698
	7,328,301	7,490,033
Current Assets:		
Inventories and biological assets	3,541,969	3,164,185
Trade receivables, prepayments and others receivables	2,325,933	2,956,334
Cash and cash equivalents	72,164	69,536
Total Current Assets	5,940,066	6,190,055
TOTAL ASSETS	13,268,367	13,680,088
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Shareholders' Equity:		
Share capital	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special reserve	137,033	137,033
Legal reserve	221,560	221,560
Accumulated losses	(2,270,844)	(2,047,379)
Revaluation Reserve	604,456	632,855
Net Shareholders' equity	2,692,205	2,944,069
Non-current Liabilities:		
Non-current portion of term loans	0	229,225
End of service benefits for employees	241,920	190,980
Non-Current portion of Lease Liabilities	34,681	52,207
Total Non-current Liabilities	276,601	472,412
Current Liabilities:		
Bank overdraft & LTR	6,507,540	6,412,800
Current portion of term loans	184,225	353,275
Trade Payables and accruals	3,593,558	3,477,523
Current Portion of Lease Liabilities	14,238	20,009
Taxation	0	0
Total Current Liabilities	10,299,561	10,263,607
Total Liabilities	10,576,162	10,736,019
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	13,268,367	13,680,088
Net Assets Per Share (RO.)	0.067	0.074

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED 31st March 2021

Particulars	31/03/2021 RO.	31/03/2020 RO.
Sales (Net of Discount)	2,327,030	2,384,335
Cost of sales	1,801,450	1,993,078
Gross profit/(loss)	525,580	391,257
General and administrative expenses	(200,339)	(222,528)
Selling and distribution expenses	(213,995)	(217,694)
Finance costs	(118,404)	(106,340)
Directors' Fees	(4,300)	(2100)
Other income	13,436	16,269
Profit/(Loss) before taxation	1,978	(141,136)
Taxation	-	-
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period	1,978	(141,136)
Basic profit/(loss) per share (RO.)	-	(0.004)

Notes : detail 1st Quarter Financials will be sent to shareholders within 7 day from their request send to company by fax 23281131.

Detail financials are uploaded to MSX website .

AL KAMIL POWER COMPANY SAOG

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Introduction

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Al Kamil Power Company SAOG (the "Company"), I have the pleasure to present the Chairman's report for the period ended 31 March 2021.

2. Review of Operations for the three months ended 31 March 2021

During the three months of the current year the plant achieved commercial availability of 100%, at par with the commercial availability of 100% during same period in 2020. The electricity exported to the grid during the period was lower than the electricity exported in the same period in 2020. However, since the actual level of power generation fees are pass through in nature, this has no major effect on the Company's net income.

The company, in close coordination with the Operator, is continuing to take all precautionary measures to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure safety of all staff and uninterrupted plant operations.

As at 31 March 2021, the plant completed 6,465 days without "Lost Time Due to Accident" since inception, which is reflective of our continued internal focus on Health, Safety and Environment.

The tax credit of RO 1.329 million (USD 3.46 million) accorded by the tax department consequent to the favourable Supreme Court decision, was adjusted against tax payable for the years 2018 and 2019. The balance credit of RO 0.155 million (USD 0.403 million) is expected to be fully absorbed against tax payable for the year 2020.

The Company posted a net profit of RO 0.343 million during the period ended 31 March 2021 compared to RO 0.430 million during the same period in 2020. The variance was due to inventory provisions made in 2021.

3. Financial Results for three months ended 31 March 2021

a. Operating Revenue and Gross Profit

The Company achieved a turnover of RO 1.456 million and a gross profit of RO 0.498 million.

b. Operating costs

The operating costs were RO 0.958 million.

c. Administrative and General Expenses & Other income

Administrative expenses amounted to RO 0.107 million and Other Income amounted to RO 0.013 million.

d. Net Profit

The net profit for the period was RO 0.343 million.

Future Outlook

The company participated in OPWP's Power 2022 Procurement tender process for possible extension of PPA beyond 2021. The outcome of the Tender has been delayed due to unforeseen reasons including but not limited to the impact of covid-19 pandemic on the power sector. This is vital for the future of the company.

The spot market is expected to be live in 2022. However based on the published spot market methodology and figures, it is not expected to give the company enough revenues to cover its cost at least during the early years of operation and depending on the evolution of the demand/ capacity in the system.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said and His Government for the encouragement and support they continue to provide to private sector investors.

Frederic Claux
Chairman

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	2021 RO '000	2020 RO '000
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	19,025	28,861
Capital work in progress	--	78
Right-of-use assets	69	75
Total non-current assets	19,094	29,014
Current assets		
Inventories	1,220	1,640
Trade and other receivables	776	1,055
Tax refund due	155	163
Bank balances and cash	1,725	2,544
Total current assets	3,876	5,402
Total assets	22,970	34,416
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	9,625	9,625
Legal reserve	3,208	3,208
Retained earnings	6,936	17,351
Total equity	19,769	30,184
Liabilities		
Non-current liabilities		
Deferred tax liability	1,793	3,254
Employees' end of service benefits	19	16
Non-current portion of lease liabilities	85	81
Provision for decommissioning costs	182	171
Total non-current liabilities	2,079	3,522
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	153	422
Amounts due to related parties	276	144
Current portion of lease liabilities	8	7
Taxation	685	137
Total current liabilities	1,122	710
Total liabilities	3,201	4,232
Total equity and liabilities	22,970	34,416
Net assets per share	0.205	0.314

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2021 RO '000	2020 RO '000
INCOME		
Revenue	1,456	1,456
Operating costs	(958)	(875)
Gross profit	498	581
Other income	13	15
	511	596
EXPENSES		
General and administration	105	88
Interest on lease liabilities	2	1
	107	89
Profit/(Loss) before taxation	404	507
Taxation	(61)	(77)
Net profit / (loss) and total comprehensive income for the period	343	430
Basic earnings / (loss) per share	0.004	0.004

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WORLD



India reports biggest spike with over 360,000 COVID cases in 24 hours

3,293 related deaths and 2,61,162 recoveries were reported in the last 24 hours

NEW DELHI: Witnessing a continuous surge in coronavirus infections across the country, India reported over 3.60 lakh fresh COVID-19 cases and close to 3,300 related deaths in the last 24 hours, its biggest single-day hike since the onset of the pandemic.

A total of 3,60,960 new COVID-19 cases, 3,293 related deaths and 2,61,162 recoveries were reported in the last 24 hours, taking the total active cases to 29,78,709, as per the health ministry update on Wednesday morning. The total count of positive cases now stands at 1,79,97,267 whereas the death toll has soared up to 2,01,187



deaths. A total of 1,48,17,371 people have recovered so far from the disease.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as many as 28,27,03,789 samples have been tested for COVID-19 up to April 27. Of these 17,23,912 samples were tested on Tuesday.

The total doses of the COVID-19 vaccine administered stand at over 14,78,27,367 crore, informed the health ministry.

WHO bolsters support to India

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday said that it has bolstered its COVID-19 response in India by redeploying 2,600 health experts from other programs to counter the recent daily spike in cases and deaths.

In an email to CNN, WHO spokesperson Tarik Jasarevic said: “As is true in any country, WHO has said the combination

of relaxing of personal protective measures, mass gatherings and more contagious variants while vaccine coverage is still low can create a perfect storm.” The health body also said that the problem of hospital overcrowding is being aggravated by patients who may not need to be there.

“Currently, part of the problem is that many people rush to the hospital (also because they do not have access to information/ advice), even though home-based care monitoring can be managed very safely,” said Jasarevic.

The WHO spokesperson further said that less than 15 per cent of people who have contracted the virus actually need hospital care and even fewer will need oxygen.

WHO is also appealing for people to not stockpile essential supplies like oxygen cylinders and drugs, CNN reported.

The World Health Organization (WHO) will provide 4,000 oxygen concentrators to India which is experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases and related deaths, a spokesperson of the global health body said on Tuesday. **ANI**



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Biden to unveil \$1.8 trillion American Families Plan

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden will mark 100 days in office on Wednesday with an address to Congress in which he will announce a new historic spending plan for children, families and education, senior administration officials said.

During the televised speech, the president will lay out his American Families Plan. He is hoping to get approval from a deeply divided Congress for a further \$1.8 trillion (€1.49 trillion) in government spending.

The program follows on the heels of the president's American Jobs Plan for infrastructure spending, which he unveiled at the beginning of April, and would be largely funded by reversing tax cuts for the rich introduced by his predecessor, Donald Trump.

“The president will be proposing a set of measures to make sure the wealthiest Americans pay the taxes that they owe, while also ensuring that no one making less than \$400,000 a year will see their taxes go up,” an official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The official cited by AFP said one of the main aims is to reduce child poverty while also supporting parents with childcare so that they, especially mothers, can remain in work. The Biden administration is hoping that raising taxes on only the wealthiest people will increase voter support. The Democrats are aiming to get key legislation through before the midterms in 2024 when there is a good chance that they will lose their razor-thin majority in Congress. **ANI**

NEW GUIDANCE

Fully vaccinated Americans can go outdoors without masks: US CDC

WASHINGTON: New guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said it is safe for people who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to be outside without a mask, but only in small groups.

According to The Hill, the guidance, which CDC Director Rochelle Walensky outlined during a White House press conference Tuesday, builds on previous updates from the agency about the activities people can feel comfortable with once fully vaccinated. According to the agency, fully vaccinated people do not need to wear masks during small, outdoor gatherings even if there's a mixture of vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

Dining at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households is also considered a safe activity for vaccinated people to do without a mask, the agency said.

“The release of these new guidelines is a first step at helping fully vaccinated Americans resume what they had stopped doing because of the pandemic, at low risk to themselves, while being mindful of the potential risk of transmitting the virus to others,” the CDC said.

The Hill reported that people are considered fully vaccinated by the CDC two weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines or two weeks after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

“If you are fully vaccinated and want to attend a small outdoor gathering with people who are vaccinated and unvaccinated or dining at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households, the science shows if you're vaccinated, you can do so safely unmasked,” Walensky said

More than 42 per cent of the US population has received at least one vaccine dose, including nearly 30 percent who have been fully vaccinated, according to the CDC

as quoted by Sputnik. “Generally, for vaccinated people, outdoor activities without a mask are safe.”

More than 42 per cent of the US population has received at least one vaccine dose, including nearly 30 percent who have been fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

CDC emphasized that it's ultimately up to individuals to consider their own personal situation and the risk to themselves, their family, and community before venturing out without a mask.

Even vaccinated people should wear a mask when outdoors in a crowded public space, indoors in public spaces like a mall or even a small indoor gathering with a mixture of vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

Studies have consistently found the risk of transmitting COVID-19 is significantly reduced when outdoors, particularly when individuals are socially distanced. Experts have increasingly questioned the need for mask use outdoors given the rising percentage of Americans who are vaccinated against the virus. **ANI**



JAZEERA STEEL

حديد الجزيرة

Chairperson's Report – 31st March 2021

On behalf of the Board of Directors, enclosed herewith are the Financial Statements for the three months ending March 31, 2021.

Highlights of the performance for the three months can be summarized as follows:

Particulars	Group			Parent		
	Q1 2021	Q1 2020	Growth %	Q1 2021	Q1 2020	Growth %
Production in MT	101,472	101,408	-	101,472	101,408	-
Sales in MT	97,802	99,072	(1%)	99,112	98,153	1%
Sales Value in RO	30,176,239	24,219,646	25%	30,354,930	23,915,892	27%
Net Profit in RO	1,987,275	379,103	424%	1,933,479	321,827	501%

The First Quarter of 2021 in comparison to Q4 2020 on a more optimistic note even though the world has not recovered yet from the dangers of the Pandemic. Manufacturing industries in GCC and elsewhere are now familiar with the COVID appropriate safety protocols and are implementing the same. In this regard, we would like to thank the Department of Health Officials in Oman for their constant support and guidance during this critical time.

However, with vaccine roll outs happening at a fast pace in Oman/GCC and across the world, there is a growing feeling that we will gradually win over this surge, even though we are currently seeing a resurgence in cases.

As per rating agency Standard & Poor's forecasts, real GDP growth for the period 2021-2023 is expected to be around 2.5% for the GCC after a contraction of about 6% in 2020. Considering the major contraction in 2020, this could be considered a sharp revival. As per Standard & Poor, the contraction in economies was evenly split between hydrocarbon and non-hydrocarbon sectors. Brent Crude oil was at approximately 50\$ per barrel at the end of 2020 and is now at about 67\$ per barrel, which augurs well for an even faster recovery for the GCC economies. Also, with Oman implementing VAT from mid-April, we should see Oman's fiscal position also improving gradually. Overall, even though there is a resurgence of corona cases, and the GCC countries are working hard to control the pandemic. All participants in the economy are adapting to the new normal and keeping their respective businesses operating, albeit in line with the new economic realities.

Your company has adjusted well with the circumstances and leveraged its core strengths of trust and proximity to customers. Strict adherence to COVID appropriate behavior in our production facilities and offices ensured that we operated without interruptions. This combined with cost cutting measures, mill efficiency measures and sharp/ JIT procurement were key assets to the performance of the company in the first quarter. Also, as the various economies recovered, we have seen an appreciation in commodity prices, which the company used to its advantage. This can be clearly seen in the business results of the company. Therefore, while sales remained in line with Q1 2020, the company was able to maximize margins due to a smart product / market mix strategy and using the commodity cycle to its advantage. The above strategy resulted in the company making a net profit of 1.987M OMR in Q1 – 2021, a substantial increase over the 0.379M OMR made in Q1 – 2020.

Having experienced a very good quarter, it would be prudent to mention that we are in the midst of a strong upward trend in commodity prices, fueled by shortages in some markets. However, this situation could correct, exerting pressure on commodity prices.

The Company, as a corporate policy, continuously invests in human resources and provides training to its employees to develop their skills at various levels. Local employment is encouraged and today we have achieved 43% Omanisation in our workforce.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Company and the Board of Directors, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to *His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq* for the encouragement and support given by his Government to the industrial development in Oman. Also, I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders and very importantly our employees and the management team for the support and co-operation extended, which in turn reflects the confidence placed in the Company.

On Behalf of the Board

Amal Suhail Salim Bahwan
Chairperson of the Board of Directors
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Consolidated and separate condensed interim statement of financial position as at 31 March 2021 (Expressed in Omani Rial)

	Group		Parent Company	
	31 March 2021 (Un-audited)	31 December 2020 (audited)	31 March 2021 (Un-audited)	31 December 2020 (audited)
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	15,576,932	15,902,418	15,556,164	15,881,101
Right-of-use assets	911,682	399,320	811,824	293,586
Investment in a subsidiary	-	-	258,244	258,244
Total non-current assets	16,488,614	16,301,738	16,626,232	16,432,931
Current assets				
Inventories	20,714,070	17,621,997	20,019,492	17,230,811
Trade and other receivables	34,986,434	32,549,476	35,405,160	32,789,572
Cash and bank balances	3,849,993	4,479,061	3,749,498	4,325,001
Total current assets	59,550,497	54,650,534	59,174,150	54,345,384
Total assets	76,039,111	70,952,272	75,800,382	70,778,315
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Capital and reserves				
Share capital	12,489,796	12,489,796	12,489,796	12,489,796
Share premium	13,856,484	13,856,484	13,856,484	13,856,484
Legal reserve	4,166,344	4,166,344	4,163,266	4,163,266
Retained earnings	14,163,321	13,924,617	14,212,918	14,028,010
Total capital and reserves	44,675,945	44,437,241	44,722,464	44,537,556
Non-current liabilities				
Employees' benefit liabilities	1,498,320	1,450,923	1,470,876	1,423,479
Lease liabilities - non-current portion	1,026,904	579,014	937,380	482,178
Deferred tax liabilities	72,692	137,347	72,692	137,347
Total non-current liabilities	2,597,916	2,167,284	2,480,948	2,043,004
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	12,069,255	10,602,891	11,939,444	10,498,875
Bank borrowings	15,254,291	12,947,519	15,254,291	12,947,519
Lease liabilities - current portion	154,371	95,143	125,124	65,896
Income tax payable	1,287,333	702,194	1,278,111	685,465
Total current liabilities	28,765,250	24,347,747	28,596,970	24,197,755
Total liabilities	31,363,166	26,515,031	31,077,918	26,240,759
Total equity and liabilities	76,039,111	70,952,272	75,800,382	70,778,315
Net assets per share	0.358	0.356	0.358	0.357

Consolidated and separate condensed interim statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the three months period ended 31 March 2021 (Expressed in Omani Rial)

	Group		Parent Company	
	Period from 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021 (Un-audited)	Period from 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 (Un-audited)	Period from 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021 (Un-audited)	Period from 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 (Un-audited)
Revenue	30,176,239	24,219,646	30,354,930	23,915,892
Cost of sales	(25,018,642)	(21,436,482)	(25,313,378)	(21,258,645)
Gross profit	5,157,597	2,783,164	5,041,552	2,657,247
Expenses				
Selling and distribution expenses	(1,586,897)	(1,183,971)	(1,579,425)	(1,182,461)
General and administrative expenses	(942,036)	(976,314)	(896,227)	(919,042)
Other operating expenses	(7,837)	(7,437)	(9,108)	(7,437)
	(2,536,770)	(2,167,722)	(2,484,760)	(2,108,940)
Operating profit for the period	2,620,827	615,442	2,556,792	548,307
Finance costs (net of finance income)	(103,714)	(61,513)	(95,322)	(151,654)
Net profit before tax for the period	2,517,113	453,929	2,461,470	396,653
Income tax expense	(529,838)	(74,826)	(527,991)	(74,826)
Net profit after tax and total comprehensive income for the period	1,987,275	379,103	1,933,479	321,827
Net profit attributable to the Parent Company	1,987,275	379,103		
Earnings per share - basic and diluted	0.016	0.003	0.015	0.003

ذات المواصفات عالية الجودة

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Kohli and Rahul hold on to their spots, Rizwan breaks into top 10 in rankings

Rizwan is the 2nd highest ranked Pakistan batsman in the list, only behind captain Babar Azam, who is now in third place

DUBAI: Pakistan opener Mohammad Rizwan on Wednesday made his maiden entry into the top 10 of the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings after a player of the series performance in Zimbabwe that helped his team prevail 2-1. The 28-year-old wicketkeeper-batsman's unbeaten knocks of 82 and 91 in the first and third matches helped him gain five slots to reach 10th position,



ICC RANKINGS: India batters Virat Kohli and KL Rahul have held on to their fifth and seventh spots respectively in the T20I rankings.

overtaking the likes of England captain Eoin Morgan and India opener Rohit Sharma. Rizwan is the second-highest ranked Pakistan batsman in the list, only behind captain Babar Azam, who is now in third place. India batters Virat Kohli and KL Rahul have held on to their fifth and seventh spots respectively in the T20I rankings. Fast bowlers Haris Rauf (up to

17 places to 21st) and Mohammad Hasnain (up to 52 places to joint-65th) are the other Pakistan players to gain in the latest weekly update to the men's rankings, which is carried out on Wednesdays.

Leg-spinner Usman Qadir shares the 65th slot with Hasnain after progressing 12 spots. For Zimbabwe, Wesley Madhevere has gained 88 places to reach joint-132nd position after finishing as Zimbabwe's leading scorer in the series with 89 runs while Craig Ervine has advanced 20 slots to 126th position in the latest update, which also takes into account the last three matches of the Nepal tri-series, won by the hosts. Nepal player Kushal Bhurtel's aggregate of 278 runs has helped him gain 32 places to reach 61st position and become the leading batsman from his country in ranking terms. Dipendra Airee's total of 147 runs at a strike rate of 216.17 has helped him climb up 56 places to 108th position after the tournament, which also featured the Netherlands and Malaysia. The ICC Men's T20I Team Rankings see Zimbabwe move up one slot to the 11th position, gaining three points. Pakistan, who needed to sweep the series to maintain their tally of 262 points, have lost two points but remain fourth on the list. Nepal has moved up one slot to the 14th position, the Netherlands has slipped one place to 18th while Malaysia is in 31st position. In the ICC Men's Test Player Rankings, Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne's career-best 244 in the drawn first match of the ICC World Test Championship series has helped him gain seven places and reach 15th position with his best rating points tally (676) since January last year. Dhananjay de Silva, who was involved in a 345-run stand for the fourth wicket with Karunaratne, has also gained seven places to reach a career-best 28th position after a knock of 166. For Bangladesh, Nazmul Hossain Shanto's career-best knock of 163 has lifted him 21 places to 115th position while teammate Mominul Haque's 11th Test century has taken him from 36th to the joint-31st position. Vishwa Fernando's haul of four for 96 helped him gain seven places to reach 43rd with a career-best 402 rating points. **ANI**

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Madrid, Chelsea match ends in a draw

MADRID: Real Madrid and Chelsea played out a 1-1 draw on Tuesday in the first-leg of their semifinal in the UEFA Champions League here at the Estadio Alfredo Di Stefano. Both teams will now lock horns on May 5 in the second-leg semifinal, and whoever wins that clash will progress to the finals of the tournament. The first goal of the match was scored in the 14th minute as Christian Pulisic put Chelsea ahead, giving the Blues a 1-0 lead. However, 15 minutes later, Real Madrid made a strong back as Karim Benzema regis-



tered a goal in the 29th minute, brining the scoreline level at 1-1. No other goals were scored in the first half and at halftime, and the teams went into their respec-

tive dugouts with the scoreline at 1-1. Both teams tried their best in the second half but they were not able to score another goal and in the end, the match ended in a draw. Chelsea had five shots on target in the match while Real Madrid had just one shot on target. In terms of ball possession, Real Madrid held the ball for 51 per cent of the game while Chelsea held on to the ball for 49 per cent of the game. Manchester City and PSG will take on each other in the second semifinal. **ANI**

OLYMPICS

Tokyo organisers announce COVID countermeasures for Olympics

LAUSANNE: The International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Tokyo 2020), the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Government of Japan on Wednesday agreed on measures to ensure the safe organisation of the Games. The five parties will continue to deploy all possible COVID-19 countermeasures and place the highest priority on safety for the sake of all participants, includ-

ing the athletes, and the Japanese public who will be playing host to the Games. According to the latest countermeasures, athletes participating in the Tokyo Olympics are "required to take two COVID-19 tests before their flight to Japan". Athletes will be tested daily for three days after arriving in Japan and after that too they will be tested regularly. "In principle, athletes and all those in close proximity with athletes will be tested daily to minimise the risk of undetected positive cases that could transmit the virus. The dates and times will be set in line with the sports events and schedule," read a joint statement released by the five parties involved with the Olympics. "All other Games participants will be tested daily for three days after their arrival. After the first three days and throughout their stay, they will be tested regularly, based on the operational nature of their role and level of contact with athletes." Athletes are not allowed to use public transport and they will be permitted to eat at designated areas only. **ANI**

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by June 2021 reaching \$63.71, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by 34 cents from the price of Tuesday, which was \$63.37. - ONA

MARKET
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MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 3,734.87 points, up 0.46 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 0.36 per cent at 527.66 points. Muscat Finance, up 4.65 per cent, was the top gainer while Al Madina Investment, down 4.35 per cent, was the top loser.



Bank Muscat (S.A.O.G.)
First Quarter Results 2021

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to share with you the encouraging results achieved by the Bank during the first quarter ended 31 March 2021. The Bank continues to maintain its focus on successfully navigating through the current macroeconomic environment and supporting the Omani economy.

Financial Overview

The Bank posted a net profit of RO 47.15 million for the period compared to RO 33.25 million reported during the same period in 2020, an increase of 41.8 per cent, mainly due to lower impairment charges.

Net Interest Income from Conventional Banking and Net Income from Islamic Financing stood at RO 83.74 million for the three months period ended 31 March 2021 compared to RO 81.23 million for the same period in 2020, an increase of 3.1 per cent.

Non-interest income was RO 37.68 million for the three months period ended 31 March 2021 as compared to RO 34.39 million for the same period in 2020, an increase of 9.6 per cent.

Operating expenses for the three months period ended 31 March 2021 was RO 47.11 million as compared to RO 50.60 million for the same period in 2020, a decrease of 6.9 per cent.

Net Impairment for credit and other losses for the three months period in 2021 was RO 18.08 million as against RO 25.73 million for the same period in 2020. The decrease is mainly attributed to the precautionary and collective provisions created by the Bank during Q1 - 2020, at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the historic decline seen in global crude oil prices. The Bank remains vigilant of the continuing stress in the macro-economic and business conditions and its potential impacts.

Net Loans and advances including Islamic financing receivables increased by 2.2 per cent to

RO 9,277 million as against RO 9,076 million as at 31 March 2020.

Customer deposits including Islamic Customer deposits increased by 2.1 per cent to RO 8,446 million as against RO 8,269 million as at 31 March 2020.

Strategic Initiatives & Key Developments

On 11 January 2021, the Sultanate celebrated the first anniversary of its Renewed Renaissance under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik. On this occasion, Bank Muscat re-affirmed its readiness to play its crucial role in implementing the landmark Oman Vision 2040.

The Bank held its Annual Ordinary General Meeting (AGM) and an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of shareholders on 23 March 2021 using Muscat Clearing and Depository Company's e-platform. At the EGM, shareholders approved the increase of the authorised capital of the Bank from RO 350 million to RO 450 million. During the AGM, shareholders approved the pay-out of a 35% dividend for 2020, including a 25% cash dividend and 10% dividend as bonus shares. The appointments of the statutory auditors for Bank Muscat and the external independent Shari'a auditors for Meethaq for the year 2021 were also approved by shareholders.

During the first quarter, the Bank also successfully closed a 5-year US\$ 500 million Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) bond programme at an attractive coupon rate which was oversubscribed by 4 times.

The Bank signed a Sub-Participation Facility Agreement with a leading Government-related Entity (GRE) to provide housing loans to its employees through a unique financing structure that optimises the GRE's cash flow. In line with regulatory directives, the Bank has extended loan deferments and support to eligible customers until the end of the September 2021.

In preparation for the implementation of value-added-tax (VAT) in Oman, the Bank

conducted several webinars to enhance awareness among its corporate customers.

The Bank launched the 2021 edition of Al Mazyona savings scheme with a record 7,470 prizes worth over RO 11 million being distributed to customers during the year. The Bank also launched a 'first of its kind' Floosi account for youth aged 15 - 17 years with several features to raise financial awareness amongst this demographic group.

Meethaq Islamic banking launched its RO 1.5 million Hibati prize draw scheme for 2021 to an excellent response from its customers. It also launched the first-ever Shari'a-compliant Purchase Card for corporates in Oman during the quarter.

The Bank continued with the steady implementation of its vision, with several customer-centric process enhancements in the first quarter of the year, including increased transactional alerts, auto monthly trade product statements and a prioritisation queue for Global Relationship Management (GRM) customers were implemented this year. A number of corporate customers were successfully on-boarded to secure modes of payment in line with regulatory directives.

The Bank sustained strict health and safety measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the objective of protecting its employees and customers, while maintaining continuity of services.

CSR & Sustainability

The Bank continued its nationwide anti-fraud awareness campaign in partnership with the Royal Oman Police, which won the Award for the Best Awareness Film in Combating Cybercrimes from the General Secretariat of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers earlier in the year.

In line with its commitment to Omani youth and community development, the Bank handed over more Green Sports fields during the first quarter. The winners of this year's Green Sports programme

will be announced in the coming weeks. The Bank also continued its focus on strengthening the SME sector by starting a new Al Wathbah Academy training programme for Omani entrepreneurs in A'Dhahirah and North A'Sharqiyah.

Further strengthening its efforts in social responsibility, and to support the government's online education efforts amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Bank distributed 1,150 tablets and laptops to students from low-income families in the 8th edition of its annual Tadamun programme, which will continue with the distribution of household appliances to social welfare families in the second quarter.

Awards and Accolades

The Bank continued to win prestigious international awards during the quarter, including those for the Best Investment Bank in Oman and the Best Foreign Exchange Provider in Oman from Global Finance.

In Conclusion

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I take this opportunity to thank our shareholders for their strong confidence in the Bank. The Board of Directors welcomes the measures taken by the Central Bank of Oman and the Capital Market Authority to support the financial market in the Sultanate. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik for guiding the country forward on its path of peace and development. We pray to the Almighty Allah to bless and protect His Majesty the Sultan and our beloved country during this crucial time.

I also take this opportunity to wish you Ramadhan Mubarak on the occasion of the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

Khalid Bin Mustahail Al Mashani

INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITIONAS AT 31 MARCH 2021			
	Unaudited 31 March 2021 RO'000s	Audited 31 December 2020 RO'000s	Unaudited 31 March 2020 RO'000s
ASSETS			
Cash and balances with Central Banks	552,100	656,898	586,276
Due from Banks	776,648	574,786	788,711
Loans and advances	7,959,313	7,731,286	7,894,194
Islamic financing receivables	1,317,633	1,251,369	1,181,764
Investments securities	1,686,589	1,847,349	1,489,247
Other assets	241,763	320,688	225,510
Property, equipment and software	67,713	71,389	75,483
Total Assets	12,601,759	12,453,765	12,241,185
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
Deposits from Banks	968,532	939,621	1,100,894
Customers' deposits	7,371,605	7,428,737	7,242,003
Islamic customers' deposits	1,073,961	1,029,768	1,026,632
Sukuk	91,769	90,600	91,782
Euro medium term notes	582,886	390,570	390,811
Other liabilities	435,498	469,802	434,122
Taxation	56,217	47,821	21,612
Subordinated liabilities	13,329	13,198	26,875
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10,593,797	10,410,117	10,334,731
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to equity holders of parent:			
Share capital	357,448	324,952	324,952
Share premium	531,535	531,535	531,535
General reserve	397,168	397,168	384,078
Legal reserve	108,318	108,318	103,160
Revaluation reserve	4,904	4,904	4,904
Subordinated loan reserve	13,090	13,090	13,090
Cash flow hedge reserve	(140)	(140)	(202)
Cumulative changes in fair value	(5,347)	(3,683)	(18,851)
Foreign currency translation reserve	(2,176)	(2,407)	(2,618)
Impairment reserve / restructured loan reserve	2,348	2,356	2,377
Retained earnings	470,814	537,555	434,029
Total equity attributable to the equity holders	1,877,962	1,913,648	1,776,454
Perpetual Tier I capital	130,000	130,000	130,000
TOTAL EQUITY	2,007,962	2,043,648	1,906,454
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	12,601,759	12,453,765	12,241,185
Net assets per share (in RO)	0.525	0.589	0.547
Contingent liabilities and commitments	1,845,005	1,866,147	2,420,557

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INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOMEFOR THE THREE MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021		
	Unaudited 31 March 2021 RO'000s	Unaudited 31 March 2020 RO'000s
Interest income	108,961	112,182
Interest expense	(33,677)	(37,489)
Net interest income	75,284	74,693
Income from Islamic financing / investments	18,314	17,043
Distribution to depositors	(9,859)	(10,504)
Net income from Islamic financing	8,455	6,539
Net interest income and income from Islamic financing	83,739	81,232
Commission and fee income (net)	27,899	26,173
Other operating income	9,776	8,221
OPERATING INCOME	121,414	115,626
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Other operating expenses	(42,587)	(45,450)
Depreciation	(4,523)	(5,151)
	(47,110)	(50,601)
Net impairment losses on financial assets	(18,083)	(25,734)
	(65,193)	(76,335)
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	56,221	39,291
Tax expense	(9,076)	(6,044)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	47,145	33,247
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (EXPENSE)		
Net other comprehensive income (expense) to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods, net of tax:		
Translation of net investments in foreign operations	231	(322)
Change in fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) debt investments	(544)	(7,989)
Change in fair value of cash flow hedge	-	(168)
	(313)	(8,479)
Net other comprehensive income (expense) income not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods, net of tax:		
Change in fair value of FVOCI Equity investments	(1,280)	(12,633)
	(1,280)	(12,633)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (EXPENSE) FOR THE PERIOD	(1,593)	(21,112)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	45,552	12,135
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to Equity holders of Parent Company	45,552	12,135
Profit attributable to Equity holders of Parent Company	47,145	33,247
Earnings per share (in RO)		
- Basic and diluted	0.013	0.009

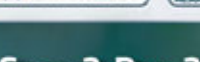
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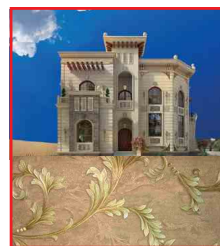
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Contact 95092523, 92438505, 00919595872774
Wts - 00919595872774 mmohdismail1@yahoo.com

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

Sudanese, PMP Certified, 8 years experience in Manufacturing, Maintenance, Water Treatment Plant and pipeline. Seeking for Good Opportunity.

aminol2424@gmail.com
79417515

Logistics and Operations

Indian female presently in Muscat having indian experience in Operations and logistic management, Customer relation and data entry seeking suitable jobs.

Contact: 79639093
Email: gokulah1993@gmail.com

SR. MECHANICAL / MEP ENGINEER / MEP MANAGER

Filipino, with over 21 years of experience (airport, seaport, infra, buildings) Working as a consultant since 2010 Having Oman D/L and NOC.

Contact: +96871180492 allirod1975@gmail.com

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

Mechanical Engineer

Indian, 30, (B.E Mechanical) with 5+years Oman experience in design & supervision of HVAC & Mechanical systems for Comm./Resi. buildings, hotels, hospitals & hypermarkets looking for suitable openings. Valid D/L & NOC available.

Contact 95434381
email: shuhaibbusman313@gmail.com

ASST. FINANCE MANAGER

Indian Male B. Com, MBA having 14 yrs Exp in Accounts/Finance & Admin, upto finalisation, OODQ, ERP, Tally & Online Softwares. Oman D/L, Noc/Release Available.

Email: mq_199820@yahoo.co.in
GSM: 99279626

Accounts & Audit

Accounts & Audit field with 13 years experience till finalization of accounts. Finance Ministry taxation procedures and Value added Tax procedures. Qualified in M Com, MBA , M.A. English. Also does online immigration works in various ministries.

Whatsapp: 98190314
E-mail: richy348@rediffmail.com

Senior Real Estate Manager

Well experienced in management accounting, reporting, marketing, planning and budgeting. Also has experience in the construction and fitout field. really quick learner for any other fields. Looking for a good opportunity with an international or national corporation.

Contact: 71519695
ahmedelsaba87@gmail.com

Procurement, Warehouse & Logistics

Pakistani Male, Graduate, Over 15 years experience includes 3.5 Years GCC Experience, Over 7 Years in Managerial Positions. Valid Omani D/L, Looking for Suitable Placement.

Contact: 91257663
E-Mail: waqasmehar1@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

IT

Indian female, 26 years, Software professional (MCA), having nearly 4 years exp. in India seeks suitable job in Muscat. Currently on visit. Contact 78037607

LOGISTIC

Logistic officer with 15 yrs experience in oman seeking for immediate placement.NOC/local release available. Contact 95271413

MANAGER

Accounts/Finance Manager well experienced (29 Years), expert in cashflow & Credit management arranging loans, monthly MIS, budgeting, Internal and external auditing etc. Contact 98803439

Project Civil engineer 18 yrs experience, 11 yrs in Oman Projects execution commercial, residential & governmental project. Looking for job. Contact 99470854, 97832844

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

FOC Splicing Network Supervisor. Indian, Male. Exp10 yrs in GCC, seeking from India. Contact +91 87787 26083. Email: leninkumar34@gmail.com.

Indian 2.6 yrs experience in fiber telecommunication as field technician, monthly salary 400. Oman license. Contact 79172708 Email greesh.gk@gmail.com

SALES / MARKETING

1 year experience in SM Management, Marketing and Content Writing. Looking for opportunities in Marketing (Digital), Brand Development. Advertising, HR. Contact 92866372

26, Indian male with 3 yrs of experience having valid D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales/marketing field. Contact 95858181

Indian Male 32, 5+yrs Exp in Oman, Property Asst Manager, In Real Estate, VLD D/L, Looking for suitable opening. Contact 92686168

BM, with 26 yrs fmcg exp, handling large distribution looking for better prospects. Contact 90925520

Having 14 yrs experience in Sales & Marketing field. Having valid Dubai D/L, looking for a suitable position. Contact 94720995

Indian Male, having over 20 years experience in sales support and Arabic English translation in Automotive industry seeks suitable placement. Contact 968 99776201. Email ajmal.aleem@gmail.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian male procurement, purchase officer having Bachelor degree in Mechanical engineering,5 yrs experience in UAE in Electrical & Construction company & having UAE D/L. Looking for suitable job. Contact 98227904. Email: nrangra@rediffmail.com

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CONTACT: 91720776

Senior Accountant

Indian Male 34 years Bcom having 13 yr exp as Accountant and Senior Accountant looking for suitable placement. Having Valid Visa, NOC & Oman driving license.

Contact no: 95516352
Email: jerry_4985@yahoo.com

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ROUND-UP

Asyad celebrates world day for safety, health with new initiatives

Since its establishment in 2016, Asyad Group maintained an unwavering commitment to occupational health and safety

MUSCAT: Asyad Group joins the world in celebrating the 2021 World Day for Safety and Health at Work, held every April 28 since 2003 to promote health and safety at the workplace. This year, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) celebrates this day under a new theme, “Anticipate, prepare and respond to crises”.



Since its establishment in 2016, Asyad Group maintained an unwavering commitment to occupational health and safety (OHS) across its various functions, holding the protection and wellbeing of its employees as a top priority. This principle translated into developing resilient, agile and responsive OHS systems built with the latest technological solutions to face any challenge while securing business continuity and safeguarding the supply chain for all sectors.

In response to the COVID-19

pandemic and its emerging challenges, Asyad put in place new dynamic and resilient working systems to ensure the continuity of the logistics sectors and uninterrupted operation of Oman's ports as they remain open to all shipping routes. In addition, a flexible and highly efficient contingency plan was devised and enacted in 2020 to fight the spread of coronavirus in the workplace, set the necessary prevention measures for handling all vessels, safely carry out maritime pilotage operations without

close contact between pilots and crews, notify all shipping agents to submit IMO-approved COVID-19 medical disclosures, and enact container disinfection protocols when unloading containers and before shipping or delivery.

In a further push to minimise the risk of contact and virus transmission, Asyad looked towards the latest technological solutions to digitise all commercial transactions, protecting customers and saving them time and effort. Such digitisation, undertaken with Asyad's strategic partners, is aligned with SOLS 2040 objective to create an enhanced digital logistics community to serve as a pillar in the country's economy.

In 2020, Oman's ports showed outstanding performance and boasted exceptional numbers as their business grew by 5%, ranked the world's fastest in container ship handling, and managed to effectively maintain readiness and ensure consistent operations. The Group followed the best international practices on business continuity as outlined in ISO 22301, yet an-

other standard that Asyad will seek to achieve, placing it among the world's top logistics powerhouses.

After signing the Neptune Declaration to prevent exposing seafarers to extended periods at sea, Asyad's fleet continued its operations reaching different ports across the globe armed with competent and experienced crews equipped to handle all medical and safety-related emergencies. The fleet was further bolstered by developing readiness, protection and contingency plans and supported by an operations room equipped with the latest technologies and software to handle various regular and critical operations.

Meanwhile, in Duqm, the Drydock laid out a solid business continuity plan that observed new IMO regulations and managed to overcome all challenges of COVID-19, successfully servicing 160 international vessels of all sizes and purposes.

An additional highlight for our business continuity and response plans was the uninterrupted ferry service to Musandam. Sinyar con-

tinued to provide ferry transport services while observing OHS and quality recommendations and obligations, including passenger temperature checks and passenger area disinfection. In 2020, Sinyar completed over 1175 trips to Musandam ports and transported around 49,000 passengers, 8,000 vehicles, and 8,000 tons of cargo.

The same precautionary measures were also applied to all bus services to ensure a continuous and safe public transport environment in line with Asyad's customer-centric approach.

As for Oman Post – Asyad Express, plans were developed not only to ensure business continuity but also to integrate health and precautionary measures in day-to-day functions. These measures taken aimed at safeguarding the wellbeing of staff members and customers alike included disinfecting all branches and customer areas, providing sanitisers across the business network, removing touch-screen tools and equipment, and identifying alternative and efficient customer service tools.

CSR INITIATIVE

NBO's Shahr il Atta food hampers for over 1,000 families sold out in just 48 hours

MUSCAT: Celebrating the spirit of giving, the National Bank of Oman (NBO), with the help of its partners, MarkeetEx and Dalilee, and the local community, has, in just 48 hours, raised sufficient funds to deliver food hampers for over 1,000 low-income families.

Part of its annual Shahr il Atta corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme, it is one of a line-up of charitable activities the bank is conducting during the holy month to spread the spirit of giving.

With the help of the community, for every OMR 1 that was donated through the MarkeetEx app, the bank in return contributed OMR 9. Dalilee will now deliver these hampers to low-income families listed with the Ministry of Social Development.



Sharifa Al Barami, Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer at MarkeetEx, added, “We are pleased to be working with NBO on this honourable cause, using our online marketplace to provide a quick and easy way for community members to participate in do-

ing good. We believe at times like these it is a collective responsibility to leverage all means especially technology to support those in need and rekindle the community spirit, and we would like to encourage others to do the same.”

Dawood Al Amri, General Manager of Dalilee, also commented, “As an Omani SME, we are at the heart of the community and the Holy month is the perfect opportunity for us to give back. We are excited to offer our delivery services or this noble cause, and spread the joy of giving throughout the Sultanate.”

Sherifa Al Maskari, Head of Brand at NBO, said, “Ramadan this year comes at a time when the impacts of COVID-19 are still hitting many members of our community hard. With that in mind, we set up

this scheme, along with local SMEs, to help lift some of the burdens on families. We are delighted and grateful for the incredible response this has received. It just goes to show how together, we can make a difference in many families lives.

Shahr il Atta is part of NBO's active CSR programme, established as a platform through which to give back to the community during the month of Ramadan and Eid. Since last year, the programme has been focused on offering support for those impacted by the ongoing pandemic, from food hampers to financial support for vulnerable families and health care workers. Through an ongoing commitment to the community, the bank aims to contribute to the socio-economic advancement of the nation.

PARTNERSHIP



Mazoon Electricity partners with SignBook app developers for benefit of hearing and speech impaired customers

MUSCAT: To bridge the disability divide through digital technologies, Mazoon Electricity Company, the leading electricity provider in Oman, has collaborated with Hayat Information Technology Company, a company that has developed a specialised app SignBook for the benefit of hearing and speech impaired customers.

The SignBook app will facilitate direct communication between Mazoon Electricity and its customers with hearing and speech disabilities through experts in sign language translation. The customised mobile app is available for download on both iOS and Android platforms.

This collaboration aims to augment the experience of the customers with hearing and speech problems and assist them with their electricity-based service needs. It also intends to empower persons with disabilities by ensuring inclusiveness and equality.

Abdullah Said Al Kindi, Acting Chief Officer for supply op-

erations in Mazoon Electricity, said, “We want to promote equal access to our services among all our customers. As per the National Centre for Statistics and Information figures of the 14,380 hearing and speech impaired in Oman approx. 40 per cent lives in the governorates where Mazoon Electricity operates. We are confident that they will benefit immensely from the SignBook app. The app was developed through a rigorous process of research and development and we commend the efforts of the team from Hayat Information Technology who developed the app.”

He added, “The partnership is a decisive step towards bringing the rewards of digitisation to help the hearing and speech impaired people live a better life. We are happy to have taken the digitisation process to the next level by integrating technologies into our day-to-day operations. We can now receive inquiries from the hearing and speech impaired category through the SignBook app.”

ECOMM PLATFORM

KR Group launches Läderach - The Chocolate Store

MUSCAT: Recognised as a much-revered business conglomerate in Oman, the Khimji Ramdas (KR) Group has brought to the Sultanate prominent brands from across the globe. Khimji's Lifestyle Cluster has now joined hands with leading Swiss chocolate-makers, Läderach, to launch its first-ever e-commerce platform dedicated to the finest chocolates.

Nearing 60 years of operational excellence, Läderach, a Swiss family-owned company, takes great pride in being a master of its craft. It connects the rainforests from where it sources the finest cocoa



with the Swiss Alps, which is the origin of its unique taste.

To ensure a fresh chocolate experience, Läderach enjoys an intimate and personal relationship

with its partners while following the most stringent guidelines.

In Oman, Läderach found its most suite partner to mirror the same core values it upholds.

“Khimji Ramdas has always been at the forefront of introducing to the Sultanate brands that are not just popular but also of the highest quality. Läderach truly redefines the art of chocolate making with a focus on freshness,” said Nailesh Khimji, Director, Khimji Ramdas.

Owing to this delicious partnership, chocolate aficionados in Oman can not only indulge in the finest Swiss chocolates but, yes

order them online now and have them delivered right to their doorstep. Customers can visit the website, <https://om.laderach.com/>

It will be the first of its kind in the Sultanate customers they can order from an assortment of Läderach's trademark FrischSchoggi™ which translates to fresh chocolate, pralines and truffles, chocolates for snacking and specially-packed chocolates for gifting a loved one.

“We are certain that this new initiative will receive an overwhelming response,” Sachin Malhotra, COO, Khimji's Lifestyle Cluster.

17 CONCRETE MIXING 12CBM FORD TRUCKS

MHD ACERE delivers Ford trucks to RAKMIX

MUSCAT: Mohsin Haider Darwish, the authorised distributor of Ford Trucks in Oman, recently delivered a fleet of 17 concrete mixing 12cbm Ford Trucks to RAKMIX Oman. These latest state-of-the-art vehicles from Ford will support RAKMIX in further building their business, providing them with quality and reliability that they can count on.

The delivery of these trucks was made in two phases, under the presence and supervision of senior representatives from both companies.

“RAKMIX provides critical services supporting major projects in the construction sector across Oman. It was hence imperative that they have the best vehicles and technical support in the market. We are delighted that they have selected Ford trucks, the leading heavy-duty commercial vehicle in the region. The Ford trucks delivered to them by us will operate in harsh conditions and cover long distances in the years to come. That is why, they needed to use high-performance trucks like Ford, which will continually deliv-



er and meet all their heavy-vehicle and trucking requirements,” said Mohsin Hani Al Bahrani, Chief Executive Officer, MHD Automotive division.

The CEO further added, “Ford Trucks offer quality and durability. Designed for the most demanding environments, with best-in-class sequence and efficiency. An important feature in the new Ford Series is the automated transmission option. With off-road, rocking and economy modes, the automated transmission option assists drivers in keeping their vehicle surefooted on virtually any terrain.”

Expressing his gratitude to MHD Group on the delivery of the vehicles, Bakhit Matar Ahmed Sajlil Al Shanfari, Chairman at RAKMIX mentioned, “Meeting the demanding requirements of our operations is not easy. Ford models have proven robustness and flexibility ensuring that our business requirements are met, while also protecting the safety of our drivers. It is critical for us that our trucking partner can provide ongoing support when it comes to service and maintenance and this was the deciding factor in choosing MHD.”

OFFER

Best time to own a Lexus is now

MUSCAT: Customers looking forward to owning a Lexus can benefit from an exclusive offer that includes free service 6 years or 60,000km and free first-year registration. (Conditions apply. Visit any Lexus showroom for details). The Lexus range includes the IS, ES, LS, NX, UX, RX, GX, LX and RC.

The IS350 is equipped with a 3.5-litre engine that's paired to an 8-speed automatic transmission. The turbocharged IS300 features a 2.0-litre twin-scroll turbocharged inline four-cylinder engine with an intercooler that generates 241 Hp.

The ES is available in options of an affordable 2.5L, 16 Valve, engine with a fuel efficiency of 17.2 km/L and a classy 3.5 Litre, engine paired to an 8-speed automatic transmission with a fuel efficiency of 13.6 km/L. The ES is also available in a Hybrid version with a 2.5-litre DOHC direct-injection Atkinson cycle 4-cylinder with intake VVT-i E and exhaust VVT-i with a total system output of 215 hp, offering 24.1 km/L mileage.



The LS is the flagship of the Lexus brand. It is available in a 3.5-litre V6 Multi Stage Hybrid System producing 354 hp, a 3.5-litre V6 naturally aspirated Atkinson-cycle producing 311 hp and 38.7 Kg.M Torque, and a 3.5-litre twin-turbo V6 engine producing 415 hp and 61.2 Kg.M of Torque.

The NX300's advanced turbocharged 238hp, 2.0-litre engine combines fuel efficiency with outstanding power output, generating exhilarating acceleration for sporty driving, together with exceptional fuel economy.

The Lexus UX has a front-wheel-drive configuration and is powered

by a high-efficiency 2.0 litre, four-cylinder engine, which is coupled with a Direct Shift Continuously Variable Transmission (DCVT).

The five-seat Lexus RX350 is equipped with a 3.5-litre V6 that is mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission. The RX is also available in a 3-row 7-seater option. Also available is the Lexus RX450h, a hybrid version featuring a 3.5-litre Atkinson-cycle engine.

The Lexus GX460 is perfect for families who seek no-holds-barred adventure on their days off, yet also desire an easy-driving, comfortable and versatile luxury SUV for the workweek.

ROUND-UP

Chevrolet celebrates Ramadan with enticing offers on select models

This Ramadan, OTE brings an outstanding selection of offers on Chevrolet that cater to the lifestyle choices of its customers



MUSCAT: Chevrolet and its exclusive dealer in Oman, OTE, are offering a range of unbeatable offers across the award-winning

line-up of sedans, SUVs, crossovers and trucks during the holy month of Ramadan. The industry's fastest-growing full-line brand by General Motors (GM) has something to appeal to every category of the customer – be it the tech-savvy Traverse, the legendary Silverado, the sporty Blazer, iconic and official SUV of

action Tahoe, stylish and most affordable 7-seater Captiva or the sophisticated Malibu. “This Ramadan, we bring to you an outstanding selection of offers that cater to the lifestyle choices of our customers. Whether it’s a rugged off-roader, performance vehicle, elegant sedan or family SUV – our Chevrolet line-up has it all,” said Sudhir M, Chief Executive Officer at OTE Group. This Ramadan, Chevrolet is offering one-year registration along with a bonus in the form of RO100 Lulu gift vouchers on Silverado. Customers can now avail of RO11,950(after reducing Cash Gift) along with registration for a year, a special service package of 3

years or up to 60,000km (whichever comes first) with 6 years unlimited mileage warranty from AAA, in addition to a Lulu gift voucher of RO100. Chevrolet Traverse starts from RO12,999 (after reducing Cash Gift), along with added attractions such as one-year registration, special service package of 3 years or up to 60,000km (whichever comes first) with 6 years unlimited mileage warranty from AAA, in addition to a Lulu gift voucher of RO100. Throughout Ramadan, the Chevrolet Tahoe will be available with an attractive finance package, starting from just RO 19,999 (after reducing Cash Gift)along with one-year registration as well

as five years or 100,000km servicing (whichever comes first) and 6 years unlimited mileage warranty from AAA, along with a gift voucher of RO100 from Lulu. Chevrolet Captiva is starting at RO7,085 (after reducing Cash Gift) along with one-year registration as well as three years or 60,000km servicing (whichever comes first) and 6 years unlimited mileage warranty from AAA, along with a Lulu gift voucher of RO50. This month, Malibu starts at RO7,750 (after reducing Cash Gift) along with one-year registration as well as three years or 60,000km servicing (whichever comes first) and 6 years unlimited mileage warranty from AAA, along with a gift voucher of RO50.

ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNICATION DIRECTORS

APACD names Gulf Chapter Co-Chairs

MUSCAT: APACD (Asia-Pacific Association of Communication Directors) has launched its Gulf Chapter, led by co-chairs Alex Malouf and Saba Al Busaidi. Like APACD's other local chapters, in Australia, Hong Kong, India and Singapore, the Gulf chapter will serve to drive the organisation's grassroots efforts, facilitating insights, meetings and group activities. “There's so much good communication work being done across the region,” said Saba Al Busaidi, co-founder of Viral Oman and a senior comms professional for one of Oman's leading telcos. “I'm excited about being part of the founding team that will bring APACD to the Gulf so that we can share these best practices with communicators in and across the region.” “I've been impressed by how APACD has both given a platform for Asia's communicators to net-



work and become the hub for sharing the very best communication ideas from throughout Asia. I'm excited about how much we can both learn from and share with our colleagues throughout Asia,” said Alex Malouf. Alex Malouf is a marketing communications executive who has spent the last 18 years in the Middle East. Alex has lived across the

region, in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and the United Arab Emirates. He is the Corporate Communications Director for the Middle East and Africa at Schneider Electric. A journalist by training and with a cultural mix that is both European and Arabic, Alex's expertise spans communications and media, public relations and marketing for both multinationals in the energy, technology and FMCG space as well as several Gulf-based government institutions. An entrepreneur in his own right –along with his wife, Alex founded the first business-to-business magazines in Saudi Arabia– Alex's experience includes corporate communications, media relations and outreach, content development, crisis/ reputation management, and digital/social media. Saba Al Busaidi is the head of Corporate Affairs at Omantel,

Oman's leading telecommunications firm. Before this, Saba led communications at the Sultanate's tourism vehicle that was responsible for growing the country's tourism industry. Saba started her career as a civil engineer working with internationally renowned entities such as Atkins and Faithful & Gould. She then followed her passion in the field of social media and was voted as one of the youngest entrepreneurs in the Sultanate of Oman. Awarded the Omani Women's Excellence award in the field of technology in 2014. One of the first in the region to be certified as a Social Media Strategist, Saba also plays a big role in volunteering to support local talent and small-to-medium enterprises. Complimenting her educational background is an Executive Education programme in “Leadership” from Harvard University.

FUSO FJ 4X2 CARGO BODY TRUCKS

Al Minji takes delivery of two more new Fuso trucks

MUSCAT: General Automotive Company (GAC), the official distributor of Fuso trucks in Oman, recently handed over the keys of two new Fuso FJ 4x2 Cargo Body Trucks to Al Minji International, a specialised PDO transport and crane service provider to blue chip clients like Vanguard Reservoir Surveillance services (VRSS). The trucks were handed over to Waleed Said Mohamed Al Minji by Manoj Ranade, the GM of General Automotive Company, at the Fuso showroom in Azaiba. Also present at the handover ceremony were members of the senior management and staff from both companies. Commenting on this occasion Manoj Ranade said, “We are truly honoured to have Al Minji International choose the Fuso



FJ to expand their fleet with. Fuso's global reputation for performance and reliability has secured it a strong position within the Omani market. I am confident that each of these Fuso FJ Trucks will be a welcome addition to the Al Minji International

fleet and will contribute to the success of their operations.” “We established ourselves in 2014 and currently run a significantly sized mixed fleet of vehicles. Fuso is a brand with proven quality and reliability, while also providing comfortable cabins for driv-

ers, all qualities we value greatly. These two new trucks will no doubt be valuable additions to the fleet. These are only the first two of seven Fuso trucks we are planning to add to the fleet over the coming year,” added Waleed Said Mohamed Al Minji.

PERFUMES

Amouage takes liberating voyage into ‘Boundless’ world with intangible ‘Material’



MUSCAT: A journey into a sensory kaleidoscope. Amouage has unveiled its latest creations: Boundless and Material. Together they plunge deep into a synaesthetic fantasy; depicting humankind's awakening to the novelty of pure existence, consumed with the joy of newfound liberation, free from any prejudice

or discrimination. Masterfully brought to life by perfumers Karine Vinchon-Spohner and Cécile Zarokian under the creative direction of Renaud Salmon, Boundless and Material embody the power of liberation. “Boundless and Material are traditional woody-spicy-ambery creations, reminiscent of early

personal olfactive memories of a time when the apparent lightness of life brought us simple pleasures that shaped our happiness,” explains Salmon. “They offer our senses fragrances where natural materials are showcased with rare purity and abundance to echo the life-bringing energy of liberation.”

BRIEFS

Bank Muscat wins Best Private Bank Award



MUSCAT: In recognition of its exceptional breadth of wealth management solutions and customer-centric vision, Bank Muscat Private, the Sultanate's premier banking service targeted at exclusive high net-worth individual customers, has once again won the prestigious “Best Private Bank in Oman” award from Global Finance for 2021. The prestigious award adds to several other international awards received in the recent past from Professional Wealth Management and EMEA Finance. Speaking about the latest accolade to be received by the bank, Abdulnasser Al Raisi, DGM - Premier Banking, Bank Muscat, said: “Bank Muscat Private banking has been repeatedly commended by the global banking community and we are delighted to receive this endorsement from Global Finance once again. No doubt repeatedly winning accolades on the global stage reflects the consistency of performance and the innovative strategies pursued by the bank to stretch its operational excellence. It highlights the standards of professionalism achieved by the bank conforming to international norms, standards and practices.”

Incredible Ramadan offers available on Dodge models



MUSCAT: Dhofar Automotive, the official distributor of Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and RAM vehicles in the Sultanate, recently launched its Ramadan offers on the Dodge Charger, Challenger and Durango. As part of the offer, customers can receive free service for up to 2 years/30,000km on select models, warranty for 5 years/100,000 km, five years roadside assistance, free registration and insurance and several other amazing benefits. The offer includes the Dodge Durango at a starting price of OMR 13,490 with easy monthly instalments starting at OMR 160 after the deduction of a cash gift. The Dodge Charger is available at a starting price of OMR 9,990 with monthly instalments of OMR 120, while the Challenger comes at a starting price of OMR 19,690 and easy monthly instalments of OMR 230. The offer will last until May 31. Commenting on the launch of these offers, Hatem El-Naggar, General Manager at Dhofar Automotive, said, “Our incredible offers were launched to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan, together with our dear customers. Together with valuable cash gifts and other benefits, the offer presents a perfect opportunity for anyone to own one of these unique Dodge models. Each of these powerful vehicles provides an unmatched driving experience with globally renowned quality and reliability. Combined with free services included as part of the offer, it ensures complete peace of mind driving experience for years to come. Therefore, I would like to encourage Dodge fans to visit their nearest DA showrooms to see these amazing models and learn about their capabilities and benefit from this special offer, first-hand.”

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IFTAR BUFFET

Experience the Grand Iftar Buffet served in Taybat Restaurant for OMR 12.00++ per person from sundown to 8.00pm. Early bird offer book for 4 and pay for 3 only, until 30th April. Advance booking required and not applicable to any other promotions. T&C's Apply.

OUZI 2GO

Feast in the safety and comfort of your home and enjoy deliciously prepared Lamb Ouzi. Starting from OMR 34 ++ for a quarter size Ouzi.

Ouzi half and full are also available. Order is to be placed 48 hours in advance. T&C's Apply

GRAB & GO

Grab N' Go offers a variety of Arabian cuisines such as Lamb Shuwa, Chicken with Lemon & Garlic Sauce, Vegetable Curry, Ratatouille, and Delicious Desserts.

The price starts from OMR 8 per person and is subject to applicable taxes with a minimum order for 4 people.

For information, dial us on +968 79140219 or 79495989



IFTAR MEMBERSHIP

Treat yourself along with your family to a lavish Iftar Buffet and save up to 30%!

Book for 1 month Iftar Buffet and pay OMR 8.500
Book for 2 weeks Iftar Buffet and pay OMR 10.000
Book for 1 week Iftar Buffet and pay OMR 11.000

Regular Iftar Buffet Price: OMR 12.000 ++ per person

Membership Prices are subject to applicable taxes.
Not applicable to any other promotions
Served at Taybat Restaurant
T&C's Apply

For information, dial us on +968 79140219 or 79495989

RAMADAN DINE AND STAY

Dine & Stay with us this Ramadan to experience our luxurious & well-appointed classic room or suite with Suhoor and Iftar for two adults.

OMR 43++ in a Classic room inclusive of Suhoor & Iftar for two adults
OMR 80++ in Executive Suite inclusive of Suhoor & Iftar for two adults
Suhoor served in Room Service. Iftar Buffet served in Taybat Restaurant

Valid till 14 May 2021 only | Subject to availability
Prices are subject to applicable taxes | T&C's apply
The rates cannot be combined with other promotions

For reservations or information, dial us on +068 2230 2330



RAMADAN FEAST



NOW THAT'S
MORE



**2 LARGE PIZZAS + 2 POTATO WEDGES
+ 1 LARGE SALAD BAR + 1 HERSHEY'S COOKIE
+ 6 GLASSES OF PEPSI OR 2.245 LTR PET***

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500 BAISA DELIVERY CHARGE. 5% VAT EXTRA.
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FROZEN

4 Pieces
SAVE 40.67%
1 RIAL 500
0 RIAL 890

نقانق الدجاج (أمريكانا) ٣٤٠ غرام
Americana chicken franks 340g

FROZEN

2 Pieces
SAVE 37.34%
1 RIAL 580
0 RIAL 990

بطاطس نصف مقالية (أليين) ١ كجم
Al Ain potato fries 1kg

2 Pieces
SAVE 37.03%
3 RIAL 160
1 RIAL 990

زيت دوار الشمس (أفيا) ١.٥ لتر
Afia sunflower oil 1.5L

SAVE 35.96%
5 RIAL 450
3 RIAL 490

أرز بسمتي (أوباه الهند) ٥ كجم
Indian Gate basmati rice 5kg

BIG 1kg

SAVE 36.52%
4 RIAL 710
2 RIAL 990

رفائق الفطور (كولونا) ١ كجم + ٧٥٠ غرام
Kellogg's corn flakes 1kg + 750g

12 Pieces
SAVE 41.36%
3 RIAL 240
1 RIAL 900

بطاطس شمس (أرينج) ٤٠ غرام متنوعة
Pringles potato chips 40g assorted

5 Pieces
SAVE 41.57%
2 RIAL 550
1 RIAL 490

كاتشاب الطماطم (هينز) ٣٤٢ غرام
Heinz tomato ketchup 342g

16 Pieces
SAVE 43.75%
1 RIAL 790
0 RIAL 990

بسكويت (أوريو) ٣٨ غرام
Oreo original biscuits 38g

14 Pieces
SAVE 33.04%
1 RIAL 120
0 RIAL 750

صلصة حارة (مارحبا) ٨٨ مل
Marhaba Hot sauce 88ml

2 Pieces
SAVE 46.25%
2 RIAL 400
1 RIAL 290

سناكس (سالي سلاام) ١٠ غرام ٢٤ متنوعة
Nabil Salaam snacks 10g x24 assorted

6 Pieces
SAVE 31.94%
0 RIAL 720
0 RIAL 490

كريسان (يورو كاك) ٥ غرام ٦ متنوعة
Eurocake croissant 50g x6 assorted

MEGA BOX

SAVE 35.27%
10 RIAL 490
6 RIAL 790

حفاضات الأطفال (بامبر) متنوعة
Pampers baby pants assorted

6 Pieces
SAVE 36.54%
1 RIAL 560
0 RIAL 990

مناديل الوجه (ماسافي) ١٥٠ منديل
Masafi facial tissue 150's

2 Pieces
SAVE 42.82%
3 RIAL 480
1 RIAL 990

منعم القماش (داوناي) ٨٨٠ مل
Downy fabric softener 880ml

2 Pieces
SAVE 50%
6 RIAL 580
3 RIAL 290

مسحوق لغسيل الملابس (تايد) ٢.٥ كجم
Tide detergent powder 2.5kg

PER KG
DISCOUNT 44%
0 RIAL 450
0 RIAL 250

تفاح أحمر صغير، إيران
Apple red small, Iran

PER KG
DISCOUNT 41%
0 RIAL 590
0 RIAL 350

شمام صخري، إيران
Melon rock, Iran

PER KG
0 RIAL 690

أفوكادو، كينيا
Avocado HASS, Kenya

PER KG
DISCOUNT 63%
0 RIAL 790
0 RIAL 290

خس أيسبرج، إيران
Lettuce iceberg, Iran

PER KG
DISCOUNT 74%
1 RIAL 490
0 RIAL 390

أعواد الكرفس، إيران
Celery sticks, Iran

PER KG
DISCOUNT 47%
1 RIAL 480
0 RIAL 790

بروكولي، إيران
Broccoli, Iran

PER KG
2 RIAL 990

خروف كامل، الصومال
Lamb Carcas, Somal

PER KG
3 RIAL 590

لحم بقر ستريلوين، البرازيل
Beef striploin, Brazil



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— EVERY WEEK —



IT'S A BIG DEAL
— EVERY WEEK —

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