

OMAN STRESSES NEED FOR CONTAINING COVID PANDEMIC

Through its membership in the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Sultanate of Oman will focus on supporting the path of sustainable and comprehensive development in national plans consistent with the noble goals of the United Nations. **>A5**



HM RECEIVES THANKS FROM UZBEKISTAN

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has received a cable of thanks from President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan in reply to His Majesty's congratulatory cable to him on his re-election for a second term as his country's president. In the cable, President Mirziyoyev expressed his utmost appreciation for His Majesty the Sultan's sincere sentiments and best wishes. He affirmed his keenness to enhance the bilateral relations. He also wished His Majesty good health and happiness and the Omani people further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**



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The ministry is expected to measure progress through a series of indicators, with the current development plan looking to achieve a real GDP growth rate of 3.5 per cent, increase the contribution of the private sector to 60 per cent of GDP, and boost investment rates to 20 per cent of GDP.

DR SAEED BIN MOHAMMED AL SAQRI, Minister of Economy



SULTANATE'S ECONOMY ON THE RISE ONCE AGAIN

Performance indicators showed a 10% improvement over the first half of this year, with positive signs for the future

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's economy is recovering, and initial performance indicators have provided plenty of reassurance over its state, Dr Saeed bin Mohammed Al Saqri, the minister of economy, has said. Like countries across the rest of the world, Oman's economy has

also been strongly impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its related repercussions. The minister added, however, that performance indicators showed a 10 per cent improvement over the first half of this year, even as they continue to display positive signs for the future.

During the "Economic Forum"

programme broadcast on Radio Sultanate of Oman, and reported by Oman News Agency, Al Saqri added that the 10th Five Year Plan, which runs from 2021 to 2025, is set to restore the momentum concerning economic growth, and will accelerate the pace of economic activities.

"Balanced economic and social development will be achieved through the implementation of many proposed programmes, initiatives and projects within a specific time frame," he added. "Furthermore, raising the efficiency of public financial management will help achieve and address the current economic conditions, caused due to the drop in oil prices, and the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic."

"There are clear mechanisms to help follow-up on the implementation of the 10th Five Year Plan programmes in particular," he said.

"There are 430 programmes in this plan that will be implemented by various authorities, with follow ups conducted by the Ministry of Economy."

The ministry is expected to measure progress through a series of indicators, with the current development plan looking to achieve a real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 3.5 per cent, increase the contribution of the private sector to 60 per cent of GDP, and boost investment rates to 20 per cent of GDP.

To deal with many concerns af-

fecting the economy, including the decline in oil prices, reduction in public revenues, high deficits, increase in public debt, and the low credit rating concerning sovereign loans, Al Saqri explained that Oman had launched its Fiscal Balance Programme.

The programme aims to help maintain overall economic performance, including economic growth, the development of various sectors, and sustain the purchasing power of the Omani rial.

"This initiative is also aimed at restoring confidence in the performance of public finances, which is directly linked to the private sector, and improving financial performance, which leads to an improvement in the credit rat-

ing of sovereign loans," explained the minister.

"It will also enable the government to borrow, so that it can implement investment and development projects," added Al Saqri. "This will ensure there is no contraction between financial balance and economic performance."

The minister went on to say that small and medium enterprises will play an important and essential role in the country's economy.

SMEs contribute 17 per cent to the national GDP, and the government is instituting programmes to increase that figure to 30 per cent, by the end of the 10th Five Year Plan.

With inputs from Oman News Agency

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



OMAN RNO marks its Annual Day

1 The RNO marked its Annual Day at the Said Bin Sultan Naval Base yesterday. The ceremony was held under the patronage of Abdulsalam Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority (OIA). **>A2**

OMAN Oman, Saudi Arabia sign key pact

2 The Sultanate of Oman and Saudi Arabia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the fields of telecommunication and information technology (IT), on Wednesday. **>A4**

SPORTS Babar dethrones Malan as top batter

3 Pakistan captain Babar Azam's two half-centuries in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 have helped him replace England's Dawid Malan as the batters in the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings. **>A8**

100% physical classes for grades 5 to 11 in schools from November 7

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Students from classes five to 11 in private and public schools will return to in-person education at 100 per cent capacity starting from Sunday, 7 November, the Ministry of Education has confirmed.

The development comes after the ministry issued Ministerial Decision No. 230/2021, and is based on the decision of the Supreme Committee concerning a return to direct education, which was made on 28 October.

The first article of the decision stipulates that students of public and private schools will return to classes starting from November 7,

2021, while implementing the precautionary measures contained in the approved health protocol.

Ahead of the full reopening of schools, a joint inspection team from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education conducted field visits to schools, to make sure they were following proper COVID protection measures.

Precautionary measures

"The first article stipulates that students of public and private schools will return to classes starting from November 7, 2021, while implementing the precautionary measures contained in the approved health protocol," said a statement from



the Ministry of Health.

The formation of the working group came within the framework of continuous cooperation between MoH and MoE, and is based on the guidance of the Supreme Committee.

Phased manner

"Plans had been made for classes to resume in a phased manner in the weeks to come," said an official from a school system in Oman. "Schools have been exhorted to comply with the guidelines of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health in order to ensure safety and well-being of the students and the staff, as on-site classes pick up momentum."

INITIATIVE

10mn trees to be planted to minimise carbon footprint

Times News Service

MUSCAT: An initiative to plant 10 million trees in Oman to reduce the country's carbon footprint is being discussed at an event organised by the Environment Authority (EA).

The event will also look into the importance of becoming carbon negative, the added economic value of planting more native trees in Oman, and the benefits of not wasting treated effluent water by using it for agricultural purposes.

Featuring a number of key government and public sector stakeholders, the event targets the National Initiative for the Plantation of 10 Million Trees from many perspectives. Among the participants was Dr Thuraya bint Saeed Al Sariri, the assistant director general for nature conservation at the EA, and the person in-charge of the project.

"Dr. Thuraya made a visual presentation about this initiative," said a statement from the authority, "in which she spoke of the efforts and partners required to see through the implementation, while defining the importance of initiative in terms of carbon reduction, and the



Featuring a number of key government and public sector stakeholders, the event targets the National Initiative for the Plantation of 10 Million Trees from many perspectives.

added values it could achieve."

It included the benefits of treated water for agriculture, urban tree-planting strategies in line with the project, as well as identifying species of flora which could be planted to help achieve food security. She also shed light on the economic benefits of this programme, and the importance of transitioning to renewable energy. The Omani Sidr Association,

which promotes local species of plants, conducts research, and encourages nature conservation, is expected to be a major part of this initiative. Accordingly, a presentation on the organisation's role in the initiative was made by Dr Ahmed Al Hadary, the chairman of the association's board of directors.

The objectives of the event also include drawing up plans to "strengthen cooperation and unify

efforts by creating a national coalition of all government, private and civil society agencies to implement the initiative and achieve its desired goals, and to overcome challenges in implementing the initiative and finding quick solutions to implement and achieve the desired objectives," added the Environment Authority.

Other aims are to "identify quick investment opportunities

and knowledge transfer related to the initiative, define and envision short-term and long-term initiatives, projects and investment opportunities, and to hold a special discussion lab in this context."

Officials from several government bodies involved in the project gave presentations on their roles, including Dr Khair Al Busaidi from the Department of Palm and Plant Production at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, Noor Al Raisi and Asila Al Busaidi, regional and urban planners from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, and Dr Ali Al Subhi, plant genetic resource consultant, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

Individuals from other companies involved in the initiative also spoke at length about their role. Among them were Hilal Al Dhakri, business development manager at Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company; Nabil Al Lawati, director of environmental affairs, Petroleum Development Oman; and Al Mutasem Al Sariri, head of the Department of Foreign Relations and Social Investment at OQ.





Dhuhr.....	11:55pm
Asr.....	3:08pm
Maghrib.....	5:32pm
Isha.....	6:44pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:58am



RNO marks its Annual Day



MUSCAT: The Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) marked its Annual Day at the military parade ground in Said Bin Sultan Naval Base yesterday.

The ceremony was held under the patronage of Abdulsalam Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority (OIA).

The RNO day, which falls on 3 November every year, is marked to glorify the eternal memory when the RNO was honoured to receive the banner from the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour on 3 November 1990.

The ceremony included graduation of a new batch of recruits. Diverse programmes reflecting the RNO's personnel capability and competency were performed, thanks to the royal keenness and care of His Majesty the Sultan, the Supreme Commander.

Activities of the ceremony began by playing the Royal Anthem to the chief guest.

The chief guest inspected the front parade column and then

pinned long service and good conduct medals on RNO personnel in appreciation of their sincere efforts in serving the country and His Majesty the Sultan.

Various military and musical shows were staged by the parade column that depicted the progress witnessed by the RNO under the reign of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander.

After that, the participants at the parade chanted the RNO anthem and proclaimed thrice Long Live His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander.

The ceremony was attended by commanders of the Sultan Armed Forces (SAF), military and security units, members of the State Council and Shura Council, senior officers at SAF, military and security departments, Military Attachés at embassies of the sisterly and friendly countries in Muscat, sheiks and dignitaries of the governorates of South and North Al Batinah and RNO personnel. -ONA



MEETING

Shura Council to meet on November 7

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Majlis Al Shura will convene its first and second sessions of the third annual convening (2021/2022) for the ninth term on Sunday and Monday (7th and 8th November).

In the first session, Majlis Al Shura will elect the members of Shura Office for the remaining term.

The statement was made by Sheikh Ahmed Mohammed Al Nadabi, Secretary General of Majlis, who said the second session would discuss the work plans of the permanent committees of Majlis for the third annual convening of the ninth term.

The second session would also

discuss the report of the economic and financial committee on the impacts of the electricity subsidy for citizens and economic sectors and on the challenges facing SMEs and incentives required for SMEs, he said, adding that the session would also discuss the report of the Food and Water Security Committee.

General Budget

The session would acquaint the members with the General Budget of the State for 2022 recently referred to Majlis Al Shura among other issues, he added.

The session would be open and held in the presence of representatives of the media and citizens interested in attending.

FBISE SSC-I & HSSC-I

PSM students achieve 100% results in annual exams

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Pakistan School Muscat has achieved another hallmark by producing 100 percent results in the FBISE SSC-I & HSSC-I annual exams, 2021 despite the severe circumstances brought about by the pandemic.

Muhammad Basim has achieved first position by scoring 513/520 marks, Raneem Ish-tiaq came second with 512 marks and Samra Imran third with 511 marks in the FBISE SSC-I annual examination 2021. Both Muhammad Omar and Bisma Shafqat have achieved the first

position by securing 494 (97.8%) marks, Anas Hameed second position 491 (96.3%) marks, Ayza Amjad third position 481 marks (94.3%) in the FBISE HSSC-I annual examination.

PSM, one of the prominent institutions in the region, has been implementing cutting-edge strategies to increase students' achievement level since its inception. It aims to spark a pursuit of knowledge in students so that they may keep on learning and become a valuable part of society.

In this connection, the school induces the latest tools and technology-based plans to cater to the contemporary needs of learners.

Owing to its timely planning and up-to-date strategies, the students of PSM Federal Stream have produced marvellous academic results in their FBISE Annual Examinations, 2021 by scoring significant grades in spite of the severe constraints caused by Covid-19 pandemic.

They have made a history by scoring the highest-ever results in SSC-I and HSSC-I levels. These outstanding grades make up 44% A+, 20% A & 18% B of the total result in SSC-I level which is an outstanding record-breaking performance in the history of PSM and a significant proof of the very high standard

of studies being followed, untiring efforts of the faculty, hard work of the students, concern of the parents and above all the unconditional academic support by the school management and governing authorities.

This result is catalysed by the efforts of the teachers who always went the extra mile to take students to this level of academic excellence. It has all been possible by the joint team work under the dynamic guidance and supervision of the Senior Principal Nasir Nawaz, the Central Coordinator Gul Rahim and the backstage support by the Pakistan School Steering Committee.





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**Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Health**

ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Directorate General of Financial Affairs
at Ministry Of Health**
announces

to all companies and institutions dealing with
(MOH Headquarters) and
(Directorates General of Health Services and its
affiliated departments at all the Governorates)
to submit their invoices to the concerned authorities
not later than **15.11.2021**, to settle all their claims
before the end of current year 2021 .

BILATERAL TIES

Oman, Saudi Arabia sign key pact in telecom and IT sectors

RIYADH: The Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the fields of telecommunication and information technology (IT), on Wednesday.

The MoU was signed by Eng. Said Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology and Eng. Abdullah Amer Al Swaha, KSA Minister of Communication and Information Technology.

The MoU stipulates cooperation in the fields of digital transformation, investment in digital economy, fostering talents and IT.

Exchanging best practices
It also covers the scope of cooperation in exchanging best practices and experts, as well as participating in meetings, joint work sessions and implementing joint programmes and initiatives.

Talks on regulating air transport services held

RIYADH: A session of talks was held on Wednesday between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) on regulating air transport services.

The Omani side was headed by Eng. Naif Ali Al Abri, Chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)

whilst the Saudi side was led by Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Duailej, President of the General Authority of Civil Aviation. The talks reviewed air traffic between the two countries, as well as investment and logistic opportunities in the civil aviation sector. — **ONA**

The MoU will include a training programme for 1,000 participants in the areas of cybersecurity, digital transformation, web development, python programming and the internet of things (IoT). Additionally, 25,000 participants will benefit from the Digital Giving Webinar.

— **ONA**



الوطنية للتأمين على الحياة والعام

NATIONAL LIFE & GENERAL INSURANCE

Ominvest Group

مجموعة اومينفست

NATIONAL LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY SAOG AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

DIRECTORS' REPORT

For nine months ended 30 September 2021

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of National Life & General Insurance Co SAOG ("the Company" or "NLGIC"), it's my pleasure to present to you the unaudited results of the group for the nine-months ended 30 September 2021.

Performance Highlights for the nine months ended 30 September 2021:

Gross Premiums and Net Underwriting Results:

During the nine-months ended 30 September 2021, Gross Written Premium (GWP) rose by 8% to RO 121.5 million as compared to RO 113 million recorded over the corresponding period of the previous year. The growth in GWP of RO 8.6 million is mainly from overseas operations with increase of RO 5.1 million from UAE and Kuwait and the balance RO 3.5 million from Oman operations.

The Net Underwriting Result (NUR) of RO 14.1 million for the nine-months ended 30 September 2021 is 39% lower than the NUR of RO 23.2 million over the corresponding period of the previous year. The previous period NUR had a high profit margin of 21% on the GWP mainly driven by lower claims reported during the Covid lockdown in the second and third quarter of 2020.

During the nine-months ended 30 September 2021, the Company has achieved a healthy 12% margin on GWP, despite high level of Covid claims in the company's Life portfolio and certain increased payouts in Motor portfolio. Up to the third quarter 2021, the Company has incurred Covid claims of RO 3.2 million with net impact of RO 1.2 million after reinsurance recoveries in its Life portfolio. For the next quarter, we expect improvement in Company's Life portfolio profitability, with reduction in Covid claims considering the high levels of vaccinations achieved by the countries in which the company operates.

NLGIC is digitally ready with focus on innovation, collaboration, and profitable growth. NLGIC continues to work on various strategies focusing on growth avenues, enhancing profitability and customer centricity. Few of the notable developments during the third quarter of 2021 are commencement of Individual Medical business in Abu Dhabi, extending operational hours for six branches in Oman upto 8 pm in order to deliver better customer services and implementation of Oracle Fusion system for its Finance, Procurement Payroll & Innovation modules across all geographic locations.

Investment Income

Investment income made a healthy contribution to the Company's profitability and the long-term investment strategies employed by the company are providing enhanced investment income year on year. The company's investment income during the nine-months ended 30 September 2021 rose by 36% to RO 4.4 million as compared to RO 3.2 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. The increase in Investment Income of RO 1.2 million is attributable to realized gain of RO 0.8 million from sale of bonds during the first half of 2021 and rise in fixed investment income of RO 0.4 million.

Net Profit After Tax (NPAT)

Despite various challenges, the Company achieved margin of 12% in its NUR, which coupled with an increase in investment income and controlled management expenses has resulted in a Net Profit After Tax of RO 7.1 million during the nine-months ended 30 September 2021.

Material events

Cyclone Shaheen hit the nation in October 2021, with most of the damage in the Batinah region. Although NLGIC branches and assets have not been damaged in the cyclone, some employees and customers of NLGIC have been impacted by the cyclone. Claims of RO 1 million have been reported to the Company in its motor and non-motor portfolios which are being settled promptly with a view to provide relief to the affected parties. A major portion of these claims are well covered under reinsurance arrangement.

Acknowledgements

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik for his dynamic and progressive leadership. Under His Majesty's visionary leadership, we pray for the steady growth, stability, and enduring prosperity of our great country. We also extend our sincere congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and the people of Oman on the occasion of 51st National Day.

I would like to thank our esteemed shareholders, partners and regulators for their continued support and trust. I would also like to especially thank the management team and all our employees for their performance, hard work and commitment.

Khalid Muhammad AlZubair

Chairman

30 Sep 2021

RO

(Unaudited)

31 Sep 2020

RO

(Audited)

30 Sep 2020

RO

(Unaudited)

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents

7,270,853

10,233,957

7,918,808

Bank deposits

46,897,206

41,596,096

41,166,206

Investments at fair value through profit or loss

915,595

-

-

Investments carried at amortised cost

11,205,858

14,204,940

14,213,376

Investments carried at fair value through other comprehensive income

35,102,824

37,034,234

33,355,715

Insurance and reinsurance receivables

61,666,876

43,155,850

57,289,144

Reinsurance share of outstanding claims and IBNR reserve

6,539,497

5,867,158

7,891,104

Reinsurance share of actuarial/ mathematical and unexpired risk reserve

11,664,193

10,307,915

11,943,192

Other receivables and prepayments

18,614,660

5,698,261

9,889,598

Loans to policyholders

81,083

113,873

130,705

Property and equipment

6,633,683

6,943,707

6,706,073

Deferred tax asset

265,706

197,262

487,824

Intangible Assets (including Goodwill)

454,950

472,647

478,546

Total assets

207,312,984

175,825,900

191,470,291

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

EQUITY

Capital and reserves

Share capital

26,500,000

26,500,000

26,500,000

Legal reserve

8,966,763

8,261,717

8,162,821

Contingency reserve

14,646,264

12,970,009

12,611,164

Revaluation reserve

447,420

447,420

447,420

Fair value reserve

(143,606)

438,638

(1,311,014)

Foreign exchange fluctuation reserve

(20,219)

(23,710)

(24,832)

Retained earnings

14,977,399

18,826,386

18,090,865

Total equity

65,374,021

67,420,460

64,476,424

LIABILITIES

Gross outstanding claims and IBNR reserve

42,926,748

23,171,076

28,499,835

Gross actuarial / mathematical and unexpired risk reserve

67,423,999

51,541,513

63,841,987

Due to reinsurers

8,789,335

8,088,029

10,894,382

Other liabilities

18,578,845

23,039,850

21,360,687

Short term loan

3,000,000

-

-

Income tax payable

1,220,036

2,564,972

2,396,976

Total liabilities

141,938,963

108,405,440

126,993,867

Total equity and liabilities

207,312,984

175,825,900

191,470,291

Net assets per share

0.247

0.254

0.243

The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 28 October 2021.

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

30 Sep 2021

RO

(Unaudited)

30 Sep 2020

RO

(Unaudited)

Gross written premium

121,547,873

112,975,372

Gross premium, earned

105,665,387

107,536,566

Reinsurance share of ceded premium earned

(17,995,610)

(20,754,886)

Net premium earned

87,669,777

86,781,680

Commission income

2,166,284

2,292,491

Income from policy fees

883,476

732,310

Gross claims expense

(84,747,250)

(76,433,093)

Reinsurance share of gross claims expense

17,640,273

18,715,637

Commission expense

(9,540,143)

(8,861,404)

Net underwriting result

14,072,417

23,227,621

Investment income – net

4,367,984

3,201,314

Expected credit losses on financial assets

23,252

(15,572)

Other operating (expense) / income

(11,298)

(30,064)

Third party administration fees

(859,600)

(869,426)

General and administrative expenses

(9,295,370)

(9,034,775)

Finance cost

(70,739)

(108,218)

Amortisation of Intangible Assets

(17,697)

(17,697)

Profit before income tax

8,208,949

16,353,183

Income tax expense

(1,158,485)

(2,336,180)

Profit for the period

7,050,464

14,017,003

Other comprehensive income / (expense)

(Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss):

Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations

3,491

(2,875)

Change in value of debt investments carried at fair value through other comprehensive income– net

(577,464)

(987,449)

(Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss):

Change in value of investments carried at fair value through other comprehensive income– net

752,070

(827,851)

Other comprehensive income / (expense) for the period

178,097

(1,818,175)

Total comprehensive income for the period

7,228,561

12,198,828

Earnings per share - basic and diluted

0.027

0.053

Items in the unaudited interim condensed consolidated statement of other comprehensive income above are disclosed net of tax.

Note: The unaudited financial statements are available in the website of Muscat Securities Market. However, the same will be sent to any shareholder who requests them either in Arabic or English, within 7 days from the receipt of request at the company's address: National Life & General Insurance Company SAOG, P.O. Box 798, Wadi Kabir, PC 117, Sultanate of Oman.

MEETING

Oman and Germany review bilateral ties

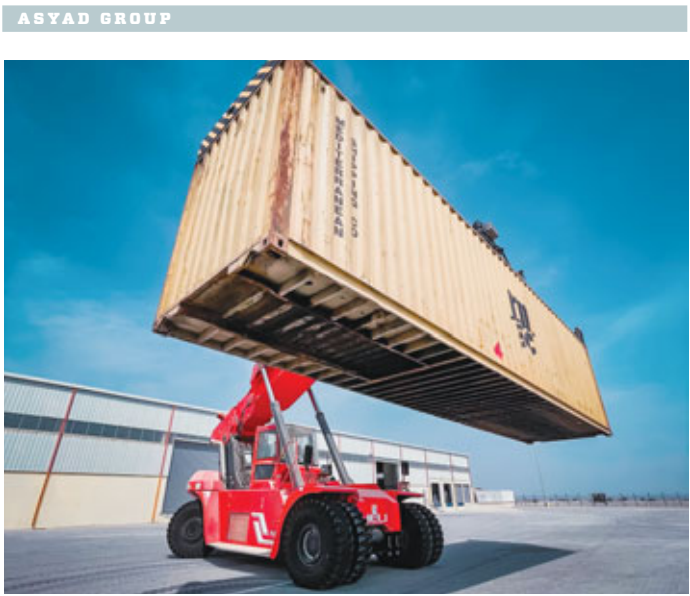


MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister received on Wednesday Niels Annen, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

The two sides reviewed the bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international matters of common interest.

The meeting was attended by

Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary for Diplomatic Affairs, Khalid Hashel Al Musalhi, Head of the Minister's Office Department at the Foreign Ministry, Thomas Schneider, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Sultanate of Oman and officials from the foreign ministries of the two countries. -**ONA**



Khazaen Dry Port operations begin

MUSCAT: Asyad Group, in coordination with the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology and the Royal Oman Police (ROP), announced the commencement of Khazaen Dry Port (KDP) operations as a customs bonded dry port. The Dry Port, which is internationally identified with the code 'OM-KDP', is ready to serve customers and facilitate imports, exports and storage activities of all general cargo and containers through efficient logistics solutions. Located in Barka, it will also play a pivotal role in bolstering trade across the Sultanate of Oman.

Dr. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Abri, CEO of Asyad Ports, said, "Khazaen Dry Port is an exciting addition to Oman's trade operations, cementing its position as a global logistics hub as it serves as an important link between seaports, land and air ports. Shipping lines can use KDP as a port of origin and port of destination and issue through bills of lading for importers and exporters to clear containers and cargo."

He added, "The start of operations will raise the efficiency of logistics in the Sultanate and contribute to reducing the total cost of cargo movement and storage while alleviating congestion at the level of seaports and land ports."

The 250,000 square metre Dry Port is equipped with modern infrastructure to manage all kinds of handling equipment for storage containers and general cargo, as well as international trade and customs services through its one-stop station. The port will also start 'bonded haulage' of containers and cargo under customs seal, which will benefit importers and exporters by bringing the service to their doorstep. Khazaen Dry Port Company was established in partnership between Asyad Ports and private sector companies, Khimji Ramdas Group, Al Madina Logistics and Mubadarah.

Construction operations began in June 2020 on an initial area of 100,000 square metres, with plans in place to expand to an area of 150,000 square metres over the next five years. -**ONA**

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OMAN



MEETING

Royal Office Minister meets German Minister of State

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office here on Wednesday Niels Annen, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

Bilateral relations

Al Nu'amani affirmed the depth of the bilateral relations, and the developments they witnessed, thanks to the attention attached by the leaderships of the two countries to these relations.

Thanks expressed

The guest expressed his thanks



and appreciation to the Sultanate of Oman's regional and international roles. He also touched on a number of matters of common interest.

The meeting was attended by Ambassador of Germany to the Sultanate of Oman.

-ONA

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Royal Office Minister receives Swiss Ambassador to Oman

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office here on Wednesday Balz Abplanalp, Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation to the Sultanate of Oman.

Thanks and appreciation

The guest expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting reviewed the march of bilateral relations and means of promoting cooperation in all spheres.

The meeting also touched on matters of common interest. -ONA



UNITED NATIONS

Oman stresses need for containing COVID-19 pandemic at UNGA

NEW YORK: Through its membership in the UN Economic and Social Council, the Sultanate of Oman will focus on supporting the path of sustainable and comprehensive development in national plans consistent with the noble goals of the UN. This was stated in the Sultanate's before the UN General Assembly convened here.

In the speech, delivered by Omani Diplomat Sultan Mohammed Al Fazari, Oman stressed the need to focus on confronting COVID-19 pandemic until it recedes. Oman called for action to stem the virus at a time many countries around the world continue to suffer the pandemic's repercussions. -ONA



SPEECH: Omani diplomat Sultan Mohammed Al Fazari stressed the need to focus on confronting COVID-19 pandemic. -ONA

INFORMATION MINISTRY

Forum reviews pillars of effective communication with Omani youth

MUSCAT: Represented by the Government Communication Centre, the Ministry of Information on Wednesday organised the 15th Outreach Gathering aimed to bring together operators of government media and communication departments.

The forum was attended by Dr. Abdullah Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information.

The gathering, titled 'Communicating with Youth—listening to them & engaging them', seeks to enhance the role of government departments responsible for maintaining and sustaining communication with youth.

It comes in implementation of the Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik stated in his first nation address (23 February 2020), in which he said, "Youth are the wealth of a nation, its inexhaustible resources and the arms that built it (the nation). They are its present and future."

In the speech, His Majesty



the Sultan stressed the need to found mechanisms and channels of communication with youth in order to highlight efforts undertaken to meet the requirements of the development march in all sectors.

The forum also reviewed the basic pillars of effective communication with youth, incentives to foster their role in the development process, engage them and reward them by channeling the outcome of development efforts to them.

The discussion covered specific ways of carrying out the Royal

directives when interacting with the youth segment. The process involves selecting the right topics and utilising the right measures of communication in accordance with the issues of concern to youth.

It was agreed that the practices would be set in 'frames of action' and 'determinants' that guide government departments when implementing youth communication activities.

The forum explored leading experiences on engaging Omani youth in decision making and visions at the national level. -ONA

WILAYAT OF THUMRAIT

Camel race contests to begin from Saturday

MUSCAT: Camel competitions will kick off in the Wilayat of Thumrait, Dhofar Governorate, on Saturday. The activities are being organised by the Royal Camel Corps at the Royal Court Affairs within the annual camel race festival for the 19th Season 2021/2022.

The events include traditional beauty contests of Al Mahalabah, Al Muzayanah and the camel race competitions. The activities would last for six days.

The competitions would commence with the two days' contest of Al Mahalabah, which includes nine rounds; three for the category of Al Omani-yat, three for the category of Al Hazami and three rounds for the category of Al Dharayib. Al Muzayanah contest would continue from Sunday to Wednesday and includes various rounds for the different categories.

Tender Notice

The Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (owwsc) invites the following Tender:

Tender No.	Description	Eligibility	Last Date of Sale Tender Documents Last	Date of Site Visit	Date of Submission	Tender Fee 25 Rials (Plus 5% VAT)
Re-tendering 01/2021	Establishment of a pumping station the Village of Stal, Wadi bani kharus, In the wilayat of ALAwabi	Local Companies registered with Government Tender Board and specialized in the works mentioned.	24/11/2011	29/11/2021	8/12/2021	Non-refundable

The tender documents can be obtained from Support Services Section Al Batinah South Governorate from the date of publication of this announcement (from 8.00 am to 12.00 pm, Sunday to Thursday) up to the last date of distribution of tender documents stated above.

Tenders should be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Chairman of the Sub Tender Committee in South Al Batinah Governorate and marked with Tender Number and the subject. No other marks or any reference thereto should be printed outside the envelopes.

All participating companies shall submit a Bid Bond of 1% of bid value along with their offer. Bid Bond must be obtained from a Bank registered in the Sultanate of Oman and it should be addressed in favour of The Chairman of the Tender Committee.

Sealed bid along with all required documents shall be delivered to the Tender Box, in the Support Service Building in South Al Batinah Governorate, located at Al Hazm Station in the Wilayat of Rustaq not later than 10:00 am on the date specified above.

Preference shall be given to the Companies which comprise the required percentage of Omanization and possible purchase of Omani National Products.

Tenderer should provide Tender Board registration certificate & Visa Card for Payment

For more information, please contact: 26775601 / 26775602

ص.ب. ١٠٤٧ | الرمز البريدي ١٣٣ | الخوير، سلطنة عمان | IEEF

P.O. Box 1047 | PC 133, Al Khuwair | Sultanate of Oman | 1442 www.owwsc.nama.om

ONLINE AUCTION SALE OF USED ITEMS

The U.S. Embassy Muscat is auctioning used household and office furniture, furnishings, appliances, computers and IT equipment by online auction.

Interested bidders may view the auction items online starting on November 2, 2021 by going to:
https://online-auction.state.gov/en-US
Bidding will open November 4 at 09:00.
Bidders must first register on the site before placing a bid.

All items offered for sale will be sold "as is, where is," which means that there is no warranty, either expressed or implied. Bidding closes on November 8 at 14:00.

Successful bidders will be notified on November 9. At that point, they must make full payment of all lots won. Payment instructions are listed in the "How to pay for your items" section in the "How it works" link on the auction page.
Full and complete payments must be received in the U.S. Embassy bank account no later than November 14.

Successful bidders with fully paid lots may collect their goods on November 20 at the Ghala warehouse.

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VISION Emerging GCC Fund VISION AL KHAIR GCC FUND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021				
The Vision Al Khair Fund (VAKF) ended the third quarter of 2021 with a 3.72% return and 2021 for YTD September 30, 2021. Global markets outlook continues to remain positive with increasing vaccination coverage, in both developed and developing nations. Vaccination rates in US and Europe are inching closer to ~60%, with developing and emerging markets also fast gaining momentum. China's recovery looks worrisome as retail and property sector is showing weakness amid fresh outbreak of COVID-19 cases and tighter government regulations. The world held its breath as a very large Chinese property developer looked to miss its bond payments. The impact on global markets abated after a few sessions, as investors predicted that the unravelling of the Chinese property company would be limited to China unlike the Lehman crisis witnessed in 2008. The Eurozone's composite PMI declined to 56.2 in September due to supply side bottlenecks and slowdown in services industry. There are certain key themes that emerged in the latest quarter mainly including inflation gaining momentum on the back of economic recoveries and ultra-accommodative monetary policies, sustained rebound in crude prices and increase in prices of various commodities due to inflation as well as supply side disruptions and demand side pressures. The Fed remains accommodative towards inflation as the US is still amid a recovery cycle, which is being stalled due to staffing shortages, supply constraints for raw materials and intermediate goods, and of course, rising COVID-19 cases in the country. The Dubai Expo is underway, and the preparations are ongoing for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The region would also benefit from the announced PIFs investment in the region. OPEC+ has decided to keep its supply comeback plan unchanged amid soaring crude prices. There would be no acceleration in the supply as OPEC+ takes cognizance of a possible fourth wave. This has pushed crude to a three-year high and continues stoking inflation pressures for economies recovering from the pandemic effects. There were other supply-side pressures from hurricanes that have affected the US production and the low level of investment across the industry. The GCC region is set for another set of tremendous growth opportunities led by Saudi Arabia and UAE, like privatization and listing of IPOs, continue boost to public-private partnerships through programs like Shareek, capital investment in renewable energy and investment in the regional tourism and service industries. MSCI GCC index rose 35.7% YTD. Qatar and Bahrain were the best performing markets in September. The sector performance chart was primarily geared towards the large cap materials, energy, and banking, with materials gaining 9.4% owing to the rally in global commodity prices. Kuwait equities markets rose for the eighth month in a row, mainly aided by mid and small cap stocks. The KSA markets were buoyant on the back of robust IPO activity in this market. Fertilizer players in KSA and Qatar have been especially attractive amid sky-high Urea prices, once again driven by supply side disruptions seen due to weather conditions in the US Gulf region. KSA Banking was strong on back of lower cost of risk and continued mortgage credit growth. Credit growth elsewhere in the region is tepid despite there being signs of recovery in the UAE real estate prices. UAE exchanges are also witnessing a flurry of IPOs. Travel, tourism, and services sector saw soft recoveries and are set up for stronger gains in the coming year.				
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021				
	As at 30 Sep 2021 RO	As at 30 Sep 2020 RO	As at 31 Dec 2020 RO	
Cash and Bank Balances	1,069,615	203,334	226,909	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7,933,244	7,901,191	8,191,159	
Counter Broker Receivables	-	-	-	
Other receivables	6,087	-	-	
Total assets	9,008,946	8,104,525	8,418,068	
LIABILITIES				
Counter Broker Payable	-	-	-	
Payables and accruals	1,005,694	76,796	90,586	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders	8,003,252	8,027,729	8,327,482	
Total assets and liabilities attributable to the unit holders	9,008,946	8,104,525	8,418,068	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders per unit	1.257	0.991	1.028	
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 1-1-2021 TO 30-9-2021				
	Period ended 1-7-2021 to 30-9-2021 RO	Period ended 1-7-2020 to 30-9-2020 RO	Period ended 1-1-2021 to 30-9-2021 RO	Period ended 1-1-2020 to 30-9-2020 RO
Income				
Dividends	65,326	44,993	235,734	180,699
Other income	545	0	2,456	0
Profit (Muzn Account)	364	48	364	309
Foreign Exchange gain	0	0	25,502	0
Realised (loss)/gain on sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	190,614	51,660	336,085	(543,766)
Unrealised (loss)/gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	203,618	882,193	1,733,341	220,500
Net income	460,467	978,894	2,333,482	(142,258)
EXPENSES				
Management fees	32,488	28,575	97,583	86,099
Fund Management Body Fees	-	-	-	-
Shareholder Board fees	-	-	-	-
Brokerage Expenses (transaction expenses)	4,987	0	12,174	0
Foreign exchange Gain/Loss	-	-	0	-
Custodian fees	5,415	4,763	16,264	14,350
Interest expense on short term loan	0	0	0	0
General and administrative expenses	119,697	20,314	298,557	75,485
Total expenses	162,587	53,652	424,578	175,934
Increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	297,880	925,242	1,908,904	(318,192)
Profit/(Loss) per unit	0.043	0.114	0.253	(0.036)
General and administrative expenses				
Admin fees	-	-	-	-
Audit fees	630	629	1,870	1,872
Fund Management Body fees	0	0	0	0
FX Profit/Loss	0	0	0	0
Shareholder Board fees	2,520	7,486	7,479	7,486
Transaction fees	1,580	924	1,580	8,175
Purification of income	3,781	0	11,219	0
Performance fees	-	-	231,138	-
Other Expenses	111,186	11,275	45,271	57,952
	119,897.00	20,314.00	298,557.00	75,485.00

VISION Emerging GCC Fund VISION EMERGING GCC FUND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021				
The Vision Emerging GCC Fund (VEGF) returned 1.43% for the quarter ending 30 September 2021 and 17.24% for YTD September 30, 2021. Global markets outlook continues to remain positive with increasing vaccination coverage, in both developed and developing nations. Vaccination rates in US and Europe are inching closer to ~60%, with developing and emerging markets also fast gaining momentum. There are certain key themes that emerged in the latest quarter mainly including inflation gaining momentum on the back of economic recovery and ultra-accommodative monetary policies, sustained rebound in crude prices and increase in prices of various commodities due to inflation as well as supply side disruptions and demand side pressures. The Fed remains accommodative towards inflation as the US is still amid a recovery cycle, which is being stalled due to staffing shortages, supply constraints for raw materials and intermediate goods, and of course, rising COVID-19 cases in the country. China's recovery looks worrisome as retail and property sector is showing weakness amid fresh outbreak of COVID-19 cases and tighter government regulations. The world held its breath as a very large Chinese property developer looked to miss its bond payments. The impact on global markets abated after a few sessions, as investors predicted that the unravelling of the Chinese property company would be limited to China unlike the Lehman crisis witnessed in 2008. The Eurozone's composite PMI declined to 56.2 in September due to supply side bottlenecks and slowdown in services industry. MSCI GCC index rose 35.7% YTD. Qatar and Bahrain were the best performing markets in September. The sector performance chart was primarily geared towards the large cap materials, energy, and banking, with materials gaining 9.4% owing to the rally in global commodity prices. Kuwait equities markets rose for the eighth month in a row, mainly aided by mid and small cap stocks. The KSA markets were buoyant on the back of robust IPO activity in this market. Fertilizer players in KSA and Qatar have been especially attractive amid sky-high Urea prices, once again driven by supply side disruptions seen due to weather conditions in the US Gulf region. KSA Banking was strong on back of lower cost of risk and continued mortgage credit growth. Credit growth elsewhere in the region is tepid despite there being signs of recovery in the UAE real estate prices. UAE exchanges are also witnessing a flurry of IPOs. Travel, tourism, and services sector saw soft recoveries and are set up for stronger gains in the coming year. The Dubai Expo is underway, and the preparations are ongoing for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The region would also benefit from the announced PIFs investment in the region. OPEC+ has decided to keep its supply comeback plan unchanged amid soaring crude prices. There would be no acceleration in the supply as OPEC+ takes cognizance of a possible fourth wave. This has pushed crude to a three-year high and continues stoking inflation pressures for economies recovering from the pandemic effects. There were other supply-side pressures from hurricanes that have affected the US production and the low level of investment across the industry. The GCC region is set for another set of tremendous growth opportunities led by Saudi Arabia and UAE, like privatization and listing of IPOs, continue boost to public-private partnerships through programs like Shareek, capital investment in renewable energy and investment in the regional tourism and service industries.				
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021				
	As at 30 Sep 2021 RO	As at 30 Sep 2020 RO	As at 31 Dec 2020 RO	
Assets				
Cash & cash equivalents				
Bank Balance	75,314	223,472	277,367	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	4,915,734	9,655,564	9,920,982	
Other receivables	3,310	-	0	
Counter Party Receivables	-	-	0	
Total assets	4,994,358	9,879,036	10,198,349	
LIABILITIES				
Payables and accruals	289,695	66,922	57,740	
Total liabilities	289,695	66,922	57,740	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders	4,704,663	9,812,114	10,140,609	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders per unit	1.142	0.929	0.961	
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEP 2021				
	Period ended 01/07/2021 30/09/2021 RO	Period ended 01/07/2020 30/09/2020 RO	Period ended 01/01/2021 30/09/2021 RO	Period ended 01/01/2020 30/09/2020 RO
Income				
Dividends	38,650.00	22,261.00	214,090	279,525
Other income	1,393.00	0.00	4,220	-
Interest	435.00	152.00	1,531	1,389
Realised gain/(loss) on sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	242,462.00	-53,195.00	539,238	-829,623
Unrealised (loss)/gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-15,053.00	863,960.00	1,172,086	-285,267
Foreign exchange gain	-8,438.00	0.00	20,406	0
Net income	259,449.00	833,178.00	1,951,571	-833,976
EXPENSES				
Management fees	21,190.00	35,787.00	88,112	108,259
Fund Management Body fees	12,350.00	1,612.00	36,649	36,683
Brokerage	2,372.00	0.00	12,332	0
Performance Fees	120,008.00	0.00	229,014	0
Custodian fees	3,531.00	5,964.00	16,687	18,043
Foreign exchange (loss)/gain	0.00	275.00	-	1,921
General and administrative expenses	5,750.00	17,159.00	18,633	27,459
Total expenses	165,202	60,797	399,427	192,365
Increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	94,247	772,381	1,552,144	-1,026,341
Profit/(Loss) per unit	0.019	0.188	0.209	-0.096
General and administrative expenses				
Administrator fees	2,119.00	3,579.00	8,813.00	10,826.00
Legal and professional charges	353.00	0.00	1,173.00	0.00
Transaction fees	0.00	12,282.00	0.00	12,282.00
VAT	765.00	0.00	765.00	0.00
Other expenses	2,513.00	1,298.00	7,882	4,350
	5,750.00	17,159.00	18,633.00	27,459.00

VISION Emerging Oman Fund VISION EMERGING OMAN FUND CHAIRMAN REPORT VEOF-SEPTEMBER 2021				
On behalf of the Investors' Committee, I am pleased to present Vision Emerging Oman Fund's results for the third quarter ended September 2021. The nine month period ended September 2021 witnessed the VEOF fund outperform the MSM index by 12.03%. The NAV of Vision Emerging Oman Fund was up 19.79% against positive movement of 7.75% by the MSM 30 share index. The NAV of Vision Emerging Oman Fund rose 1.075 and the MSM index ended the quarter at 3,942.50 points. The three month period ended September 2021 witnessed the VEOF fund underperform the MSM index by 0.12%. The NAV of Vision Emerging Oman Fund was down 3.10% against negative movement of 2.98% by the MSM 30 share index. Abu Dhabi was the leading GCC market in Q3 2021 followed by Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Dubai. Oman was the only market to witness a decline. Globally, US, Germany, China, Korea & Brazil declined in Q3 while UK, France, Japan, India & Russia advanced. Brent oil advanced by 52% for the nine months ended September 2021. Oman's GDP for the six months ended June 2021 stood at OMR 15.2 bn, an increase of 10.1% over the same period in 2021 (OMR 13.9 bn). The 2021 budget represents the first year of the tenth five year development plan (2021-2025) which paves the way to implement Oman Vision 2040 development objectives. The budget was prepared in light of the persistent financial and economic challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and decline in oil prices, including the agreement of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC+) to reduce crude oil production due to the decline in global growth and demand for oil, in addition to other commercial and geopolitical challenges. One of the key objectives of the FY21 budget includes sustainability of basic social services and maintaining a level of spending comprising at least 40% of the services. The basic social services are: health, housing, education, & social care and security. On behalf of the members of the Board of Directors, I would like to acknowledge and thank our valued unit holders for the continued participation. We thank the Fund's Management Body and staff for their dedication and commitment. Finally, we pay tribute to His Majesty for his inspiring leadership and vision under whose wise guidance, Oman will assuredly continue on the path towards successful development.				
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEP 2021				
	As at 30-Sep-21 RO	As at 30-Sep-20 RO	As at 31-Dec-20 RO	
ASSETS				
Investment at fair value through profit and loss	1,628,805	1,662,440	1,705,973	
Cash and cash equivalent	57,818	32,211	51,071	
Other receivables	-	-	7,942	
Total assets	1,686,623	1,694,651	1,764,986	
LIABILITIES				
Payables and accruals and total payables	68,089	24,051	30,779	
Total liabilities	68,089	24,051	30,779	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders	1,618,534	1,670,600	1,734,207	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders per unit	1.075	0.859	0.897	
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEP 2021				
	Period Ended 01/07/2021 30/09/2021 RO	Period Ended 01/07/2020 30/09/2020 RO	Period Ended 01/01/2021 30/09/2021 RO	Year ended 01/01/2020 30/09/2020 RO
INCOME				
Dividend Income	4,365	0	86,365	1,01,655
Interest Income	4	119	27	507
Other Income	68	0	430	9
Realised (loss)/gain on sale of financial assets at FVTPL	33,078	-2,533	1,03,687	-15,111
Unrealised (loss)/gain on financial assets at FVTPL	-62,323	37,601	2,25,930	-1,23,567
Net income	-24,808	35,187	4,16,439	-36,507
EXPENSES				
Management fees	6,234	6,321	19,489	18,968
Custodian fees	1,891	1,885	5,610	5,615
Brokerage	2,547	0.00	7,604	0
General and administrative expenses	16,227	9,794	57,308	30,838
Total expenses	26,899	18,000	90,011	55,421
Increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	-51,707	17,187	3,26,428	-91,928
Profit/(Loss) per unit	-0.034	0.009	0.190	-0.047
General and administrative expenses				
Performance fees	6,041.00	-	27,603	-
Audit fees	630.00	629.00	1,870	1,872
Transaction fees	345.00	252.00	930	2,226
Other Expenses	9,211.00	8,913.00	26,905	26,740
	16,227.00	9,794.00	57,308.00	30,838.00

VISION FOCUSSED FUND VISION FOCUSED FUND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021				
The Vision Focused Fund (VFF) reported a 11.01% return for the quarter ended September 2021 and reported a return of 21.27% for YTD September 30, 2021. Global markets outlook continues to remain positive with increasing vaccination coverage, in both developed and developing nations. Vaccination rates in US and Europe are inching closer to ~60%, with developing and emerging markets also fast gaining momentum. China's recovery looks worrisome as retail and property sector is showing weakness amid fresh outbreak of COVID-19 cases and tighter government regulations. The world held its breath as a very large Chinese property developer looked to miss its bond payments. The impact on global markets abated after a few sessions, as investors predicted that the unravelling of the Chinese property company would be limited to China unlike the Lehman crisis witnessed in 2008. The Eurozone's composite PMI declined to 56.2 in September due to supply side bottlenecks and slowdown in services industry. There are certain key themes that emerged in the latest quarter mainly including inflation gaining momentum on the back of economic recovery and ultra-accommodative monetary policies, sustained rebound in crude prices and increase in prices of various commodities due to inflation as well as supply side disruptions and demand side pressures. The Fed remains accommodative towards inflation as the US is still amid a recovery cycle, which is being stalled due to staffing shortages, supply constraints for raw materials and intermediate goods, and of course, rising COVID-19 cases in the country. MSCI GCC index rose 35.7% YTD. Qatar and Bahrain were the best performing markets in September. The sector performance chart was primarily geared towards the large cap materials, energy, and banking, with materials gaining 9.4% owing to the rally in global commodity prices. Kuwait equities markets rose for the eighth month in a row, mainly aided by mid and small cap stocks. The KSA markets were buoyant on the back of robust IPO activity in this market. Fertilizer players in KSA and Qatar have been especially attractive amid sky-high Urea prices, once again driven by supply side disruptions seen due to weather conditions in the US Gulf region. KSA Banking was strong on back of lower cost of risk and continued mortgage credit growth. Credit growth elsewhere in the region is tepid despite there being signs of recovery in the UAE real estate prices. UAE exchanges are also witnessing a flurry of IPOs. Travel, tourism, and services sector saw soft recoveries and are set up for stronger gains in the coming year. The Dubai Expo is underway, and the preparations are ongoing for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The region would also benefit from the announced PIFs investment in the region. OPEC+ has decided to keep its supply comeback plan unchanged amid soaring crude prices. There would be no acceleration in the supply as OPEC+ takes cognizance of a possible fourth wave. This has pushed crude to a three-year high and continues stoking inflation pressures for economies recovering from the pandemic effects. There were other supply-side pressures from hurricanes that have affected the US production and the low level of investment across the industry. The GCC region is set for another set of tremendous growth opportunities led by Saudi Arabia and UAE, like privatization and listing of IPOs, continue boost to public-private partnerships through programs like Shareek, capital investment in renewable energy and investment in the regional tourism and service industries.				
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021				
	As at 30-Sep-21 RO	As at 30-Sep-20 RO	As at 31 Dec 2020 RO	
ASSETS				
Cash & cash equivalents	69,660	210,827	45,735	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,640,032	1,200,274	1,181,717	
Other receivables	-	2,478	-	
Total assets	1,709,692	1,413,579	1,227,452	
LIABILITIES				
Counter Broker Payables	-	-	-	
Payables and accruals	67,813	6,273	7,840	
Total liabilities	67,813	6,273	7,840	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders	1,641,879	1,407,306	1,219,612	
Net assets attributable to the unitholders per unit	1.129	0.825	0.838	
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021				
	Period Ended 01-07-21 To 30-09-2021 RO	Period Ended 01-07-20 To 30-09-2020 RO	Period Ended 01-01-21 To 30-09-2021 RO	
INCOME				
Dividends	9,840	3,024	27,427	
Interest Income	283	61	312	
Realised (loss)/gain on sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	17,818	109,620	64,651	
Unrealised (loss)/gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	176,160	42,218	415,324	
Foreign exchange gain	(444)	-	5,069	
Net income	203,657	154,923	512,783	
EXPENSES				
Management fees	5,961	5,095	15,922	
Brokerage	355	-	4,062	
Custodian fees	1,192	1,019	5,638	
General and administrative expenses	33,303	5,336	64,894	
Total expenses	40,811	11,450	90,516	
Increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	162,846	143,473	422,267	
Profit/(Loss) per unit	0.112	0.084	0.290	
General and administrative expenses				
Audit fees	630.00	629.00	1,870	
Performance Fees	28,738.00	0.00	52,996	
Transaction fees	20.00	1,764.00	255	
Other Expenses	3,915.00	2,943.00	9,773	
	33,303.00	5,336.00	64,894.00	

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India score 66-run win over Afghanistan

Men in Blue lit up Abu Dhabi with a stunning display of power-hitting to post 210/2 as Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul played innings of 74 and 69, respectively.



ABU DHABI: Power-packed batting display from Indian openers was followed by spirited bowling performance as Men in Blue thrashed Afghanistan by 66 runs in the Group 2 match of the Super 12 stage of the ongoing ICC men's T20 World Cup here at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium on Wednesday.

Men in Blue lit up Abu Dhabi with a stunning display of power-hitting to post 210/2 as Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul played innings of 74 and 69, respectively. And in reply, Afghanistan never looked like chasing it down, finishing on 144/7, still 66 runs short. Mohammad Shami scalped

three wickets while Ravichandran Ashwin took two. Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja returned with apiece for India.

Chasing 211, Afghanistan were 47/2 after the powerplay as they stared down the barrel of a heavy defeat. Indian bowlers clawed further deep as Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Gulbadin Naib were removed before halfway point of their chase.

Ravichandran Ashwin struck again as he clean bowled Najibullah Zadran in the 11th over. With runs in scarcity, Mohammad Nabi and Raashid Khan were sent back to the dressing room by Mohammad Shami in the penultimate over of the match. In the end, Afghanistan fell short 66 runs short of the target.

Century stand

Earlier, put in to bat first, a selection reshuffle saw Rohit Sharma moving back up to opener alongside KL Rahul, and the pair more than justified the move with a brilliant century stand.

After that Hardik Pandya and Rishabh Pant finished the innings in style by scoring 35* and 27* respectively.

Brief score: India 210/2 (Rohit Sharma 74, KL Rahul 69; Karim Janat 1-7, Gulbadin Naib 1-39) vs Afghanistan 144/7 (Karim Janat 42*, Mohammad Nabi 35; Mohammad Shami 3-32, Ravichandran Ashwin 2-14). -ANI

GROUP A & B

POINTS TABLE

GROUP A				
POS	TEAM	PLD	NRR	PTS
1	ENGLAND	4	+3.183	8
2	SOUTH AFRICA	4	+0.742	6
3	AUSTRALIA	3	-0.627	4
4	SRI LANKA	4	-0.590	2
5	WEST INDIES	3	-1.598	2
6	BANGLADESH	4	-1.435	0

GROUP B				
POS	TEAM	PLD	NRR	PTS
1	PAKISTAN	4	+1.065	8
2	AFGHANISTAN	4	+1.481	4
3	NEW ZEALAND	3	+0.816	4
4	INDIA	3	+0.073	2
5	NAMIBIA	3	-1.600	2
6	SCOTLAND	3	-2.645	0

T20 WORLD CUP

NZ boost semis chance with win over Scotland

DUBAI: New Zealand defeated Scotland by 16 runs in their Group 2 Super 12 fixture in the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup here at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Wednesday.

The Blackcaps racked up an impressive 172/5 first up on the back of Martin Guptill's power-packed 93. And in reply, Scotland never looked like chasing it down, finishing on 156/5, still 16 runs short. Chasing 173, Scotland lost their openers but ensured they didn't fall well behind as they reached 76/2 at the halfway point of their chase.

Matt Cross struck five fours in a row off Adam Milne to ease some pressure on Scotland. Tim South-ee then removed Matthew Cross in the 11th over.

Calum MacLeod and Richie Berrington went back to the dressing room in 15th and 16th over respectively as Scotland slumped to 106/5. In the end, Scotland fell short 16 runs short of the target.

Earlier batting first, Martin Guptill struck seven sixes in an astonishing 93 off 56 balls to lift New Zealand to 172/5 against Scotland.

Battling the Dubai afternoon heat, Guptill made the second-highest score of the tournament



EXCELLENT KNOCK: The Blackcaps racked up an impressive 172/5 first up on the back of Martin Guptill's power-packed 93.

so far. A double-wicket over from Safyaan Sharif gave Scotland some hope after New Zealand got off to a flying start, but Guptill quickly snuffed out thoughts of a fightback.

Brief Scores: New Zealand 172/5 (Martin Guptill 93, Glenn Phillips 33*; Safyaan Sharif 2-28, Brad Wheel 2-40) vs Scotland 156/5 (Michael Leask 42*, Matthew Cross 27; Trent Boult 2-29, Ish Sodhi 2-42).

-ANI

UPCOMING HOME SERIES

Rahul Dravid appointed Team India head coach

MUMBAI: The Cricket Advisory Committee comprising Sulakshana Naik and RP Singh on Wednesday unanimously appointed Rahul Dravid as the head coach of Team India (Senior Men).

The former India captain will take charge from the upcoming home series against New Zealand. The BCCI had invited applications for the said position on October 26 to appoint Ravi Shastri's successor, whose term gets over after the ongoing ICC T20 World Cup.

The Board congratulates Shastri (former Team Director & Head

Coach), B. Arun (Bowling Coach), R. Sridhar (Fielding Coach) and Vikram Rathour (Batting Coach) on a successful tenure. Under Shastri, the Indian Cricket Team adopted a bold and fearless approach and performed creditably both in-home and away conditions. India climbed to the top position in the Test format and made it to the final of the inaugural World Test Championship in England.

India became the first Asian team to win a Test series in Australia (2018-19) and followed it with another series win in 2020-

21. India were also the first team to win all 5 T20Is in a bilateral series when it blanked New Zealand 5-0. Under Shastri and his team's guidance, India won all their seven Test series at home.

Sourav Ganguly, President, BCCI in a release said: "The BCCI welcomes Rahul Dravid as the Head Coach of India's senior men team. Rahul has had an illustrious playing career and is one of the greats of the game. He has also served Indian cricket as Head of National Cricket Academy (NCA) with distinction." -ANI

Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Defence invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in the following tender:

Subject	Tender Number	Last Date for Inquiries	Last Date to Obtain Tender	Tender Documnet Price per copy (RO)
SUPPLY OF MEDICAL DISPOABLE ITEMS	27/2021	21/11/2021	29/11/2021	1000/= RO

- Tenders documents and terms may be obtained on payment from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, gate No. 14 of MAM Camp between 0900 to 1300 hrs. on the working days.
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Ronaldo's goal against Atalanta was 'Michael Jordan moment': Solskjaer

Ronaldo's goal in the dying minutes of the Champions League fixture against Atalanta helped Manchester United walk away with a point

ROME: Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer labelled Cristiano Ronaldo's goal in the dying moments of the Champions League fixture against Atalanta as "Michael Jordan moment".

Ronaldo's goal in the dying minutes of the Champions League fixture against Atalanta helped Manchester United walk away with a point.

"We kept going, we had a good attitude, we are fit, we did the same as at Old Trafford, we got a goal and we got a very important

point," Solskjaer told BeIn Sport, as reported by Goal.com.

"Ronaldo is incredible, if there's anyone you want the ball to fall to in the last minute, it's him. He's the best goalscorer alive, and it's hard for me to say that because he just went past me with his two goals, now he's got one more goal for Man Utd than me, but well done! That last goal there, that must be a Michael Jordan moment when he wins championships in extra time. No-one can question the attitude



MAGIC MOMENT: For Atalanta, Josip Ilicic and Duvan Zapata got among the scoring sheet while Ronaldo scored both the goals for United.

and character of these players, they never give up, and sometimes we play better than tonight but as long as I see that attitude every time, the quality will come," he added.

United and Atalanta played out a 2-2 draw on Tuesday in the Champions League. For Atalanta, Josip Ilicic and Duvan Zapata got among the scoring sheet while Ronaldo scored both the goals for United.

Heading into the dying minutes of the game, it seemed United would lose the match as the side was trailing 1-2, but Ronaldo's brilliance helped the side in ending the match in a draw.

United is at the top spot in Group F with seven points from four games while Atalanta is at the third spot.

In other matches, Barcelona defeated Dynamo Kyiv 1-0 while Bayern Munich thrashed Benfica 5-0. Juventus outclassed Zenit 4-2 while Villarreal defeated Young Boys 2-0. -ANI

ICC T20I RANKINGS

Babar dethrones Malan to become top-ranked batter

DUBAI : Pakistan captain Babar Azam's two successive half-centuries in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 have helped him overtake England's Dawid Malan and grab the top position for batters in the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings.

Babar, who scored 51 against Afghanistan and 70 against Namibia to lead the 2009 champions into the semifinals, is at the top for the sixth time in his career.

The 27-year-old had first attained top position on January 28, 2018. He is presently also ranked No. 1 in ODIs.

Babar's tally of 834 rating points keeps him 36 points ahead of Dawid Malan but Babar's career-best remains 896 rating points that he achieved after scoring 65 against England at Cardiff on 5 May 2019. Malan had been at the top since 29 November last year.

England's performances in the tournament too reflect in the rankings, with both their openers Jos Buttler and Jason Roy moving up in the latest weekly update. Buttler has gained eight slots to reach a career-best ninth position after smashing his maiden T20I hundred against Sri Lanka while Roy is up to five places to 14th.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga has topped the bowling charts for the



TOP POSITION: Babar, who scored 51 against Afghanistan and 70 against Namibia to lead the 2009 champions into the semifinals, is at the top for the sixth time in his career.

first time in his career after two successive three-wicket hauls against South Africa and England. He replaces South Africa's Tabraiz Shamsi, who was at the top since 10 April this year.

The top four bowlers in the rankings are all wrist spinners, with England's Adil Rashid overtaking Afghanistan's Rashid Khan to take third place with a career-best 730 rating points. -ANI

OMAN SAIL

Mussanah Race Week kicks off with 50 sailors at the start-line

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Mussanah Race Week got underway in perfect conditions at the Barceló Resort in Al Mussanah Sports City, Oman.

Running until 5th November with racing every day, fifty young sailors in Optimist, Laser Radial, Laser 4.7 and, for the first time at week, para sailors using the RS Venture Class took to the waters for the first practice round.

Sailors from five countries will compete throughout the week alongside classroom sessions to improve technique and learn from professional sailors and coaches.

Alongside a strong home contingent, young sailors from Malaysia, Egypt and Abu Dhabi join the fleet to put their skills to the test. Mussanah Race Week 2021 has seen the debut of para sailing, which is a big step forward for the event, with eight sailors from Oman Sail's Sail Free programme taking part.

This introduction comes in the same week that World Sailing launched its 'Back the Bid' campaign to reinstate para sailing to the 2028 Paralympics in Los Angeles, USA.

Sail Free was launched in 2019 on partnership with BP Oman, and it is the first of its kind in the Middle East's for people



PROMISING SAILORS: Mussanah Race Week 2021 has seen the debut of para sailing, which is a big step forward with eight sailors from Oman Sail's Sail Free programme taking part.



with disabilities.

Prior to the event, Sail Free Para-Sailing National Team travelled to Palermo, Italy, to represent the nation at the Hansa World Championships 2021, joining 180 athletes from 25 countries.

Shaima Al Asmi, Mussanah Race Week Project Manager, said, "For more than a decade, Mussanah Race Week has been the proving ground for promising young sailors to develop on and off the water, learn from each other and the coaches and experience the Sultanate of Oman's famed hospitality.

"We're delighted with the depth of the fleet this year considering the challenges much of the world is still facing and in particular with the introduction of sailors from Sail Free. Mussanah Race Week is the first step for many towards a successful career in sailing and we look forward to an exciting week ahead."

ASHES

Stokes a big asset for team, says Root

LONDON: England Test skipper Joe Root has said that he is absolutely thrilled with the addition of Ben Stokes in the Ashes squad as everyone knows what the all-rounder is capable of.

Stokes had last played in the ODI series against Pakistan, and then he had taken some time to look after his mental health.

"Obviously, it's massive news. Speak to anyone within the game, whether they'd prefer to have Ben in their team or not, and everyone would say they would. On a personal level, I'm just absolutely thrilled that he's in a place where he can get back playing and enjoy the sport once again," ESPN-cricinfo quoted Root as saying.

"Although we all know what

Ben is capable of, we're still managing expectations. He's been out of the game a long time, he's had a serious injury and he's got a lot of work to do to get himself back to the Ben Stokes we all know. But if there's one thing we can bet on with Ben it's that he'll do everything he can to ready himself and then put in performances that help England win games of cricket," he added.

England and Australia will lock horns in five-match Ashes series, beginning December 8 at the Gabba, Brisbane.

"He's a massive asset in many respects. First and foremost, his performances on the field, especially what he has done against Australia in the recent past," said Root. -ANI

WORLD NO. 12

Thiem set to return for Australian Open

VIENNA: World No. 12 Dominic Thiem is set to return at the 2022 Australian Open.

The former World No. 3 has been recovering from a right wrist injury that he sustained at the Mallorca Championships. Thiem revealed that he would not require surgery on his wrist, which prevented him from defending his US Open title in September, with his recovery step-

ping up in recent weeks.

"I am very happy to announce that my recovery is going well. The MRI I did today showed that my wrist injury has improved significantly. A couple of weeks ago I started playing with soft balls and was able to switch to normal tennis balls during yesterday's practice session," Thiem wrote on Twitter.

-ANI

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by January 2022 reaching \$81.59, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.99 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$83.58. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,061.43 points, up 0.15 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.39 per cent at 556.10 points. National Aluminium Product was the top gainer, up by 6.38 per cent, while Oman Fisheries, down 9.33 per cent, was the top loser.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 September 2021



Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Bank Dhofar S.A.O.G., I am delighted to present Bank's interim condensed financial statements for nine months ended 30 September 2021.

There was steady improvement in oil prices during financial year 2021. However, the positive impact of increasing oil prices was offset by the ongoing financial challenges and threats posed by global pandemic Coronavirus (COVID-19). Government of Oman has taken several steps to stimulate the economy in these distressed times. Consequent to the meticulous vaccination campaign and opening of commercial activities, Oman economy continues to display signs of gradual recovery.

By the end of September 2021, the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) has announced the extension of loan deferments to effected borrowers till 31 December 2021. The Bank continued to play its role for the revival of economy by extending support to the customers by providing relief mandated by the CBO and beyond.

Bank Dhofar SAOG - Financial Performance Highlights

The Bank reported year-to-date (YTD) net profit of OMR 28.29 million for the period ended 30 September 2021 compared to OMR 26.64 million for the comparative period of last year which represents a year-on-year (YoY) growth of 6.19%.

By the end of Q3-2021, Net Interest Income and income from Islamic financing activities reached to OMR 78.96 million compared to OMR 79.40 million of same period of financial year 2020 i.e. a minor decrease of 0.55%. However, YTD non-funded income increased by 15.12% by reaching OMR 18.50 million compared to OMR 16.07 million YTD September 2020. Total operating income stood at OMR 97.47 million for nine months ended September 2021 versus OMR 95.47 million for the same period of 2020, showing an increase of 2.09%.

The management, during the period, implemented stringent controls and reinforced focus on the cost optimization and consequently achieved 4.43% reduction in YTD operating expenses i.e. OMR 50.10 million YTD September 2021 compared to OMR 52.42 million for the comparative nine months period. With an increase in operating income coupled with decline in operating expenses, the Bank has managed to improve cost to income ratio to 51.40% as at 30 September 2021 compared to 54.91% as at 30 September 2020.

Net loans and advances including Islamic financing, exhibited YoY incremental growth of 2.43% and reached to OMR 3.36 billion as at 30 September 2021 from OMR 3.28 billion at the 30 September 2020. Customer Deposits including Islamic deposits, on the other hand, witnessed higher growth and recorded YoY increase of 11.74%. In absolute terms, customer deposits grew to OMR 2.95 billion as at 30 September 2021 compared to OMR 2.64 billion as at 30 September 2020.

Expected Credit Losses charged to income statement for nine months ended 30 September 2021 stood at OMR 14.45 million compared to OMR 11.74 million for the comparative period of last year, an increase of 23.08%. This increase is attributable to the Bank's conservative approach and management's cautious decision to maintain higher level of provisions against expected credit losses.

The earnings per share (EPS) for the nine-months period ended 30 September 2021 are OMR 0.008 as compared to corresponding period of year 2020 of OMR 0.007.

Maisarah Islamic Banking Services - Financial Performance Highlights

Bank's Islamic Banking Window, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services as at 30 September 2021, posted a profit before tax of OMR 8.17 million compared to OMR 5.55 million as at 30 September 2020, reflecting strong growth of 47.21% over last year.

Maisarah key financial metrics showed significant growth during the nine months period of 2021. The gross income from Financing, Placement and Investment increased by 11.16% to OMR 25.01 million as at 30 September 2021 from OMR 22.50 million reported during the same period last year. The net financing income (after cost of funds) as at 30 September 2021 increased by 22.54%, to OMR 13.81 million as compared to OMR 11.27 million reported at 30 September 2020. Non-Funded income increased by 11.36% to OMR 1.47 million as at 30 September 2021 from OMR 1.32 million last year. Cost to income ratio continues to improve and reduced to 42.58% as at September 2021 from 47.69% during the same period last year last year.

Maisarah gross financing portfolio has grown to OMR 491.73 million at 30 September 2021 from OMR 481.13 million at 30 September 2020, thus registering a growth of 2.20% over last year. The Sukuk investment portfolio increased by 20.91% from OMR 67.85 million as at 30 September 2020 to OMR 82.04 million as at 30 September 2021.

The total customer deposits of Maisarah reached OMR 385.68 million as at 30 September 2021, registering a growth of 12.04% compared to OMR 344.22 million at 30 September 2020. Maisarah total net assets increased by 12.73% to OMR 659.67 million at 30 September 2021 from OMR 585.19 million at 30 September 2020.

Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability

In support of the national efforts to contain the effects of the Tropical Cyclone Shaheen, Bank Dhofar contributed OMR 500,000 to be distributed to impacted families. The Bank has also allocated OMR 10 Million as interest-free loans for affected customers and announced deferment of loan instalments for up to five months.

Within the same context, Bank Dhofar's and Maisarah's "Mujtamaie" volunteer team took part in the relief efforts in the North and South Al Batinah Governorates. The team members were distributed among various areas of North and South Al Batinah Governorates and helped in providing a number of services including hygiene and sanitation, distributing food supplies to the affected families, among other services.

In demonstration of its support to the community, Bank Dhofar sponsored "Ghansha" workshop, which was implemented by Omani Women's Association in collaboration with Seeb Wali's Office. The workshop aims to contribute to achieving economic empowerment for needy families.

As part of its continuous efforts to preserve the environment and reduce waste levels; the Bank invested in getting reusable bags with Bank's logo. The bags were distributed to all staff in branches and departments, existing and potential customers and local hypermarkets and stores. The initiative aimed to encourage the individuals to use these eco-friendly bags and reduce the use of plastic.

Additionally, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services sponsored the «Green Mosque» renewable energy program, which is the first of its kind in the Sultanate. The program, which reduces electricity consumption and operational costs, comes in line with the directives of Oman Vision 2040 to achieve around 30% of the Sultanate's energy needs from renewable sources. The program will also raise awareness among the society on the effectiveness of using renewable energy sources.

COVID 19 – Preventive Measures

To curtail the spread the ongoing COVID19 pandemic, Bank Dhofar continued to apply several preventive measures, for its staff and customers. Bank's "Health is Our Priority" digital campaign, aims to fortify awareness among customers and the public on the preventive measures pertaining to the pandemic. Additionally, the campaign encourages customers to conduct their banking transactions through Bank's digital channels including i.e. Mobile Banking Application, Internet Banking, ATMs, and CDMs.

To safeguard its human capital, the Bank launched «Salamatka» campaign for its staff to promote healthy practices to ensure healthy work environment for all its employees. The campaign also aims to keep the staff updated with the any resolutions or decisions of Supreme Committee with regards to COVID19.

Awards & Accolades

The Bank's efforts in product development, innovative solutions and enhanced customer experience were widely recognized by various reputable local and international organizations. Despite all economic challenges posed by the unprecedented pandemic, the Bank has solidified its brand image during 2021. This can be corroborated by the fact that Bank Dhofar was announced most trusted brand by Oman Economic Review Magazine (OER). Moreover, the Bank was also proclaimed "Best Business and Corporate Bank – Oman" by Word Economic Magazine. Finance Derivative Magazine crowned the Bank with two awards i.e. Best Investment Bank and Best Commercial Bank respectively. Most recently, Asiamoney Middle East acknowledged Bank Dhofar as Best Bank for SMEs and Best Digital Bank in Oman banking sector.

In addition to above, the following key awards were accomplished by the Bank for nine months ended 30 September 2021 and those awards are testimony to the continued efforts put in by the Bank to improve.

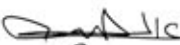
- Excellence in Customer Experience Award at the Oman Banking & Finance Awards 2021
- Excellence in Innovative Products & Solutions Award at the Oman Banking & Finance Awards 2021
- Best Mobile Banking Application - Sultanate of Oman 2021 by Finance Derivative Magazine Awards
- Channel innovation runner up award by Infosys Awards
- Bank Dhofar ranked among top 50 banks in the Middle East by Forbes – Middle East

Acknowledgment

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our valuable customers for their patronage and confidence they have reposed in the Board of Directors and the Executive Management. Also, I thank the shareholders for their continuous support and the Chairman, members of Sharia Supervisory Board of Maisarah Islamic Banking Services, Management and Staff for their efforts and contributions.

The Board of Directors also wishes to thank the Central Bank of Oman and the Capital Market Authority for their valuable guidance to the local banking sector.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, employees and the management I would like to express our most sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said for his wise leadership and generous support to the private sector.



Eng. Abdul Hafidh Salim Rajab Al-Ojaili
Chairman

Statement of financial position (Unaudited) for nine-month period ended 30 th September 2021	Unaudited 30 September 2021	Unaudited 30 September 2020
	RO'000	RO'000
Assets		
Cash and balances with Central Bank of Oman	192,545	105,167
Loans, advances, and financing to banks	160,541	161,138
Loans and advances (Conventional)	2,880,144	2,802,675
Islamic financing receivables	482,909	474,697
Investment securities	437,842	411,466
Intangible asset	-	99
Property and equipment	19,745	20,471
Other assets	250,203	148,872
Total assets	4,423,929	4,124,585
Liabilities		
Due to banks	476,468	569,436
Deposits from customers (Conventional)	2,568,508	2,299,925
Islamic customers deposits	385,679	344,219
Other liabilities	240,521	166,878
Tax Liabilities	11,630	12,815
Subordinated loans	35,000	35,000
Total liabilities	3,717,806	3,428,273
Shareholders' equity		
Share capital	299,635	299,635
Share premium	95,656	95,656
Legal reserve	62,025	58,966
Special reserve	17,488	17,488
Special reserve -restructured loans	1,281	1,281
Special impairment reserve IFRS 9	10,649	19,184
Special revaluation reserve investment	(709)	(709)
Subordinated loan reserve	21,000	14,000
Investment revaluation reserve	(3,736)	(2,656)
Retained earnings	47,334	37,967
Total equity attributable to the equity holders of the Bank	550,623	540,812
Perpetual Tier 1 Capital Securities	155,500	155,500
Total equity	706,123	696,312
Total liabilities and equity	4,423,929	4,124,585
Net assets per share (Rials Omani)	0.184	0.180
Contingent liabilities	554,167	709,594

Statement of comprehensive income (Unaudited) for nine month period ended 30 th September 2021.	Unaudited 9 months 30 September 2021	Unaudited 9 months 30 September 2020
	RO'000	RO'000
Interest income	131,057	130,528
Interest expense	(66,833)	(63,115)
Net interest income	64,224	67,413
Income from Islamic financing	25,012	22,498
Unrestricted investment account holders' share of profit	(10,271)	(10,513)
Net income from Islamic financing activities	14,741	11,985
Fees and commission income	13,999	12,279
Fees and commission expense	(2,897)	(2,648)
Net fees and commission income	11,102	9,631
Other income	7,399	6,436
Operating income	97,466	95,465
Staff and administrative costs	(44,840)	(47,478)
Depreciation	(5,260)	(4,946)
Operating expenses	(50,100)	(52,424)
Profit from operations		
Net impairment loss of Financial Asset	(14,454)	(11,742)
Bad debts written-off	-	(1)
Profit from operations after provision	32,912	31,298
Income tax expense	(4,619)	(4,663)
Profit for the period	28,293	26,635
Other comprehensive income: Items that will not be reclassified to P&L		
Movement in fair value reserve (FVOCI equity Instrument)	314	(145)
Items that are or may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Movement in fair value reserves FVOCI debt instruments	(1,680)	(1,884)
Other comprehensive income / (loss) for the period	(1,366)	(2,029)
Total comprehensive income for the period	26,927	24,606
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Bank (basic and diluted) (Rials Omani)	0.008	0.007

Profit for the period OMR 28.293 million includes OMR 6.943 million Net Profit of Maisarah Islamic banking services excluding this, the conventional profit for the period is OMR 21.350 Million (2020: 26.635 million includes OMR 4.720 million Net Profit of Maisarah Islamic banking services excluding this, the conventional profit for the period is OMR 21.915 million).

MARKET

MSM index ends higher

National Aluminium Product was the top gainer, up by 6.38 per cent, while Oman Fisheries, down 9.33 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,061.43 points, up 0.15 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.39 per cent at 556.10 points. National Aluminium Product was the top gainer, up by 6.38 per cent, while Oman Fisheries, down 9.33 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Al Batinah Power was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while National Aluminium Product was the most active in terms of turnover. A total number of 440 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR0.756 million, with more than 6.7 million shares traded hands. Out of 40 traded securities, 7 advanced, 15 declined and 18 remained unchanged. At the session close, lo-

cal investors were net buyers for OMR80,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR48,000 followed by foreign investors for OMR32,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 6,395 points, down 0.03 per cent. The price of Bank Nizwa was the only gainer by 1.05 per cent. Al Sharqia Investment, National Finance, Global Investment Holding, Oman & Emirates Holding and Ominvest were down 2.15 per cent, 1.37 per cent and 0.64 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 6,162.71 points, down 0.27 per cent. Services Index down by 0.25 per cent before closing at 1,654.86 points. Omantel and National Gas were up 2.17 per cent and 0.75 per cent respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,072.74	4,054.98	4,061.43	4,055.36	6.07	0.15
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,413.73	6,392.03	6,395.65	6,397.74	-2.09	-0.03
Industry Index	6,192.21	6,162.07	6,162.71	6,179.24	-16.53	-0.27
Services Index	1,662.98	1,654.86	1,654.86	1,659.04	-4.18	-0.25
MSX Shariah Index	554.42	553.30	553.91	554.42	-0.52	-0.09
MSX TR INDEX	4,895.02	4,873.67	4,881.42	4,874.13	7.30	0.15

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
6,782,187	756,682	440	22,032,337,293	7	15	18	40

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

ISINSECURITY NAMEVOLUMETURNOVERTRADESOPEN PRICEHIGHLOWCLOSE PR.PREV. CLOSEDIFF (RD)DIFF %LAST PR.LAST BID.LAST OFFERP/A VALUEMARKET CAP

REGULAR MARKET

OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	38,000	28,552	11	0.752	0.752	0.740	0.752	0.736	0.016	2.174	0.740	0.740	0.808	0.100_564,000,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	15,000	6,570	2	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.434	0.004	0.922	0.438	0.426	0.436	0.100_96,360,000
OM0000001190	NATIONAL GAS	109,575	14,710	21	0.314	0.315	0.314	0.314	0.333	-0.001	0.752	0.335	0.335	0.135	0.100_11,390,000
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	35,000	8,400	2	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.237	0.240	0.100_48,000,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	38,917	8,749	4	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.000	0.000	0.237	0.235	0.243	0.100_78,416,832
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	206,000	20,394	17	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.000	0.000	0.099	0.098	0.099	0.100_19,800,000
OM0000002077	AL OMANITA FINS	189	22	1	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.116	0.000	0.000	0.118	0.113	0.118	0.100_33,884,480	
OM0000002200	AHLJ BANK	30,000	3,330	1	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.000	0.000	0.111	0.110	0.114	0.100_216,411,979	
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	31,000	11,780	3	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.000	0.000	0.380	0.374	0.382	0.100_247,358,807
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	23,217	11,144	5	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.482	-0.002	-0.415	0.480	0.480	0.484	0.100_1,715,747,900
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER	148,500	67,351	11	0.460	0.460	0.450	0.454	0.456	-0.002	-0.439	0.450	0.450	0.460	0.100_107,330,140
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	51,307	15,923	6	0.314	0.314	0.310	0.310	0.312	-0.002	-0.441	0.310	0.310	0.312	0.100_250,409,422
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	20,647	7,924	3	0.382	0.382	0.380	0.380	0.388	-0.008	-2.062	0.380	0.378	0.382	0.100_47,461,225
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	51,337	4,682	3	0.091	0.092	0.091	0.091	0.093	-0.002	-2.151	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100_8,190,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST&FIN	73,017	9,977	6	0.135	0.136	0.135	0.135	0.138	-0.003	-2.174	0.136	0.136	0.137	0.100_31,995,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	171,392	60,415	16	0.354	0.356	0.350	0.352	0.360	-0.008	-2.222	0.350	0.350	0.360	0.100_21,543,904
Total	16	1,041,298	279,823	112											

Parallel Market

OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	792,156	118,457	99	0.145	0.153	0.144	0.150	0.141	0.009	6.383	0.149	0.149	0.150	0.100_5,035,718
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	6,533	627	2	0.095	0.096	0.095	0.096	0.095	0.001	1.053	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.100_214,747,491
OM0000003861	VOLTAMP ENERGY	79,272	9,831	14	0.125	0.125	0.123	0.124	0.123	0.001	0.813	0.123	0.123	0.125	0.100_10,093,941
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	172,690	15,862	11	0.092	0.092	0.091	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.092	0.093	0.100_184,028,777
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	2,541	145	1	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.057	0.060	0.100_3,960,000
OM0000002274	UNITED FINANCE	325	19	1	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.096	0.097	0.100_19,901,231
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	299,000	38,370	2	0.135	0.135	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.000	0.000	0.132	0.128	0.132	0.100_395,518,390
OM0000002580	OMAN EDU TRAINING	5,000	1,200	1	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.000	0.000	0.240	0.221	0.245	0.100_16,800,000
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	15,540	1,166	3	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100_18,010,250
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	165,957	12,945	9	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.078	0.085	0.100_15,832,943
OM0000001735	SEMOB CORP SALAH	517	42	1	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.075	0.082	0.100_79,229,472
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	52,500	5,093	3	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.096	0.097	0.100_16,975,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	1,409,800	71,900	41	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.050	0.051	0.100_34,419,259
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	425,092	20,831	11	0.050	0.050	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.049	0.048	0.049	0.100_71,667,472
OM0000007407	DHOFAH GENERATING	2,000	142	2	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.073	0.073	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.071	0.075	0.100_16,223,520
OM0000001095	DHOFAH INSURANCE	190,967	35,166	14	0.188	0.195	0.188	0.194	0.195	-0.001	-0.513	0.195	0.180	0.195	0.100_19,400,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	13,000	1,225	2	0.095	0.095	0.094	0.094	0.095	-0.001	-1.053	0.094	0.091	0.101	0.100_12,220,000
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	30,745	2,429	4	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.080	-0.001	-1.250	0.079	0.075	0.079	0.100_12,288,482
OM0000001881	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	10,684,464	76,353	59	0.073	0.073	0.071	0.072	0.073	-0.001	-1.370	0.071	0.071	0.072	0.100_8,775,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV.H	478,720	30,861	20	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.065	-0.001	-1.538	0.064	0.061	0.065	0.100_12,900,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	254,950	13,219	15	0.052	0.052	0.051	0.052	0.053	-0.001	-1.887	0.052	0.051	0.052	0.100_37,149,130
OM0000002848	NATIONAL FINANCE	122,100	11,710	6	0.098	0.098	0.095	0.096	0.098	-0.002	-2.041	0.095	0.091	0.096	0.100_51,958,124
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	86,000	5,848	4	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.075	-0.007	-9.333	0.068	0.068	0.075	0.100_8,500,000
Total	23	5,645,889	473,439	325											

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Enhances Food Security

Agreement inked to buy wheat crops from Omani farmers

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources signed an agreement with Oman Flour Mills Company (OFMC) vide which the company buys the wheat crops, locally known as Al Bur of Omani farmers in the 2022 harvest season. The agreement will enhance food security and support Omani farmers to enable them to engage in the food market.

The agreement was signed by Dr Ahmed bin Nasser Al Bakri, Undersecretary for Agriculture and Haitham Mohammed Al Fanah, CEO of OFMC. Al Bakri said that this agree-

ment is the second of its kind, following the first pact, which was signed in 2020. Through the first pact, 325 tonnes of fine Omani wheat were bought from framers. Wheat is a strategic crop and there are ongoing research projects, which aim to develop Omani wheat, Al Bakri added. -OMA

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CMA issues warning to audit firm

MUSCAT: In its efforts to enhance the accountability in the audit profession as a whole in Oman, Capital Market Authority (CMA) issued a warning on November 2 against the audit firm Crowe. The warning is a result of CMA's supervision over some listed entities where major financial and accounting irregularities were investigated by the CMA team. This had prompted CMA to enforce immediate corrective measures in those listed entities to protect investors and other stakeholders. CMA undertook a comprehensive review of the causes that included understanding the reason for the non-discovery and non-reporting of such misstatements by the auditors. This review established short-falls on the part of the audit firm that warranted disciplinary measures against them in the interests of the investors and other stakeholders. CMA concluded that Crowe had failed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence and to apply sufficient professional scepticism in certain areas of the audit. CMA advises the accredited firms to adhere to International Standards on Auditing.

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Email: abid.khan.a@gmail.com

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Interested candidates may please contact on +968 99443014

ENGINEER (IT)

Indian, Female, B.Tech, with 2+ years of experience in Oman as Coordinator and Marketing with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.

GSM : +968 71198240
Email: jc.clarrinda@gmail.com

Chemical Engineer (Omani)

Fresh graduate, bachelor degree from The University of New Mexico (USA)

Contact +96896444740
Email: msr15@live.com

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Indian Female(MBA Finance) having more than 15 years of experience in Oman in Finance and Accounts seeks suitable senior positions. NOC Available.

Contact # 94953826 / 92824146

JOB VACANCIES

SALES EXECUTIVES

Need experienced Sales Executives for a Healthcare Business.

Good Sales & Communication skills a must. GCC driving license preferred. Both Omani & Expat candidates are welcome.

Send your CV to:
jobmct19@yahoo.com with your photo

Urgently Required

Indian Cook

For Private Family, with experience in Arabic and Indian cuisine.

Please contact
99735820

JOB VACANCIES

DRIVER

Drivers for Light / SUV personal cars required. 2-3 years of experience. Interested candidates can email: deosil03@gmail.com **or Call/WhatsApp: 92569177**

MEDICAL

Urgently required we'll experienced **Gynaecologist** (arab speaking), **Microbiology doctor, nurse and lab technicians** (General & molecular) Candidates with MOH license are preferred. Email: apexhealth21@gmail.com Whatsapp no: 968 95773456

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking For Carpenter and Office Staff. Contact 24709144
Email: atf24704415@gmail.com

JOB VACANCIES

ADMIN/HR

Urgently required staff with 3-5 years of experience in Oman with administrator & sales skills to manage real estate portfolio with valid Omani driving licence.Please share your CV to darwishjobs2021@hotmail.com

SALES/MARKETING

Required **Sales & Marketing Executives** experience in Building materials, spoken Arabic with Driving License. Apply with photographs to: salesjobsds@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Accounting manager, 12 years' experience in Oman doing up to finalization.Looking for suitable position D/L & NOC available. Contact 95570425 (Call/WhatsApp)

Well Experienced Senior Accountant with experience in Oman & India, seeks Senior Level Post. NOC available. Contact 78581435

18+ year GCC experienced Accounts Manager/Senior Accountant with valid UAE D/L looking for a suitable placement, will be available immediately. Contact 91454929 Email: sahilmoulana@gmail.com

Indian male Senior Accountant having 11 years experience in Accounts, Audit & Taxation looking for immediate placement. NOC available. Contact 95075222

Indian,13 years Accounts experience in Oman seeks suitable position. Contact 96496435

Corporate Banking and Wealth Management professional with 4 years experience in premiere Indian Banks seeking opportunities in Finance and Consulting, PGDM Finance and B.Tech. Contact 9430 9593

Indian male working in Oman, 6 yrs experience in Accounts & office related works, have D/L, looking for immediate placement. Contact 94133909

Accountant Indian Male, 10 years of experience seeks suitable placement. Contact 99616810

ADMIN/HR

Indian male having 21 years HR & admin experience in Oman seeks suitable job. Contact 79329696

Indian Male, MBA, BCOM having 7 yr Oman & 4 yr India experience in HR / Administration & Purchaser looking for suitable placement. Contact 97914340
Email: sampathrajkv@gmail.com

Indian male graduate Executive Secretary with Stenography/Oman driving license and 20years experience in Muscat available with NOC for immediate joining. # 79256679

DRIVER

Bangladeshi driver with 5 yrs experience seeks job. Contact 95160208

Bangladeshi driver with 8 yrs experience seeks job. Contact 96317701

Driver from Bangladesh with 4yrs experience seeks job.Can speak Arabic,Hindi.Contact 97625632

EDUCATION

Indian Female, B.Ed, MSc Maths - with Distinction, 6 yr's exp seeking teaching jobs. Contact 92106767

HOSPITALITY

Indian 25 yrs, Hotel management course completed Chef seeks job. Contact 79892681, 79523339
Email: abusamir8@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Freelancer 2D /3D Autocad Revit drafting MEP, Arch, B.Tech. Contact 99506977

LOGISTIC

Indian male, 24 yrs BBA,diploma in logistics & shipping, 2 yrs experience as logistics coordinator, 3 months training in customs clearance. Contact 95725785.
Email: melbinm003@gmail.com

Indian male, 15-17 yrs exp in commercial/Warehouse/inventory & procurement field seeks suitable position. Owns D/L, Contact 98531104

MANAGER

29 yrs Gulf experienced BE(Civil) available with NOC to work at Senior Management level with reputed Consultant/Clients/Contractors or real estate companies. Contact 968-92279480. Email: abdulwahab.aw880@gmail.com

Project Manager with 11+ years' experience in managing projects. PMP, RMP and SP certified. Knowledge and experience in contract management in both Fdic and Omani form of contract, claims and arbitration. Fluent in Arabic and English with a transferable visa. Looking for a job. Contact 91747648

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Planning Engineer with 5 years' experience working in various projects. PMP certified, proficient with primavera and fluent in Arabic & English.Looking for a job. Contact 95766755

Electrical project manager (Btech) 14+ years experience in substation, OHL EPC projects upto 132kv with NOC and Omani D/L seeking placement. Contact 95290833

Srilankan Quantity Surveyor, Male with 4 years of Civil & ID experience in Oman.Looking for a job. Contact 92187572.
Email sifathhasan1995@gmail.com

Senior Surveyor, Indian National, Diploma with 15+ years of experience both in India & Gulf countries is available in Oman with NOC to join immediately. Holding Omani D/L. Contact at 9045 9497 or mahesh.rsmahima@gmail.com

B.E civil engineer having 13 yrs Oman Experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Please contact 72132426

Diploma Civil Engineer, Indian total 11 yrs experience in Oman,seeking urgent placement (NOC available) Contact 90655964

Indian Project Engineer 11 year experience in the execution of Electro Mechanical projects seeking suitable placements NOC available Contact 79111574

Electrical Engineer & PMP with over 15 yrs experience in Oman,UAE &India seeks suitable placement. Contact 94029124
Email: rkdvb@yahoo.com

Indian, 25yrs, Planning Engineer, 3 years & 5 months experience in Oil & Gas (maintenance) seeks suitable placement. Contact 95586241/99892757

Sudanese electrical engineer with 8 years of experience in the field of operating distribution and transmission networks, including 4 years in Oman with Global and Tanweer Company seeks job in the field of operation or projects.Have D/L. Contact 98005485

BE Mechanical engineering, 5 years gulf experience, currently working in Oman with D/L & NOC for visa transferring seeks placement as Telecommunication Engineer/supervisor. Contact 94483729
Email ananth4004@gmail.com

Indian male, 28 Mechanical engineer 2 yrs oman experience,with D/L Searching sales/engg jobs. Contact 98040564 sayujvc@gmail.com

Indian B.E. Automobile Engineer 23 years, Male quick learner and ready to join immediately. Contact +91 8928691432 / +96 896131298
Email: tabishdhenkar.tft@gmail.com

Quantity Surveyor (Srilankan) with 06 years of experience in building and pipeline projects. Looking for the job, presently available in Oman. Contact 968 79991752

Electrical Engineer with 2 year experience in T&C Seeking suitable placement. # 79725479 Email: electrical.engineeramal@gmail.com

Sudanese Mechanical engineer have 5 years experience 1years in MEP and 4 years in factories,maintenance and with D/L. Contact 93521100

Finance Head

CPA, CMA, CIA with 19 years' experience in Strategic finance, Banking, Financial reporting, Budget, VAT. Looking for Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

Contact 92148608

JOB WANTED

SALES/MARKETING

Indian male, MBA,13 yrs Oman exp in sales, marketing & distribution. available immediately. Contact 78097687

Experienced and academically qualified senior retail professional available in Oman with more than 20 years experience in multinational brands. Looking for a challenging opening in the top management role. GSM: +968 92629143

Pakistani Male (5 years experience). M.Phil, Marketing and Sales Expert in the oil & energy industry. Skilled in Lectureship, Research, Business Administration. Contact 91102995 fahadikram96@hotmail.com

Looking for Sales & Marketing operations job, 5 years experience with FMCg company in GCC. Contact +968 78050760
Email: Jazmir.musawa@gmail.com

22 year old fresh Indian Chemical Engineering graduate on resident visa with Oman D/L seeks immediate opening in reputed companies. Contact 96087321/93972362

Marketing & Business development Manager 32 yrs with good market knowledge & experience of 12 yrs.Gcc D/L, Can Join immediately,, Fluency in English, Hindi, Malayalam & basic Arabic. Contact +968 79975463
nadeemshaikh198925@gmail.com



OMAN



Times of Oman

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PRICE BAIZAS 200

New private clinic licences suspended

AND MINISTER GIVES A WARNING ON STANDARDS

The Ministry of Health suspended issuing new licences for opening private clinics on Monday. The suspension will remain in effect until the end of 1984.

The decision was made by the Ministry of Health Committee for Clinics and Pharmacies at a meeting chaired by Dr. Ahmed al Ghassani.

Earlier the Minister of Health Dr. Mubarak al Khadouri presided over separate meetings of owners and doctors of private clinics and pharmacies in the Capital Area and the interior.

He told them of the importance of services offered by private clinics and advised them to conform strictly with professional practices.

Owners of clinics should also adhere to instructions and regulations specified by the Ministry, he added.

Dr Khadouri said the Ministry would keep a close watch on the activities of private clinics and any breach of rules would result in

strict measures including possible closure.

Speaking on the decision to suspend issuing new licenses Dr. Ghassani told the Times "The committee feels that the existing number of clinics in the country is quite sufficient to meet the needs of the people".

There are 221 private clinics in Oman. Of these 68 are in the Capital Area.

Asked whether the decision has been taken because of a number of complaints against private clinics Dr. Ghassani said private clinics were part of health services provided to the people by the Ministry. There were of course,

complaints against clinics but there were complaints against hospitals, too.

Dr. Ghassani denied any link between the Minister's warning and the licences decision. The two were totally different issues, he said.

by Muzaffar Mohammed



Dr. Khadouri

committee would examine each case on its merit. If it is convinced that the circumstances that delayed opening a clinic was beyond the control of the holder it would allow more time to complete the procedure.

The grace period for opening a clinic after obtaining a licence is generally three months, he added.

• Pictures - page 22

7 new health centres

The Ministry of Health is to open seven health centres and clinics over the next few weeks to provide services to the people in remote parts of the country.

The programme will begin on November 10 with the opening by Under Secretary Dr. Salem Hamdan of a health centre at Al Ma'murah.

The Minister of Health Dr. Mubarak al Khadouri will be opening a health centre at Izki on November 14 which will be attended by the Wali of Izki, tribal sheikhs and senior Ministry officials.

The third ceremony will be on Nov. 24 when a clinic will be opened at Maqayyat by the Under Secretary.

On November 28, Dr. Hamdan will open a clinic at Ras al Had and another at Qanilah.

Another ceremony to be performed by the Under Secretary is scheduled for December 6 at Wadi al Sahtan. Then, on December 12, a health centre will be opened at Daqam by the Under Secretary.

Pre-summit talks end in Manama

The Gulf Cooperation Council Foreign Ministers ended their third and final working session of the pre-summit meeting in Manama on Tuesday evening. They discussed legal and administrative problems concerning the GCC budget.

The Foreign Ministers also held their second closed session on Tuesday. They reportedly discussed political, economic, security and defence matters.

Mr Yousuf al Alawi Abdallah, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, represented Oman.

Leisure centre for Corniche

Muscat's Corniche will be turned into a leisure spot with the construction of a recreation centre at Doha near Kalbu on the road to Muscat.

An agreement was being signed this week by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Mohammad Zubair and Mr. Donal Kelleher, General Manager of M/s Douglas O.H.I.

The centre will comprise a restaurant and a cafeteria for about 250 people with a small jetty for boats and a playground for children.

It will have enough parking space for 40 cars and a special beach for swimming with all facilities.

The cost of the project is about R.O. 1.5 million and construction is expected to be completed by the end of 1983.

The centre will not only serve as a major recreational facility but also enhance the Capital Area.

The design is by Consult Ltd. under the supervision of the Department of Tourism of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The centre is one of the projects included in the Second Five Year Plan for building tourism facilities.

Mr. Mohammad Ali Said, Director of Tourism, has described the project as a significant move in the development of tourism. He said the directorate was busy completing studies for several other projects which would be launched soon.

Motor-cycles for ROP

W.J. Towell have delivered 20 modified Suzuki motor cycles to the Royal Oman Police. The new patrol machines were handed over at a ceremony at the ROP headquarters in Qurm

CONSERVATION-SPECIAL DEPT. TO BE SET UP

An organisation to be responsible for and administer nature reserves in various parts of the Sultanate, with emphasis on the Jebel Akhdar, the Musandam Peninsula and the Southern Region, is to be set up by His Majesty's Government.

Conservation is being accorded top priority this decade and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is also working with Dr. Lotten, an expert on loan from the British Government, on setting up a special department with nationwide representatives to conserve trees and grasslands, particularly in Dhofar.

Mr. Ralph H. Daly, Adviser for the Conservation of the Environment, Diwan of His Majesty for Protocol, told the Times of Oman this week that the Government was taking due notice of the Bali declaration of the World National Parks Congress which concluded in Denpasar, Bali, on October 22.

The Government was well ahead with several projects to protect and promote the ecosystem in the Sultanate and it was to this end that Oman sent a delegation to the Bali conference which began on October 11.

The Omani team comprised Mr. Daly, and two officials of the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities, Mr. Ali Salem Ali

by Bala Menon

al-Hosni, and Mr. Saud Abdul Aziz al Kindi.

Both officials are deeply involved in the development of parks and nature reserves like the Sultan Qaboos Nature Reserve at Qurm and are due to become Oman's conservation leaders - both on land and sea around the Capital Area - in the future.

The Sultanate of Oman is a state member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and this means that "we will do everything in our power to develop the

country's resources, keeping in mind the environmental aspects", Mr. Daly said.

In Bali, where 500 delegates from 60 countries had gathered, Oman did not present a paper but participated actively on the Committee of Marine Parks and Resources.

The Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities is greatly interested in this aspect of conservation - especially the protection of mangrove swamps, fishing grounds, coral reefs and islands just off the Capital Area and the seabirds and turtles that inhabit them.

The Omani delegation was able to learn a lot from the IUCN experts who had arrived to participate in the Congress, Mr. Daly said. The Omani team was also, in a small way, tuned into the activities of the Tropical Forests Committee.

His Majesty's deep interest in conservation is evident from his founding of the Council for Conservation of the Environment and Prevention of Pollution by Royal Decree in December, 1979.

His Majesty is the chairman of the council. The other members are the Minister of Communications (Deputy Chairman), Minister of Electricity and Water (Assistant Deputy Chairman), Ministers of Health, Land Affairs and Municipalities, Commerce and Industry, Interior and the Minister of State and Wali of Dhofar.

The national strategy formulated by the Council has already seen the successful launching of several projects concerning the grasslands of Dhofar, the sea turtles of Masirah, the introduction of the Arabian tahr in the Jebel Akhdar and the oryx at Yalloon, Mr. Daly said. Several more are in the planning stages. See page 36



Oman's delegation to the Bali conference (from left) Mr. Ali Salem al Hosni, Mr. Ralph Daly and Mr. Saud Abdul Aziz al Kindi.



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ROUND-UP

Toyota Mirai’s 1,360km zero-emission journey sets new Guinness Record

The class-leading vehicle achieved an unprecedented 1,360 km on a single, five-minute complete fill of hydrogen during a roundtrip tour of Southern California to claim the Guinness World Records title and set a new distance milestone for zero-emission vehicles

MUSCAT: Toyota’s deep-rooted commitment to sustainable mobility was in the spotlight recently as the 2021 Toyota Mirai set a new world record for the longest distance travelled by a hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) without refuelling.

The class-leading vehicle achieved an unprecedented 1,360 km on a single, five-minute complete fill of hydrogen during a roundtrip tour of Southern California to claim the Guinness World Records title and set a new distance milestone for zero-emission vehicles.

The official record attempt was closely monitored by Guinness World Records in accordance with its strict rules and documentation procedures. The efficiency-focused journey took place on August 23 and 24, with the Mirai logging an impressive 64.6 km/L and producing water as its only emission. To ensure total transparency, Guinness World Records adjudicator Michael Empric validated the vehicle’s fuel tank with a seal at both the beginning and end of the journey.

“We are delighted to achieve this landmark for sustainable mobility with the Mirai, a pioneering vehicle that heralds a new era of efficient electrified and hydrogen-driven transportation. This comes as part of our continuing drive to



develop diversified mobility solutions that offer people more ways to move safely, responsibly, and in harmony with the environment,” said Kei Fujita, Chief Representative, Middle East and Central Asia Representative Office, Toyota Motor Corporation. “With car buyers around the world becoming increasingly eco-conscious, we are confident that the Mirai will set a precedent for future vehicles that will help to create a carbon-neutral society where people can enjoy a happy, healthy, and sustainable life, with greater mobility for all. I would like to thank our customers

for their support, which continues to inspire us on our journey to develop ‘ever-better’ cars for a more sustainable tomorrow.”

The Mirai was driven by professional hypermiler Wayne Gerdes and co-piloted by Bob Winger. Its two-day trip commenced at the Toyota Technical Center (TTC) in Gardena, California, home of Toyota’s fuel cell development group. The duo travelled south to San Ysidro and then north to Santa Barbara cruising through Santa Monica and Malibu beach along the Pacific Coast Highway. The vehicle returned to TTC that even-

ing having logged 761 km with only two driver swaps.

On the second day, the team pushed through 599 more kilometres of morning and afternoon rush hour traffic on the San Diego freeway until the Mirai had no hydrogen left and coasted into TTC with a total of 1,360km driven, as witnessed by Guinness World Records adjudicator Michael Empric.

“As a Guinness World Records adjudicator for 10 years, I’ve had the opportunity to witness incredible attempts, including several distance-related feats,” said Empric. “The Toyota Mirai’s journey with-

out the need to refuel showcases the power of fuel cell electric technology. This technology and the design ingenuity by the team at Toyota led to a history-making moment.”

By the end of the trip, the Mirai had consumed a total of 5.65kg of hydrogen and passed a total of 12 hydrogen stations along the drive routes without refuelling. The Mirai was driven mainly during rush hour traffic in temperatures between 18 to 28 degrees Celsius. It emitted zero pounds of CO₂, whereas a standard internal combustion engine vehicle would have emitted about 301 kg of CO₂ over

the same distance.

The 2021 Toyota Mirai is a rear-wheel-drive sports-luxury FCEV that offers a combination of striking design, cutting-edge technology, and premium driving performance.

Toyota’s advanced technology enables the vehicle to produce its electricity using an onboard fuel cell. First developed in 1992, FCEV technology converts hydrogen and oxygen into electricity to power an electric motor, with only water as a by-product. The new-generation Mirai offers a class-leading cruising range and can be refuelled in just 3 to 5 minutes.

FESTIVE SEASON

Kalyan Jewellers registers strong momentum in footfalls, revenue

MUSCAT: Kalyan Jewellers has been witnessing a strong momentum in footfalls and revenue for the past three quarters, starting from the same period during the last financial year (Q3 FY 2020-21). The traction has continued during this festive season, with October registering good sales momentum.

Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director – Kalyan Jewellers said, “On Dhanteras, we registered higher footfalls both from existing as well as new customers, resulting in robust revenue growth. While the sales momentum in the plain gold segment continued, we also witnessed a significant increase in the studded jewellery category. This season, we introduced new collections in both gold as well as studded jewellery categories.

“The all-new Sankalp line of designs introduced earlier this quarter featured region-specific traditional plain gold jewellery. We also launched Vedha, a precious-stone studded heritage jewellery collection, further bolstering our studded product portfolio.”

“The Middle East markets have also been vibrant from the start of this festive season and on Dhanteras. We are expecting this trend to continue, thanks



to various events like the World Cup and Expo-2020 which are being held in the region. Candere has also performed exceptionally well and delivered robust growth, recording a multifold jump in revenue on Dhanteras. The season so far has been upbeat and revenue growth across categories has been on target,” he added.

ACADEMICS

Dhofar University awarded 14 research grants by ministry worth OMR145,610

MUSCAT: As a result of countless efforts invested by the university in encouraging researchers to participate in scientific research to serve the community and to achieve the university’s research vision and mission, Dhofar University has been successfully granted 14 research grants under the block Funding Programme by the Ministry of Higher Education, Research & Innovation with a total grant amounting to OMR145,610.

The projects are awarded under three different categories i.e 7 projects under the category of Faculty Research Grant with a total grant of OMR132,430, two undergraduate research grants with a grant of OMR6,000 and five under undergraduate research grants with a grant of OMR7,180.

The projects are awarded under different research areas of international and national priority like Artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), oil & gas, cyber security, education, human resource & management, commerce, renewable energy, environment, biology and health. Some of the significant projects include:

An integrated educational platform for students with hearing difficulties (InEPShEd)

Academic Resources Planning System (ARPS): Application to assurance of learning, faculty management and intellectual contribution

Towards Shared Mobility as a Service in Oman (S-MaaS): Socially-Structured Vanpooling and Shared-Taxis as an Example

Survey to Document the Spread of Parthenium Weed and its Ef-



fects on Native Plant Biodiversity and Climate Change in Dhofar Governorate, Sultanate of Oman

Electrochemical Non-Enzymatic Glucose Sensors Composed of Bimetallic and Trimetallic Nanoporous Composite Materials for Diabetes Monitoring

A Secure IoT-based Health Monitoring System for Oman

An Application of Machine Learning in Reservoir Modeling for Enhanced Oil Recovery

Cybersecurity compliance among government employees: Structural equation modelling

Human resource management practices and human capital retention during global pandemic and its effects on organisational

productivity and performance: Perspective in GCC

Dhofar University always encourages its faculty members, staff and students to participate in University’s efforts to achieve its mission to become a major research hub in the region by providing a conducive environment for credible and impactful research.



RAHMA RIAD

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ROUND-UP

Oman Arab Bank launches ‘iSend’ feature for money remittance

The new service is a secure, fast, and easy way of sending money internationally, anywhere and at any time, through the OAB online app and is underpinned by Mastercard’s proprietary remittance solution – Mastercard Send

MUSCAT: Oman Arab Bank (OAB) recently announced the launch of the ‘iSend’ feature for money remittance, further enhancing the portfolio of innovative digital banking facilities and products that it provides.

The new service is a secure, fast, and easy way of sending money internationally, anywhere and at any time, through the OAB online app and is underpinned by Mastercard’s proprietary remittance solution – Mastercard Send.

Commenting on the new feature,

Rashad Al Shaikh, Head of the Retail Banking Division at OAB said, “iSend is an exclusive remittance solution that enables our customers to carry out money transfers within seconds, effortlessly and conveniently. As compared to the traditional swift, this new service offers more convenience, value addition and is also aligned with our key strategy of enhancing digital financial inclusion.

“Through iSend, we can help citizens and customers abroad send money through our secure and



real-time payment infrastructure. To encourage more customers to utilise this feature, we are offering it as a complementary facility to all our customers for a limited time. As we look forward to our phase one roll-out, we continue to enrich our offerings to improve overall customer experience.”

Through Mastercard Send, financial service providers can seamlessly process digital payments leveraging its global network through a single connection. Furthermore, these cross-border payments can reach almost anywhere in the world with certainty and predictability, and without back-end charges.

Mastercard’s platform plays a key role in improving worldwide connectivity, by providing new and enhanced innovation across the global digital ecosystem.

Nadia Ghissassi, Country Manager, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait & Iraq, Mastercard, said, “As Oman Vision 2040 is underway, the ability to

make fast, frictionless cross-border transfers is crucial in driving the country’s digital transformation efforts. Oman Arab Bank customers will now be able to send money to their family and friends across the world with increased convenience and peace of mind. As a trusted technology partner, Mastercard is committed to empowering consumers to connect to the digital economy in simpler and more secure ways.”

With the new feature, customers with an OAB account can send money to friends and family abroad with just a few taps, from the comfort of their home or office. During phase one, the bank has launched the service as an account-to-account solution and will add more options in subsequent phases.

Currently, the transfer service is available to India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Singapore, UAE, and the EU SEPA (countries that use Euro as their currency). Phase two will see the extension of the service to the Philippines, Egypt, Morocco, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

ADVANCED FACILITY



Badr Al Samaa Hospital, Sohar launches first-of-its-kind MRI scan

MUSCAT: Following the vision to add more and more advanced facilities and services, Badr Al Samaa Hospital launched an advanced MRI facility (GE Signa Voyager 1.5 T) which is the first of its kind by GE Company in the Sultanate.

Sheikh Ahmaed Al Ghofaily, Goodwill Ambassador & Former Member of State Council was the Chief Guest, Eng Salim Bin Hamad Al Kindi, DG Sohar Municipality was the guest of honour and Dr Najat Mohammed Issa Al Zadjali, Director – DGPHE, North Batinah Governorate was the special guest.

The event was also attended by managing directors of Badr Al Samaa Group of Hospital, Abdul Latheef and Dr P A Mohammed, executive directors Firasath Hassan and Moideen Bilal, Chief Executive Officer Sameer PT, Chief Operating Officer Jacob Oommen, Branch Head Manoj Kumar, Medical Director Dr Azhar Iqbal, Head Branding & Communication Asif Shah and many eminent dignitaries, doctors, nurses, administrative staff of Badr Al Samaa Group.

The newly launched MRI has the best features resulting in precise diagnosis and utmost patient comforts like wide bore of 70mm for best patient comfort, TDI (Total Digital imaging) for better im-

age clarity and 27% higher signal to noise ratio, silent scan (reduce scan noise down to 3db above ambient noise), AIR Recon which enables shorter scan time and higher resolution, motion correction on all anatomies, 3D imaging on all anatomies, ability to scan with metallic implants, advanced Cardiac exams and needle-free suite (ability to scan vascular imaging without the need of injection). This machine will be a boon for the private healthcare sector of the North Al Batinah Region.

Sheikh Ahmaed Al Ghofaily expressed his gratitude and happiness towards Badr Al Samaa management and staff for providing world-class treatment modalities at an affordable cost for the people of North Batinah Governorate.

Eng Salim Bin Hamad Al Kindi said since the inception of Badr Al Samaa Hospital, Sohar the management of Badr Al Samaa Group is not looking back and keeps on adding more advanced facilities. He thanked Badr Al Samaa for bringing quality healthcare to the North Al Batinah Region.

Dr Najat Mohammed Issa Al Zadjali expressed her satisfaction with this addition and appreciated Badr Al Samaa Group for their long term vision of taking the pri-

ivate healthcare sector of Oman to the next level.

In a joint communiqué, managing directors of Badr Al Samaa Group of Hospitals, Dr P A Mohammed and Abdul Latheef said the advanced MRI System is capable of diagnosing many diseases with high clarity and accuracy. This will help the doctors with the timely diagnosis and treatment of our patients. Badr Al Samaa is not stopping here and soon we will introduce Cathlab and the Dialysis Centre at Badr Al Samaa Hospital, Sohar. They added that Badr Al Samaa is following its vision of being the most affordable, accessible and available private Healthcare brand of Oman.

Sameer P T, CEO said that Badr Al Samaa aims to make available each and every service in Badr Al Samaa Hospital, Sohar so that people of this region will not have to travel and spend time and money unnecessarily. He said many healthcare facilities around us can refer their cases to our MRI facility.

Manoj Kumar, Branch Head also added that the new MRI Scan facility was the much-needed modality in the Al Batinah region. He said this will be manned by experienced professionals and the services will be rendered at the most affordable cost.

RECOGNITION

Lulu Oman receives PCI DSS certification of compliance



MUSCAT: Lulu Hypermarket Oman has received the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) Certification of Compliance from Crossbow Labs, the leading Cyber security compliance and certification body, for prioritizing customer data security through its various cyber security initiatives.

Lulu Group is one of the leading hypermarket chains in Oman to achieve the PCI DSS certification, which is one of the most stringent and comprehensive payment security certification standards in the world, in the retail sector. Shabeer K.A, Regional Director of Lulu Group, received the certification during the award ceremony held in Muscat. The standards ensure secure storage, transmission, and processing of data, aiming for better data security and privacy. The award is a result of Lulu’s rigorous security standards and its commitment to assure customers about the safety of their payment

card data at all times across all its channels and stores.

Ananth A.V, Director – Oman, Sri Lanka and India of LuLu Group, explained, “with the evolution of technology, systems have become more vulnerable to external security threats. Hence protecting sensitive information becomes crucial to business growth and ensuring customer trust. The PCI DSS certification is proof of our commitment to provide our customers with maximum protection and to process all information at the highest possible security level. Our services adhere to PCI DSS requirements, offering our entire customer base an additional security boost. Independent experts regularly review our processes to ensure we uphold the PCI DSS compliance requirements.”

Speaking after the event, Shabeer K.A. said, “We are indeed honoured to have received the PCI DSS certification. This certifica-

tion is an enhancement of Lulu’s already robust security practices to prevent security breaches and payment card data theft and reaffirms the group’s commitment to data protection and security. This compliance helps protect our customer data and safeguard information in a secure environment through the global standard for payment card security. This certification highlights the value we give to secure our customers’ sensitive data,” he added.

The PCI DCS is aimed at enhancing security for consumers by setting guidelines for any company that accepts, stores, processes, or transmits credit card information, regardless of the number of transactions or the size of those transactions. The PCI DSS is designed to provide the necessary framework for developing a complete payment card data security process that encompasses the prevention, detection, and appropriate reaction to security incidents.

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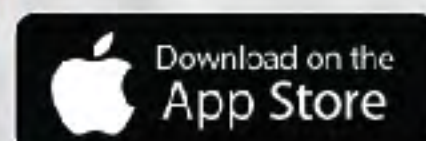


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