



SULTANATE REVEALS AMBITIOUS PLAN TO BOOST ITS TOURISM

An aerial photograph of a dense, green forest with a river winding through it. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

SULTANATE REVEALS AMBITIOUS PLAN TO BOOST ITS TOURISM

MUSCAT: In its efforts to boost tourism and to attract OMR3 billion of private investments in the tourism sector, the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism has signed nine usufruct (land lease) agreements on Wednesday.

These agreements come within the framework of the ministry's initiative to set up small and medium tourism projects on government land plots owned by the ministry with an aim to empower small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The projects are distributed in different governorates and in-



clude: a 3-star hotel, a 2-star hotel and a rest house in Dhofar, a 3-star resort and a 1-star hotel in the Wilayat of Al Jabal Al Akhdar in the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah, a 3-star hotel in the Wilayat of Wadi Bani Khalid and a resort in the Wilayat of Bidiyah in the Governorate of North Al Shariqiyyah, a tourism camp in the Wilayat of

Ibri in the Governorate of Al Dhahirah and a tourism camp in the Wilayat of Ja'alan Bani Bu Hassan in the Governorate of South Al Sharqiyah.

Salim Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism signed the usufruct agreements with investors representing the companies executing the projects.

Recently, Fitch Solutions upgraded its positive forecast for the Sultanate of Oman tourism sector's recovery during 2022 and 2023 with stronger growth expected during the mid-term forecasts period 2024-2026.

The report of Fitch Solutions

Agency pointed to remarkable recovery for the tourism sector in the Sultanate which began in the fourth quarter of 2021.

The report also expected the growth to continue during the upcoming years on account of the economic diversification programmes of Oman Vision 2040. The tourism development plans executed by the government through the programme for recovery from impact of COVID-19 pandemic, the digital marketing initiatives and the announcement of new investments in the tourism sector would also lend strength to the growth, it said.

- With ONA inputs



1 The Majlis Al Shura Office reviewed on Wednesday the letter of the Council of Ministers on a number of annual ministerial reports for 2021 which included a summary of the achievements during 2021, the key projects executed, the future strategic plans and a number of statistics. **>A2**



2 NASA will make another attempt to launch the Artemis moon rocket on Saturday. “We also agreed to move our launch date to Saturday, September the third,” the space agency’s Artemis Mission Manager Mike Sarafin was quoted saying by Sputnik News Agency on Tuesday. **>A6**

3 Fitch Ratings announced the upgrade of Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC), a member of Nama Group, Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) to 'BB+' from 'BB'. The increase of OETC's ratings to 'BB+' reflects the company's stability and profitability. **>B1**

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Thousands of students are returning to schools for the new academic year beginning on Sunday.

For this, the Directorate General of Education in the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah is set to receive students for the school year 2022/2023 next Sunday.

In preparation for the new school year, the Directorate has completed all administrative and technical requirements, along with procedures for transfer of teachers, including the newly appointed teachers to various schools in the governorate.

Al Dakhiliyah Governorate

The number of students at government schools in the Al Dakhiliyah Governorate is expected to reach 106,784, including 10,592 students for class (1) of basic education schools.

The total number of teachers, administrators and support staff is 9,040, including 160 government schools and four evening schools.

Saif bin Mubarak Al Jalandan.

Director General at the Directorate General of Education in the Governorate said the organisation has completed all preparations for receiving the students and is acquainted with advance preparations relating to administrative, technical and financial aspects through regular meetings with the directors of the departments concerned and other personnel at the Directorate.

He said the number of teachers

deployed at the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah from other governorates of the Sultanate stood at 368, both male and female, while the number of teachers transferred from the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah to other governorates totaled 318 and the number of newly appointed teachers stood at 354.

It may be mentioned that the departments affiliated to the Directorate General of Education in the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah



also confirmed their readiness and completion of the procedures related to maintenance and school buses and approval of the plan for training and qualifying the teaching and the administrative staff. The departments also confirmed

taking necessary actions relating to school activities, awareness and scouts activities along with completion of the procedures for issuance of new licences for private schools and renewal of expired licences. — With inputs from DNA

cences. — With inputs from ONA



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Unique project launched in Oman to make use of silt from dam lakes

Arkan, a research establishment, launched an initiative codenamed ‘Ardak’ to convert silt into an industrial product

KHASAB: Silt enters as a core material in a variety of industries, such as fertilizers, textiles and ceramics.

Recently, Arkan, a research establishment, launched an initiative codenamed “Ardak” or (your land/soil) to convert silt into an industrial product.

Accordingly, Arkan signed an agreement to the tune of OMR7 million with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources to utilise silt sediments deposited in the lakes of five dams in Oman, as a first stage of the project.



The first phase of the project was launched in April 2022 by utilising the silt gathered at five dams: at Wadi Al Jizzi Dam in the Wilayat of Sohar, Wadi Aahin in the Wilayat of Saham, Wadi Al Hawasna in the Wilayat of Al Khabourah, Wadi Mastal in the Wilayat of Nakhl and Wadi Dhaiqah in the Wilayat of Quraiyat, said Abdullah Moham-

med Al Shihi, CEO of Ardak.

Value-added projects

Investments of value-added projects are estimated to stand at OMR3 million. They include innovative agricultural inputs, industrial projects and raw materials for the construction sector targeting the domestic, regional and inter-

national markets.

Ardak project will provide at least 29 direct employment opportunities for Omanis, in addition to another 70 indirect jobs over the first years of the initiative, according to the CEO of the project’s executing company, Ardak, which envisages further opportunities for small and medium enterprises. -ONA





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The number of divorce cases went up to 3,837 in 2021 as compared to 3,426 in 2020.



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Each day, Oman witnesses filing of 10 divorce cases

Each day, Oman witnesses filing of 10 divorce cases



Story on divorce cases increasing in Oman

A story on divorce cases increasing in Oman reached 34,108 people and had 3,578 link clicks on Facebook.

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5,071 VIEWS



VEHICLE CATCHES FIRE IN RUWI

THE INCIDENT HAPPENED AROUND 12PM ON WEDNESDAY, 31ST AUGUST



Video on a vehicle fire being doused in Oman

A video on a vehicle fire being doused in Oman had 5,071 views and 297 likes on Instagram.

 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

1,400 VIEWS



MIDDAY UPDATE

INDIGO'S FLIGHT REPORTS ENGINE STALLS WARNING MID-AIR



Midday Update video

The Midday Update video had 1,400 views and reached 2,100 people on Facebook.



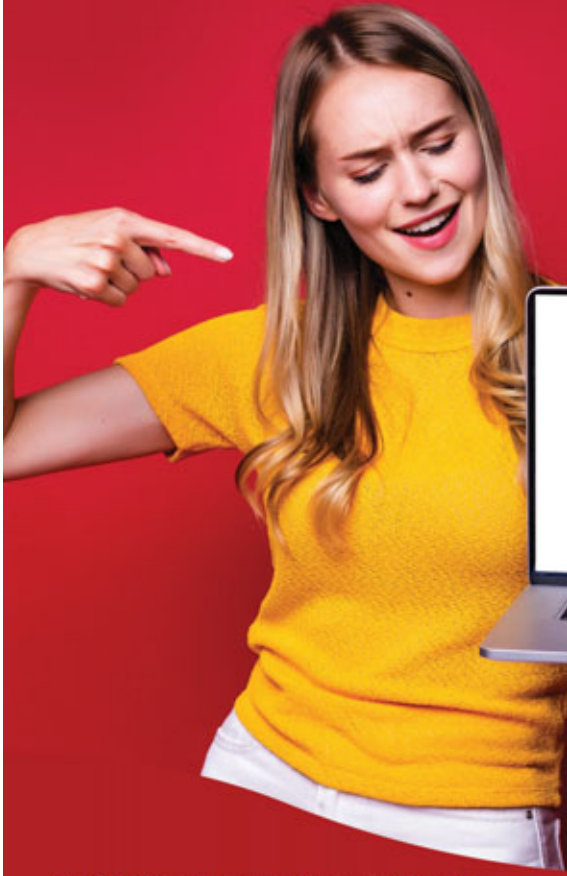
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Emerald green
waters and serene
surroundings of

Bimmah sinkhole



With its emerald-green waters and serene surroundings, the Bimmah sinkhole is located some 120km from Muscat. Tourists who get to see the sinkhole and its pristine waters are more than welcome to descend to the bottom through a concrete staircase that has been erected for just this purpose. Tourists are also welcome to take a dip inside the sinkhole, which in Arabic is also called Hawiyat Najm (the falling star), because it resembles a crater that is formed due to the impact of an asteroid on the earth's surface.

Sinkholes are often the result of ground-water eating away at rocks like limestone and carbonate. Caverns form as the rocks dissolve, and eventually the ground above caves in, sometimes taking cars, houses, and even the occasional pizza place with it. A large concrete staircase sticks out among the natural landscape, but offers a less precarious way down to the picturesque pool. Many folks just go to admire its beauty, or dip their feet in the vividly blue-green water for a fish-administered pedicure of sorts. Still some take full advantage of the salty water, diving from the cliffs within the cavern.





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NEW LOOK

NEW LOOK

FIREFIGHTING TEAMS EXTINGUISH VEHICLE BLAZE

Firefighting teams extinguished a blaze that broke out in a vehicle in Ruwi on Wednesday morning. Residents said that the firefighting teams of the Civil Defence and Ambulance Department in Muscat Governorate put out a fire that broke out in a vehicle in the MBD area in Ruwi. - Times of Oman



ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY



Workshop on reuse and discharge of treated wastewater

MUSCAT: Environment Authority organised a workshop on updating the regulation on reuse and discharge of wastewater. The workshop discussed the national laws issued on reuse of treated wastewater and its technical terms and fields of usage of wastewater. The workshop also tackled the national legislative frameworks and proposed the best solutions and practices aimed at production of high-quality treated wastewater. The workshop discussed the other alternatives for the use of purified water and the use of treated wastewater in several development projects and protection of sources of underground water. A number of specialists and experts from the Environment Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources and Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company have participated in the workshop. — ONA

UAESA-NASA COLLABORATION

Emirates Mars mission discovers new type of aurora

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Emirates Mars Mission, the first interplanetary exploration undertaken by an Arab nation, has made first observations of a new type of proton aurora around Mars.

The spatially variable ‘patchy’ proton aurora potentially triggers new insights into unexpected behaviours in the Martian atmosphere.

The EMM team has worked together with NASA’s MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutionN) mission to fully characterise these observations. The combination of EMM’s unprecedented global aurora images with MAVEN’s simultaneous local plasma observations opens up new avenues for understanding the drivers of Mars’ enigmatic aurora.

“Our discovery of these patchy proton aurora adds a new kind of event to the long list of those currently studied by EMM and challenges our existing views of how the proton aurora on Mars’ day-side are formed,” said Hessa Al Matroushi, EMM’s Science Lead.

“The EMM Hope probe has so far uncovered many unexpected phenomena that extend our understanding of Mars’ atmospheric and magnetospheric dynamics. These new observations, combined with MAVEN data, have lifted the lid on entirely new possibilities for scientific research.”

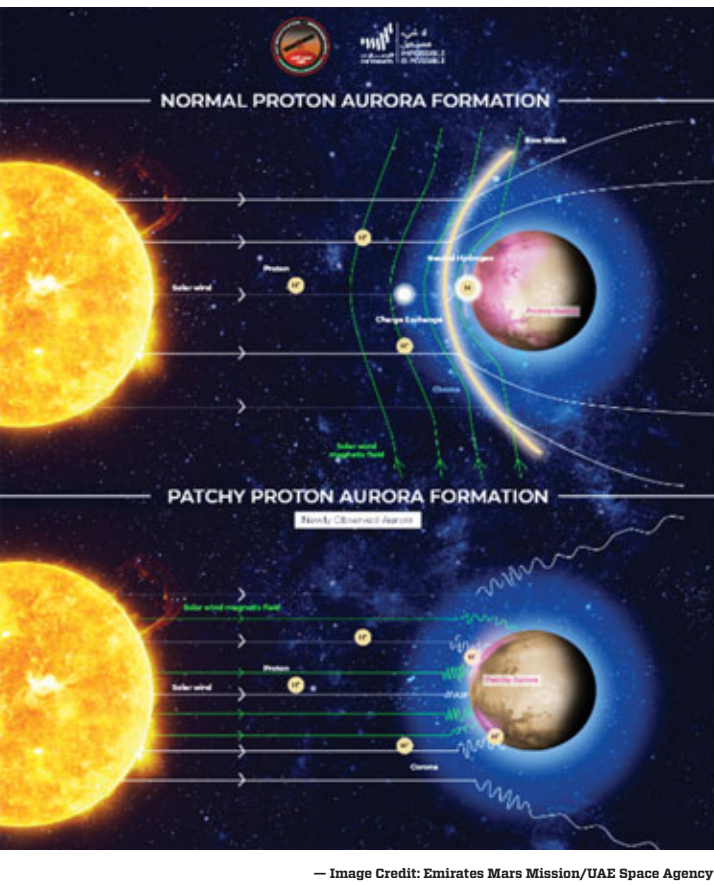
This new patchy type of proton aurora is formed when the solar wind directly impacts Mars’ day-

side upper atmosphere and emits ultraviolet light as it slows down. It was discovered in snapshots of the dayside disk obtained by the Emirates Mars Ultraviolet Spectrometer (EMUS), which observes the planet’s upper atmosphere and exosphere, scanning for variability in atmospheric composition and atmospheric escape to space.

The aurora manifests as bright regions scattered across the day-side of the planet in two ultraviolet wavelengths associated with the Hydrogen atom, Lyman beta at 102.6 nm and Lyman alpha at 121.6 nm. Under normal conditions, the dayside disk of the planet at these wavelengths is uniform, and the planetary brightness results from Hydrogen atoms scattering sunlight. When the aurora occurs, small regions of the planet become much brighter at these wavelengths, signifying intense localized energy deposition in the atmosphere.

“We’ve seen emissions at these wavelengths before, thanks to proton aurora studies by NASA’s MAVEN mission, but these EMM EMUS images represent the first time we’ve had a global view of spatial variability in proton aurora at Mars, and the first time we’ve been able to unambiguously observe this patchy structure,” said EMM science team member and lead author of a newly submitted paper on the proton aurora, Mike Chaffin.

“We know that these wavelengths are only emitted by the Hydrogen atom, which tells us that super energetic Hydrogen atoms must be



— Image Credit: Emirates Mars Mission/UAE Space Agency

present in the atmosphere in order to produce the auroral emission.”

A data sharing agreement between EMM and MAVEN has enabled analysis of the new EMM images using plasma observations made by MAVEN, which has been characterizing the Mars ionosphere and magnetosphere since 2014. MAVEN carries a full suite of plasma instruments, including a magnetometer and two ion electrostatic analysers that measured the Martian plasma and fields environment during EMM’s observations of patchy proton aurora events. “Multi-vantage point measurements of the Martian

atmosphere tell us about the real time response of the atmosphere to the Sun. These types of simultaneous observations probe the fundamental physics of atmospheric dynamics and evolution”, said MAVEN Principal Investigator Shannon Curry.

“Access to MAVEN data has been essential for placing these new observations into a wider context. Together, we’re pushing the boundaries of our existing knowledge not only of Mars, but of planetary interactions with the solar wind,” said Al Matroushi.

Martian proton auroras were originally discovered by MAVEN and subsequently found in data from ESA’s Mars Express mission, but most of these previous observations show uniform auroral emission across the day-side of the planet. By contrast, the EMUS observations are able to unambiguously reveal small-scale spatial structure. Scientists from both teams now believe the patchy aurora can only be produced by plasma turbulence in the space surrounding Mars. “Because of the size scales involved in the solar wind and extended hydrogen atmosphere of Mars, there’s no way the standard proton aurora formation mechanism could produce the aurora we’re observing with EMUS,” said Chaffin.

“In the August 11 observations the aurora is so widespread and so disorganized that the plasma environment around Mars must have been truly disturbed. Thanks to MAVEN measurements of the

Mars plasma environment simultaneous with the aurora, we can confidently say that the solar wind is directly impacting the upper atmosphere wherever we’re seeing auroral emission,” he added.

“What we’re seeing is essentially a map of where the solar wind is raining down onto the planet.”

The simultaneous observations of patchy proton aurora by Hope and measurements of plasma conditions by MAVEN are therefore a window into rare circumstances, when the interaction between Mars and the solar wind is unusually chaotic.

Hope has observed patchy aurora multiple times over the course of its mission so far, and the shape of the aurora is not always the same. On 2021 August 30, for example, the patchy proton aurora was confined to a much smaller portion of the disk than on August 11, suggesting a different mechanism may be at work.

Plasma turbulence at Mars can occur under a variety of conditions, and different shapes of patchy proton aurora may reveal different plasma conditions.

As of June 2022, Mars is about a month away from the peak of its Southern Summer, when proton aurora are known to be at their most active.

“Whether we’ll see anything as spectacular as what we’ve already got is anyone’s guess, but I’m hopeful. Hope continues to far exceed our expectations for scientific discovery, and I can’t wait to see what we learn next,” said Chaffin.

ABU DHABI LABOUR COURT

Dues of 5,832 workers worth \$11.64mn secured



ABU DHABI: The Abu Dhabi Labour Court has successfully secured the unpaid dues of 5,832 workers engaged in a collective dispute for a total amount of \$11.64 million (AED42.76 million) in a record time of less than two months.

The labour court took prompt legal measures to register the claims, consider the cases and deliver its decisions with expedited enforcement. They completed the process by mail handing over the

said dues to the workers in their labour camps.

The Abu Dhabi Labour Court affirmed that the speedy settlement of labour cases, especially collective cases and the facilitation of the payment due to workers at their place of residence, were in implementation of the directives of H.H. Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the Presidential Court and Chairman of Abu Dhabi Judicial

Department. He insisted on the speedy resolution of cases and shortening the litigation period while ensuring the accuracy of judgements. The labour court also stressed the effectiveness of the mechanism used to ensure the rapid settlement of disputes enabling all parties to obtain their rights as guaranteed by law in coordination with the competent authorities. It was part of the UAE’s commitment to safeguard workers’ rights. — WAM



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TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from authorized cleaning companies to supply manpower for cleaning (both male and female) having basic knowledge to read English and preferably between the age group of 25 – 35.

Tender document can be collected from the School Office against payment of RO 10/- as a non-refundable fee from 1st September 2022 to 7th September 2022 between 8.00am and 1.00pm. The completed tender addressed to “The Principal” should be submitted to the school office

Indian School Sur reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

Last date of submission: 12/09/2022 before 1.00 pm

NASA to attempt second launch of moon rocket Artemis 1 on Saturday

The 98-metre Space Launch System would be the most powerful rocket ever launched by the US space agency

WASHINGTON: NASA will make a second attempt to launch its powerful next-generation moon rocket on Saturday after engine troubles halted the first planned launch earlier this week.

The 98-metre Space Launch System would be the most powerful rocket ever launched by the US space agency.

However, the weather forecast predicts just a 40% chance of favorable launch conditions on Saturday, and NASA acknowledges there's still a chance the same issues that plagued the first attempted launch could reappear.

NASA's rocket program manager John Honeycutt said the upcoming second attempt on Saturday would be better than "sitting around scratching our heads [and wondering] was it good enough or not."



"Based on what I've heard from the technical team today, what we need to do is continue to pore over the data and polish up our plan on putting the flight rationale together," he said. The space agency also said that Monday's aborted takeoff was still an invaluable troubleshooting experience.

Back to the moon
The launch will not only test the

rocket itself, but also the Orion crew capsule that sits on top.

The unmanned capsule will contain mannequins, and it is scheduled to orbit the moon to see whether the capsule is safe enough for human spaceflight in future.

The long-awaited launch would kick off NASA's moon-to-Mars Artemis program — the agency's first major lunar expedition since

the Apollo program of the 1960s and '70s. Since then, US human spaceflight efforts have focused on low-Earth orbit with space shuttles and the International Space Station.

The end goal is to work with overseas space agencies and the private sector to establish a long-term lunar base from which to launch future human voyages to Mars. **AW**

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EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
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CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

MONKEYPOX

Texas reports first death of person with monkeypox in US

TEXAS: Authorities in Texas have confirmed the first death of a person diagnosed with monkeypox in the United States.

In a statement on Tuesday, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) said that the patient was an adult living in Harris County. "Monkeypox is a serious disease, particularly for those with weakened immune systems," John Hellerstedt, DSHS Commissioner said in the statement.

"We continue to urge people to seek treatment if they have been exposed to monkeypox or have symptoms consistent with the disease," he added.

According to The Hill, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had confirmed more than 18,000 cases of the virus across all 50 states as of Monday, but so far officials had not confirmed any deaths.

The CDC has only confirmed 15 deaths worldwide from the virus throughout this year's monkeypox outbreak.

Furthermore, the DSHS advised people to contact their health care provider if they experience fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes and a new, unexplained rash.

The virus has mostly spread among men who have sex with men, but anyone can get it through close, direct contact with an infected person. People who are diagnosed with monkeypox should stay home and avoid close contact with others until the rash has fully gone away and a new layer of skin has completely formed, according to the release.

It is to be noted that the World Health Organization report earlier informed that the number of monkeypox cases reported globally dropped by 21 per cent in the last week. **ANI**

PROTESTS STOP

Peace returns to Baghdad as Al-Sadr's followers end protests, leave city's green zone

BAGHDAD: Silence has settled on the streets of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad after Iraqi cleric Muqtada al-Sadr called on his followers to stop protests and leave the city's green zone on Tuesday.

Earlier in the day, according to Sputnik, Al-Sadr called on his followers to vacate the parliament building and leave the green zone, where government facilities and foreign embassies are located. Following the cleric's call, thousands of Al-Sadr's supporters started leaving the centre of Baghdad.

Security forces have opened all significant bridges across the Tigris river in the Iraqi capital and began removing concrete barriers. Al-Sadr's political opponents from the coordination framework, an Iran-backed alliance of forces forming the largest bloc in the Iraqi legislature, appealed to their supporters to stop the protests after the cleric's followers began to withdraw from Baghdad's green zone.

The situation in Iraq escalated on Monday when Al-Sadr announced his retirement from politics. Iraq has faced a political deadlock since the early parliamentary elections, the first since 2003.

The clashes between his supporters and security forces left 30



people dead and hundreds injured.

Thousands of his followers stormed Iraq's presidential palace and clashed with the security forces following which Military reinforcements were sent to the presidential palace as the followers of Al Sadr tore down cement barriers outside the government building in support of the cleric.

An immediate curfew was put in place right after as Palace security was unable to control the mass of demonstrators.

Earlier in July, numerous Iraqi demonstrators, mostly supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr stormed the heavily fortified parliament building

in Baghdad to protest against the nomination for prime minister by rival Iran-backed parties. The protesters were opposing the candidacy of Mohammed Shia al-Sudani for the post of Prime Minister, as they believe him to be too close to Iran.

Notably, Al-Sadr's bloc won 73 seats in Iraq's October 2021 election, making it the largest faction in the 329-seat parliament but, ever since the vote, talks to form a new government have stalled, and Al-Sadr stepped down from the political process. A deadlock persists over the establishment of a new government. **ANI**

GUN VIOLENCE



'Determined' to ban assault weapons, says US President

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden on Tuesday said that he is determined to ban assault weapons in America, amid the increasing gun violence in the country.

Biden was delivering remarks on the Safer America Plan in Pennsylvania. He went on to say he had helped ban assault weapons previously, referring to the 1994 ban he helped usher in while serving in the US Senate.

"I am determined to ban assault weapons in this country. I did it once before, and we will do it again," the US President said.

He said that the Safer America Plan will strengthen public safety by investing in effective community policing.

"Folks turn on the news and

see kids being gunned down in schools, their neighbor losing loved ones to fentanyl, and violence walking our streets. Families want to feel safe again. My Safer America Plan will strengthen public safety by investing in effective community policing," Biden said. Notably, Congress passed a 10-year ban on assault weapons in 1994.

While speaking to a crowd at Wilkes University, President Biden made it clear that he supports law enforcement and dismissed calls to defund the police.

Biden said his Safer America Plan is based on the "simple notion" of funding law enforcement.

"When it comes to public safety in this nation, the answer is not defund the police, it's fund the po-

lice," he said.

Meanwhile, the Dutch Defense Minister Kajsa Ollongren said that the authorities in the Netherlands are "very concerned" about the level of gun violence in the United States, after an incident over the weekend in which three Dutch special operations forces were shot in Indianapolis and one died of his injuries.

The three Dutch servicemen belonged to the Commando Corps, an elite special operations unit of the Royal Netherlands Army, and had travelled to the United States for training at a camp in southern Indiana. They were visiting Indianapolis while off duty and were shot in front of their downtown hotel at on Saturday. The Washington Post reported. **ANI**

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Busy day ahead for Barca, others on last day of transfer window

The Catalan club is still looking to bring in two full-backs, with Chelsea's Marcos Alonso predicted to complete a transfer



MADRID: Wednesday promises to see a sprint finish to the end of the summer transfer window in La Liga, with FC Barcelona leading the charge. The Catalan club is still looking to bring in two full-backs, with Chelsea's Marcos Alonso predicted to complete a transfer that has

dragged on all summer. Coach Xavi Hernandez has also made clear he wants to sign a right-back, with Borussia Dortmund's Thomas Meunier the favorite, although Arsenal's Hector Bellerin has also been mentioned as a possible Plan B if Barca fail to meet Dortmund's terms. However, Barcelona's financial situation means that before any players come in, others have to leave. Striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, who is currently stay-

ing in a hotel after he was assaulted and robbed at home on Sunday night, is expected to complete a move to Chelsea, while Barca are also keen to offload Memphis Depay, despite a proposed move to Juventus seemingly growing cold.

Xavi has made it clear that he doesn't want Sergino Dest in his squad and the American could move to the Premier League, with Manchester United a possible destination. Real Sociedad will continue to make good use of the 70 million

euros they received from Newcastle United for Alexander Isak. Alexander Sorloth returned to the San Sebastian-based outfit for a second season on loan two days ago, and Almeria's Nigerian forward Umar Sadiq should complete a 20 million euro transfer before the market closes. Real Sociedad are also negotiating to bring wing-back Alvaro Odriozola back from Real Madrid, four years after he moved to the capital. Real Sociedad are reported to be negotiating a loan deal, although Madrid would prefer a permanent transfer for a player who is not in Carlo Ancelotti's plans. There is also interest to see what could happen with Real Madrid's Marcos Asensio, who is out of contract at the end of the season and another player Ancelotti would allow to leave. Finally, former Real Sociedad winger Adnan Januzaj is in Seville to complete a move to Sevilla, with Sevilla's Lucas Ocampos on the verge of a move to Ajax. **Xinhua**

US OPEN

PETKOVIC

Swiatek easily advances, Emma Raducanu's title defence ends

NEW YORK: Top-seed Iga Swiatek of Poland defeated Italy's Jasmine Paolini, while reigning champion Emma Raducanu ended her title defence after losing to Alize Cornet of France in the first round of the US Open on Tuesday. Swiatek swept past Paolini 6-3, 6-0 in just 67 minutes. After this win, the French Open champion has become the youngest player to win 45 Grand Slam main draw matches since Caroline Wozniacki did so at the 2011 Australian Open. The 21-year-old Pole will now take on Sloane Stephens of the United States, who rallied past Belgium's Greet Minnen after being one set down. Emma Raducanu's title defense at the US Open ended after losing 6-3, 6-3 to Alize Cornet, who broke the women's singles record for Grand Slam main draw appearances with 63. "Really sad to leave here. It's probably my favorite tournament," said the 19-year-old Briton, who became the third female defending champion to lose in the first round of the tournament.



"I'm going to drop down the rankings and climb my way back up. The target is off my back, I have another chance to claw my way back up there," she added. Cornet will next meet Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic, who eliminated American Taylor Townsend. Meanwhile, fourth-seeded Paula Badosa reached the second round after beating Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko, while 42-year-old Venus Williams was elimi-

nated by Belgium's Alison Van Uytvanck. On the men's side, 22 times Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal came back to beat Australian wild card Rinky Hijikata 4-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-3. "I'm very happy to be back. It's a long time since I played here," said the Spanish legend, who last appeared at US Open in 2019 and won that title, will next meet Italy's Fabio Fognini. Nadal's compatriot Carlos Alcaraz progressed after the retirement of Sebastian Baez due to injury after taking the first two sets 7-5, 7-5, and leading the third 2-0. The 19-year-old rising star's next opponent will be Federico Coria of Argentina, who knocked out Tallon Griekspoor of the Netherlands in straight sets. China's Zheng Qinwen defeated former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, while Yuan Yue swept past Australian wildcard Jaimee Fourlis 6-3, 6-2 as both Chinese youngsters took their first main draw victories at the US Open. **Xinhua**

Petkovic announces her retirement after US Open loss

WASHINGTON: Former World No. 9 Andrea Petkovic played her last Grand Slam match on Tuesday, losing to World No. 13 Belinda Bencic 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 in the first round of the US Open. Petkovic, 34, announced her plans to retire after the US Open. "I was glad that it ended like this, with Belinda, somebody I love and respect so much," Petkovic told reporters after the match. "Also that I could bring to the last match everything that I brought to my career, which was grit and tenacity and just respect for the game and for my opponents," she added. "I think for me I still love the game, still have a tremendous amount of passion for the game," Petkovic said. "It's more the body that is not allowing me to play tennis anymore in a way that I want to play it, train the way I want to train, just play a full season really," said the former World No. 9 Petkovic. "The last four weeks I've just



been playing with painkillers and anti-inflammatories. That was just the part that made me decide not to continue anymore, not the lack of passion or want for the game. So I think that was the saddest part in a way," Petkovic said. "I feel this is something that was happening the last two years. This year it kind of settled. We now have the stars who are going to be the future who are settling into their footprints, like Swiatek, Sakkar, Bencic, Badosa, all these players who belong at the top and who will shape the narratives of the sport in the future," she added. **ANI**

AFGHANISTAN VS BANGLADESH

CRICKET



'We finished the game really well': Afghanistan captain after win over Bangladesh

DUBAI: Following his side's seven-wicket win over Bangladesh at the ongoing Asia Cup 2022, Afghanistan captain Mohammad Nabi said that his side finished the game well. A late blitz from left-hander Najibullah Zadran helped Afghanistan secure direct qualification to the Super Four phase of the ongoing Asia Cup 2022 as he hit a flurry of sixes to help his team defeat Bangladesh by seven wickets in a Group B tie on Tuesday. "Everyone knows both Mujeeb and Rashid are world-class bowlers. They again showed their talent and ability. We plan to take early wickets to be ahead in the game. Everyone knows that we

have power hitters in our team. We finished the game really well. Gurbaz tried a lot but couldn't hit them well. Shakib bowled brilliantly," said Nabi in a post-match presentation. Coming to the match, Bangladesh won the toss and opted to bat first. Top-class bowling spells by pacer Mujeeb ur Rahman and spinner Rashid Khan helped Afghanistan restrict Bangladesh to a sub-par 127/7 despite a fighting knock by Mosaddek Hossain (48*). Afghan bowlers restricted Bangladesh to 53/5 with some superb bowling. Fighting knocks from Mosaddek Hossain (48*) Mahmudullah (25) helped Bangladesh attain a respectable score.

Rashid Khan (3/22) and Mujeeb ur Rahman (3/16) proved difficult for Bangladesh. Chasing 128, Afghanistan did not have a good start and were struggling at 65/3 with the final six overs to go. Then, the duo of Ibrahim Zadran (42*) and Najibullah Zadran (43*) let loose their arms and chased the target with nine balls to go. Mosaddek Hossain (1/12) was the leading bowler for Bangladesh. Shakib and Saifuddin took one wicket each. Mujeeb ur Rahman received the 'Man of the Match' award for his match-winning spell. India will take on Hong Kong in their second Asia Cup match on Wednesday. **ANI**

India and Pakistan fined for maintaining slow over-rate in Group A clash

DUBAI: Both India and Pakistan have been fined 40 per cent of their match fees for maintaining a slow over-rate in their Group A match of the Asia Cup on Sunday, August 28. Jeff Crowe of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees imposed the sanctions after Rohit Sharma and Babar Azam's sides were ruled to be two overs short of their respective targets after time allowances were taken into consideration. In accordance with Article 2.22 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to minimum over-rate offences, players are fined 20 per cent of their match fees for every over their side fails to bowl in the allotted time. Both captains pleaded guilty to the offence and accepted the proposed sanction, so there was no need for a formal hearing. On-field umpires Masudur Rahman and Ruchira Pilliyaguruge, third umpire Raveendra Wimlasiri and fourth umpire Gazi Sohel levelled the charges. Coming to the match, Pakistan were bundled out for 147 in 19.5 overs. Opener Mohammed Rizwan (43) and Iftikhar Ahmed (28) were the only ones who could contribute something decent with the bat. The pace and short-length deliveries of Bhuvneshwar Kumar (4/26), Hardik Pandya (3/25) and Arshdeep Singh (2/33) and Avesh Khan (1/19) blew away Pakistani batters and wickets fell at a regular rate.



Chasing 148, India lost KL Rahul for a duck in the very first over. After this, Virat Kohli (35) anchored the innings and formed a 49-run stand with skipper Rohit Sharma (12), who largely struggled at the other end. Twin strikes from Mohammed Nawaz, who took Sharma and Kohli's wickets restricted India to 3/53. Following this, a 36-run stand between Ravindra Jadeja and Suryakumar Yadav helped move the scoreboard, before Suryaku-

mar fell to debutant Naseem Shah for 18. A 52-run stand between Jadeja (35) and Hardik Pandya (33*) followed, which took India close to a win and in-form Pandya finished the proceedings with a six with two balls to spare, giving India a five-wicket win. Nawaz (3/33) and Naseem Shah (2/27) bowled really well for Pakistan, though not enough to give them a win. Pandya was adjudged as 'Man of the Match' for his all-round performance. **ANI**

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by October 2022 reaching \$96.23, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$6.89 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$103.12. - ONA

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,585.3 points, up by 0.19 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.06 per cent at 489.56 points. Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.89 per cent, was the top gainer while Voltamp Energy, down 5.17 per cent, was the top loser.

Fitch upgrades OETC's rating to BB+ Stable

The increase of Oman Electricity Transmission Company's ratings to 'BB+' reflects the company's stability and profitability

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Fitch Ratings announced the upgrade of Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC), a member of Nama Group, Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) to 'BB+' from 'BB'.

The increase of OETC's ratings to 'BB+' reflects the company's stability and profitability.

The "Fitch" credit rating agency has identified several main factors that resulted in the rating of Oman Electricity Transmission Company, including the positive financial performance and assets owned by the company.

Commenting on this achievement, Eng. Saleh Al Rumhi, CEO of Oman Electricity Transmission Company, stated, "This is a big milestone for OETC, and we are proud of the company for the increase of the credit rating to



the same degree as the Sultanate's credit rating, which came as a result of the improvement of the company's independent credit record, following a financial and organisational restructuring of the electricity sector under the umbrella of Oman Investment Authority."

Eng. Al Rumhi added that raising the company's credit rating will increase its competitiveness to attract investors. He stressed that the classification would enhance the company's future strategic

plans in line with the company's new vision to reach globalization with a world-class smart transmission grid by 2030, which would contribute to improving the credit rating of the Sultanate of Oman. This important achievement will enable the company to further contribute to achieving the goals of the "Oman 2040 Vision" related to the energy and renewable energy sectors.

Oman Electricity Transmission Company is the only company responsible for the transmission and

control of electricity in the northern Sultanate's network and also in the Governorate of Dhofar, where electricity is transferred from production stations to distributed load centres in all governorates of the Sultanate. The transmission network operates at a voltage of 132 kV and above, to cover most of the governorates of the Sultanate, whether in the north or the south. OETC also manages the interconnection lines between the Sultanate and the Gulf interconnection network with a voltage of 220 kV.

PRICE GAIN

Oil prices inch higher as US fuel inventories fall, dollar weakens

OKLAHOMA: Oil prices recovered slightly on Wednesday as data pointed to firm fuel demand in the United States, providing respite after a 5 per cent drop a day earlier on fear of demand suffering from increased China COVID-19 curbs and central bank interest rate hikes.

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures jumped 85 cents, or 0.9 per cent, to \$92.49 a barrel at 04:56 GMT, after sliding \$5.37 in the previous session driven by recession fears.

Brent crude futures for October, due to expire on Wednesday, climbed 70 cents, or 0.7 per cent, to \$100.01 a barrel, trimming Tuesday's \$5.78 loss.

The more active November contract was up 93 cents, or 1 per cent, at \$98.77 a barrel.

The price swings since the Ukraine conflict began six months ago have rattled hedge funds and speculators and thinned trading, which in turn has made the market whipsaw even more, as seen on Tuesday.

"I can't stress, the low liquidity means we're in for some volatile moves," said Commonwealth Bank commodities analyst Vivek Dhar.

Supporting market sentiment on Wednesday, data from the American Petroleum Institute (API) showed gasoline inventories fell by about 3.4 million barrels, while distillate stocks, which include diesel and jet fuel,



fell by about 1.7 million barrels for the week ended August 26.

The drawdown in gasoline stockpiles was nearly triple the 1.2 million barrel drop that eight analysts polled by Reuters had expected on average. For distillate inventories, they had expected a drop of about 1 million barrels, according to Reuters.

However, API data showed crude stocks rose by about 593,000 barrels, against analysts' estimates of a drop of around 1.5 million barrels.

A slightly weaker US dollar also shored up the market, with oil consequently being cheaper for buyers holding other currencies.

Price gains were capped by worries that some of China's biggest cities - from Shenzhen to Dalian - are imposing lockdowns and business closures to curb COVID-19 at a time when the world's second-biggest economy is already experiencing weak growth. -BNA

MADAYN

Nizwa Industrial City inks pact to set up project worth OMR6mn

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Nizwa Industrial City, which falls under the umbrella of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), has signed an investment pact with Asas Drilling Solutions to set up a project for manufacturing, repair and maintenance services for machinery and equipment used in the oil and gas industry.

The project will be established on an area exceeding 14,000 sqm with an investment value touching OMR6 million.

The agreement was signed by Ahmed Al Hajri, Director-General of Nizwa Industrial City and Khalid Al Busaidi, project owner.

Commenting on the project, Al Hajri said that this value-adding project will serve the oil and gas industries, promote their growth,



and provide them with a wide range of advanced tools and equipment that are used in drilling oil and gas wells.

Al Hajri added that Madayn is currently developing the infrastructure as part of the expansion

project in phases 3 and 4 in Nizwa Industrial City on an area of one million sqm.

Most of the road connection works, electrical connections, and remaining excavation works are currently being completed.

FOR MARINE VESSELS

Al Maha signs agreement with Port of Duqm for bunkering services

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Al Maha Petroleum Marketing Company signed an agreement with the Port of Duqm Company to provide bunkering services for marine vessels.

As part of Oman's Vision 2040 to diversify the economy, including marine and logistics services, this agreement is also the fulfilment of a long-term vision for Al Maha to be a refuelling service provider to all industries in Oman.

Speaking at the occasion, Eng. Hamed Al Maghdri, CEO of Al Maha Petroleum said, "This agreement with the Port of Duqm Company is part of our vision to be customer-centric in all our activities and has been the culmination of many months of effort from both parties.

"This is a vision come true



for Al Maha, and we will soon be able to deliver bunkering services safely, on time, and with the best quality products to our customers current and future. We thank the Port of Duqm Company for their trust in Al Maha Petroleum Marketing company."

Accordingly, Al Maha seeks to develop the infrastructure and national manpower capabilities to provide the best bunkering services to vessels of all types calling at the Port of Duqm which is strategically located alongside some of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

INDIAN EQUITY MARKET

Foreign investors turn net buyers in India for second straight month

NEW DELHI: Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have turned net buyers in Indian equity markets for two consecutive months.

Till early July, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) had been selling equities in the Indian markets for the past nine-to-ten months due to various reasons. Tightening of monetary policy in advanced economies including rising demand for dollar-denominated commodities, and strength in the US dollar had triggered a consistent outflow of funds from Indian markets. Investors typically prefer stable markets in times of high market uncertainty.

Further, consistent depreciation of the rupee as well as depleting Indian foreign exchange reserves too had a bearing on the weak market sentiments.

For the record, FPIs have pulled out overall Rs 168,798 crore so far in 2022, NSDL data showed. -ANI

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MSX index ends higher

Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.89 per cent, was the top gainer while Voltamp Energy, down 5.17 per cent, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,585.3 points, up by 0.19 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.06 per cent at 489.56 points. Gulf International Chemicals, up 9.89 per cent, was the top gainer while Voltamp Energy, down 5.17 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Al Anwar Investment were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while National Gas were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 918 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR2.26 million, with more than 14.06 million shares changing hands.

Out of 52 traded securities, 21 advanced, 14 declined, and 17 remained unchanged.

At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR365,000 while foreign investors were net buyers for OMR215,000, followed by domestic investors for OMR150,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,351.08 points, up 0.17 per cent. Prices of Al Anwar Investment, Al Medina Takaful, Oman Arab Bank, National Bank Oman and Al Sharqia Investment were up by 3.66 per cent, 3.37 per cent, 2.5 per cent, 1.89 per cent and

1.16 per cent respectively. Prices of Bank Dhofar, Takaful Oman, Oman United Insurance and Oman & Emirates Investment were down by 3.57 per cent, 2.17 per cent, 1.72 per cent and 1.14 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,518.98 points, down 0.23 per cent. Prices of Gulf International Chemicals, National Aluminium, Galfar Engineering and A'Saffa Foods were up by 9.89 per cent, 4.55 per cent, 1.85 per cent and 1.33 per cent respectively. Prices of Voltamp Energy, Jazeera Steel Products, Oman Fisheries, Gulf Mushroom Products and Al Anwar Ceramics were down by 5.17 per cent, 2.67 per cent, 2.52 per cent, 0.79 per cent and 0.48 per cent respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.97 per cent before closing at 1,675.1 points. Prices of Sharqiyah Desalination, Dhofar Generating, Sembcorp Salalah, Renaissance Services and Oman Telecom were up by 9.17 per cent, 9.09 per cent, 5.71 per cent, 2.38 per cent and 2.22 per cent respectively. Prices of Al Suwadi Power, Phoenix Power, Oman National Engineering and Al Jazeera Services were down by 2.27 per cent, 2.22 per cent, 0.92 per cent and 0.35 per cent respectively.

— United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES							
Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%	
MSX 30 INDEX	4,585.30	4,562.43	4,585.30	4,576.76	8.54	0.19	
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,358.62	7,320.65	7,351.08	7,338.95	12.12	0.17	
Industry Index	6,549.83	6,498.55	6,518.98	6,534.18	-15.21	-0.23	
Services Index	1,675.25	1,659.91	1,675.10	1,658.99	16.11	0.97	
MSX Shariah Index	490.35	488.12	489.56	489.25	0.31	0.06	
MSX TR INDEX	5,783.13	5,754.29	5,783.13	5,772.36	10.77	0.19	
FINANCIAL TR IDX	7,699.97	7,660.24	7,692.07	7,679.39	12.68	0.17	
SERVICES TR IDX	1,739.60	1,723.67	1,739.43	1,722.71	16.73	0.97	
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,797.62	6,744.41	6,765.60	6,781.38	-15.78	-0.23	
Trading Summary							
Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
14,065,617	2,262,910	918	23,246,812,495	21	14	17	52

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST RD	LAST OFFER	PUB VALUE	MARKET CAP	
REGULAR MARKET																	
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	2,600	156	3	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.055	0.005	9.091	0.060	0.052	0.060	0.100	13,334,400	
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER	304,759	156,037	6	0.510	0.516	0.504	0.516	0.504	0.012	2.381	0.516	0.516	0.516	0.100	121,987,560	
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	156,150	142,997	19	0.900	0.920	0.900	0.920	0.900	0.020	2.222	0.920	0.908	0.920	0.100	890,000,000	
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	120,000	32,300	14	0.265	0.270	0.265	0.270	0.265	0.005	1.887	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.100	439,005,516	
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV	1,499,885	132,350	69	0.088	0.090	0.087	0.087	0.086	0.001	1.163	0.087	0.087	0.091	0.100	7,830,000	
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	16,000	1,568	2	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.097	0.001	1.031	0.098	0.094	0.106	23,348,858		
OM0000003000	AL MAHA MARKTING	6,650	5,545	4	0.832	0.840	0.832	0.840	0.832	0.008	0.962	0.840	0.000	0.852	0.100	57,960,000	
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	2,352	781	3	0.332	0.332	0.332	0.332	0.330	0.002	0.606	0.332	0.332	0.332	0.100	221,897,321	
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	1,100	1,247	2	0.594	0.594	0.594	0.594	0.594	0.000	0.000	0.594	0.548	0.594	0.100	33,555,000	
OM0000001525	OMAN INVEST FIN	256,804	33,051	16	0.128	0.129	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.000	0.000	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.100	30,336,000	
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	1,000	294	1	0.294	0.294	0.294	0.294	0.294	0.000	0.000	0.294	0.294	0.300	0.100	97,276,577	
OM0000002020	AHLI BANK	41,000	5,577	3	0.137	0.137	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.000	0.000	0.136	0.131	0.137	0.100	265,153,415	
OM0000002799	BANK MUSCAT	445,062	267,749	21	0.608	0.608	0.604	0.604	0.604	0.004	0.664	0.608	0.608	0.608	0.100	2,266,931,913	
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV H	30,000	1,980	3	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.000	0.000	0.066	0.065	0.067	0.100	13,200,000	
OM0000003898	SOHAR INT BANK	20,000	2,120	2	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.105	0.115	0.100	316,946,603	
OM0000003968	QOURED	147,384	57,541	13	0.390	0.396	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.000	0.000	0.390	0.390	0.352	0.100	253,988,250	
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	139,240	39,482	17	0.286	0.286	0.282	0.282	0.283	-0.001	-0.353	0.282	0.282	0.286	0.100	17,259,605	
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	3,500	1,463	1	0.418	0.418	0.418	0.418	0.420	-0.002	-0.478	0.418	0.402	0.418	0.100	91,960,000	
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT ENG	61,361	6,644	6	0.110	0.110	0.108	0.108	0.109	-0.001	-0.917	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.100	15,120,000	
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR	157,600	44,924	1	0.288	0.288	0.285	0.285	0.290	-0.005	-1.724	0.285	0.286	0.285	0.100	28,500,000	
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD	15,000	4,380	1	0.292	0.292	0.292	0.292	0.300	-0.008	-2.667	0.292	0.286	0.298	0.100	36,470,204	
Total	21	3,426,447	938,187	217													
Parallel Market																	
OM0000003028	GULF INT CHEMI	10,200	1,620	2	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.091	0.009	8.990	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	2,100,000	
OM0000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALIN	20,000	2,380	7	0.119	0.119	0.119	0.119	0.109	0.010	9.174	0.119	0.119	0.119	0.100	11,638,457	
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	100	7	1	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.070	0.004	5.714	0.074	0.066	0.074	0.100	70,638,324	
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD	840,832	77,535	66	0.090	0.096	0.090	0.092	0.088	0.004	4.545	0.092	0.081	0.092	0.100	3,088,573	
OM0000001772	OMANWAB INVESTMENT	3,192,839	142,651	159	0.086	0.089	0.085	0.085	0.082	0.003	3.659	0.085	0.086	0.086	0.100	17,000,000	
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	171,682	15,648	22	0.089	0.092	0.089	0.092	0.089	0.003	3.371	0.092	0.097	0.092	0.100	16,100,000	
OM0000003260	OMAN ARAB BANK	10,000	1,230	1	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.120	0.003	2.500	0.123	0.119	0.124	0.100	20,577,430	
OM0000003870	FARGER DESALINATION	65,497	9,175	7	0.140	0.141	0.140	0.140	0.137	0.003	2.190	0.141	0.140	0.141	0.100	10,573,080	
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	2,062,825	295,984	123	0.141	0.147	0.141	0.142	0.139	0.003	2.158	0.142	0.142	0.145	0.100	12,070,000	
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	239,594	38,909	38	0.162	0.165	0.160	0.165	0.162	0.003	1.852	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.100	33,492,764	
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	475,394	145,365	77	0.306	0.312	0.298	0.306	0.302	0.004	1.325	0.306	0.306	0.309	0.100	36,700,000	
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	129,000	12,642	3	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.097	0.001	1.031	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.100	21,221,397	
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	8,949	1,285	2	0.142	0.144	0.142	0.144	0.143	0.001	0.699	0.144	0.144	0.000	0.100	4,320,000	
OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION M	58,779	4,996	3	0.084	0.085	0.084	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	5,312,500	
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	69,000	10,895	3	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.000	0.000	0.155	0.153	0.155	0.100	310,048,482	
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	324,500	21,898	12	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.067	0.070	0.100	20,578,804	
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	465,000	13,020	16	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.000	0.000	0.028	0.027	0.028	0.100	5,689,797	
OM0000004925	ALBATAHA POWER	11,998	505	5	0.043	0.043	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.000	0.000	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.100	28,345,272	
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	951	108	1	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.000	0.000	0.114	0.112	0.114	0.100	17,732,746	
OM0000001418	RAYCUT CEMENT	1,104,274	161,810	63	0.236	0.239	0.234	0.234	0.235	-0.001	-0.426	0.234	0.230	0.235	0.100	46,800,000	
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM P	51,579	12,915	10	0.250	0.252	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.250	0.248	0.255	0.100	10,401,318	
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO	249,050	22,087	13	0.090	0.090	0.085	0.087	0.088	-0.001	-1.136	0.087	0.087	0.088	0.100	10,603,125	
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	15,383	4,966	2	0.328	0.328	0.328	0.328	0.325	0.003	0.915	0.328	0.328	0.328	0.100	11,250,000	
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	310,373	13,656	12	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.045	-0.001	-2.222	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.100	10,603,125	
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	54,405	2,340	5	0.043	0.044	0.043	0.043	0.044	-0.001	-2.273	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.100	30,719,473	
OM0000001568	OMAN FISHERIES	304,002	35,740	43	0.119	0.120	0.115	0.116	0.119	-0.003	-2.521	0.115	0.115	0.116	0.100	21,121,094	
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	100	14	1	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.140	0.140	-0.005	-3.571	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.154	0.100	404,507,444
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	389,715	44,772	8	0.116	0.120	0.110	0.110	0.116	-0.006	-5.172	0.110	0.105	0.114	0.100	8,964,303	
Total	28	10,635,960	1,323,659	698													

###



SENSATIONALLY SWISS

TUCKED HIGH UP THE MOUNTAIN OF BURGENSTOCK WITH A SEAMLESS 360 DEGREE PANORAMIC VISTA OF LAKE LUCERNE AND THE ENIGMATIC ALPS, IS THE BÜRGENSTOCK RESORT LAKE LUCERNE UNFOLDING ITS LUXURIOUSLY IMPECCABLE AND UNIQUE HOSPITALITY, THAT'S GENEROUSLY COATED WITH THE ABUNDANCE OF NATURE THAT SURROUNDS.

Rahul Das | rahuldas@timesofoman.com

From chocolates and fondue to watches, from turquoise blue lakes and green valleys to the towering snow-capped heights of the Alps, the Swissness of each never fails to inspire those consumed by wanderlust. The chamomiles and million more wildflowers filled green Swiss meadows beckons romantic strolls, refreshing hikes and cheery picnic-time on a sunny summer afternoon. The rich, deep chime of treicheln hanging from the cow's neck echoes through the distant undulated countryside, ringing its century-old Swiss traditional folklores and the farmers' cultural beliefs. Winning the hearts of its listeners, the subtle mellow tune of the traditional wind instrument shaped like a horn with cornet-like mouthpiece – the alphorn – the resonance of which proudly stands as the national symbol of intercommunication between the alpine villages located far across, a call to the cattle to return, ceremonies and festivals. The picturesque villages and their idyllic location are not only a grazing ground but also bountiful with what is recognised as 'Swiss gourmet' – the Apples. Enjoy them during the fall when they are at their juicy best.

The quaint mountain ridges descending into the valley and valleys into the deep blue lakes, exhibit the charming topography of Switzerland, weaving its natural elegance in every nook and cranny. 18 km away from Lucerne's medieval quarter boasting its 650-year-old Chapel Bridge, awaits one of the spectacular mountain ridge of Switzerland – Mt Burgenstock – with its conifer-rich lush rolling landscape stretching over miles, offers a breathtaking view of the stunning crystal clear blue waters of Lake Lucerne and other significant mountain peaks like Mt. Pilatus. Tucked high up the mountain of Burgenstock with a seamless 360 degree panoramic vista of Lake Lucerne and the enigmatic Alps, is the Bürgenstock Resort Lake Lucerne unfolding its luxuriously impeccable and unique hospitality, that's generously coated with the abundance of nature that surrounds. Bürgenstock Resort embodies extravagant recreation with a princely touch of Swiss style cordiality. Combining the heritage and tradition that's valued for over centuries; tourists experiencing the Bürgenstock Resort property can easily connect to the natural treasure and plunge into its man-made opulence.



A destination by itself, Bürgenstock Resort is steeped in the freshness of Swiss nature, rich history and a list of eminent clientele to its credit. A picturesque one-hour drive from Zurich takes you to this amazing complex situated on the 500 meters cliff above Lake Lucerne and 900 meters above sea level. From Lucerne station, the spectacular journey began. Our arrival at the Bürgenstock Resort through the charismatic Lake Lucerne was on the "cat" (catamaran boat). Hopping off the "Cat" at Kehrsiten- Bürgenstock ferry terminal, we headed to recall the history of Bürgenstock Resort's landmark railway station dating back to 1888 and is the oldest electric funicular railways in Switzerland. As we stepped in the compartment of the funicular that glided up the gradient, we were swept by the scenic beauty of the landscape below from inside till we reached the resort. A must visit place in your lifetime with its exclusive views

replete in serenity of nature soaked in luxury and history. Franz Josef Bucher and Josef Durrer were the brave pioneers of the Bürgenstock Resort. In 1871, they bought the resort property on the Bürgenstock ridge. To this day, "The Future has a Past" is the core philosophy at Bürgenstock Resort, blending classic Swiss heritage, innovative planning and intelligent leading design. The resort heralds a new era in Swiss hospitality. Modern and rational is found across the four luxury hotels, whilst the resort boasts of a fascinating heritage dating back to 1873. This location has always been a lure to celebrities, from Sophia Loren, Charlie Chaplin, Sean Connery and in 1951 Audrey Hepburn was married in the Bürgenstock Chapel. In the present day, the Resort is owned by Katara Hospitality, a global hotel owner, developer and operator, based in Qatar. With 50 years of experience in the industry, Katara Hospitality

actively pursues its strategic expansion plans by investing in iconic properties in key international markets. The Bürgenstock Resort, known as a miraculous hideaway, has hosted numerous personalities and boasts of the funicular railway and the Hammettschwand Lift, Europe's largest outdoor lift. The Bürgenstock Resort aims to be a destination in itself, with 10 restaurants, bars and lounges, you'll be spoilt for dining options. Boasting of a 149-year heritage, the Bürgenstock Resort comprises 3 luxury hotels, 69 private residences, a Health & Medical Centre as well as unparalleled wellness and leisure facilities. From plush rooms, innumerable activities, sumptuous restaurants serving healthy menus to indulging its client in one of the world's most pampered spa treatments, the resort knows what makes Switzerland classy and superior that makes their guests shout-out 'excelsior'!





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Chess tent set up in Russia's Vladivostok to promote chess culture
People play chess at a chess tent in Vladivostok, Russia. A chess tent was set up on a street in Vladivostok to promote chess culture. Chess fans can play for free and get guidance from professional tutors. — Xinhua



Hydrogen technology innovation exhibition held in Goyang, South Korea
Visitors look at models of hydrogen production, storage and transportation at the H2 MEET hydrogen technology innovation exhibition in Goyang, South Korea. — Xinhua



Mediterranean jellyfish seen in seashore of Pula, Croatia
A Mediterranean jellyfish is pictured in the seashore of Pula, Croatia. — Xinhua



Historic US library hosts Mid-Autumn Festival celebration
A visitor takes photos during a celebration for the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival in the Huntington Library in Los Angeles, the United States. The historic Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in Los Angeles County held a grand celebration for the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. — Xinhua



Netflix Films Day event
Bollywood actors Sunny Kaushal, Yami Gautam, and Sharad Kelkar attend the Netflix Films Day event, in Mumbai. — ANI Photo



Lebanon's classic car enthusiasts deck out gems of collections
People visit a classic car exhibition in Aley, Mount Lebanon Governorate, Lebanon. Over 65 classic car owners gathered in Aley, a city in Mount Lebanon, showcasing their vehicles at an exhibition, where vintage collections from 1945 to 1978 parked in the city square drew the attention of many passers-by. — Xinhua



Reviving past glory of Bangladeshi Jamdani saree
Weavers make the Jamdani saree on looms in Narayanganj, Bangladesh. — Xinhua



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ROUND-UP

Bank Muscat inaugurates new Green Sports field in Nizwa

The event underscored the importance of strengthening sports infrastructure across Oman and also saw an exhibition match between two local teams on the occasion

MUSCAT: In line with the bank's commitment to community development and promoting Oman as a sporting nation, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, continues to complete new Green Sports Fields for youth sports teams across the Sultanate of Oman.

Recently, the bank handed over a newly-developed Green Sports field to the Al Etihad Al Gharbi team from the Wilayat of Nizwa. The event was held in the presence of Sheikh Rashid Said Al Kalbani, the Wali of Nizwa, and a number of sheikhs and team members. The



event underscored the importance of strengthening sports infrastructure across Oman and also saw an exhibition match between two lo-

cal teams on the occasion. Juma Khamis Al Yaquobi, Regional Manager, Al Dakhliyah, Bank Muscat congratulated the Al

Etihad Al Gharbi team in Nizwa for the successful completion of the project.

This is a major achievement that will contribute to enhancing the facilities and infrastructure for the team. He hopes that the new facility would help the Al Etihad team rise to greater heights, improve community bonding and harness the talent of Omani youth. He also asked the team management to maintain the project and ensure that they developed it further in the future.

Speaking on the occasion, Sulie-man Said Ambusaidi, Al Etihad Al Gharbi team, Nizwa, said, "We thank Bank Muscat for having selected the Al Etihad team as a winner of this excellent programme that is helping develop

Omani talent. There is absolutely no doubt in our minds that with the implementation of the new lighting system, the team is all set to significantly improve its sporting prowess and capabilities. We look forward to a time when more of our young talents are playing at the highest level of sports thanks to the high-quality facilities which are available to them now."

The scope of support under the programme includes the installation of artificial turf or natural grass on sports fields, floodlighting and water-desalination systems.

Bank Muscat's longest-running CSR programme has been greatly contributing to further building Omani sporting talent by creating a pipeline of talented players who can represent the

country at all levels in the future.

In 2021, the bank increased the number of annual beneficiaries on the occasion of the flagship CSR programme's 10th Anniversary. Continuing the optimistic trend, the bank recently announced the 20 winners for this year. It is a matter of great encouragement that the Green Sports programme has benefitted 163 teams and over 50,000 team members across the Sultanate of Oman so far.

Through the 2022 edition of this flagship CSR programme, Bank Muscat has further strengthened its pioneering role in the field of social responsibility and sustainability, and its continuous drive to develop modern sports infrastructure across Oman in the spirit of the Public-Private Partnership model.

SUV

Do more on each journey with powerful Ford Bronco SUV



MUSCAT: Ford's powerful and capable Bronco SUV is built to be a better companion on varied terrains. The Bronco exceeds expectations, standing out to deliver some of the finest driving experiences on or off the road.

The Bronco is available as a Bronco two-door, first-ever Bronco four-door model and all-new rugged, small SUV, Bronco Sport – the only domestic brand of SUVs with standard 4x4.

Engineered to make you push all limits is the all-4x4 Bronco brand that is Built Wild and ready to deliver thrilling experiences. Just like the first-generation Bronco, the all-new Bronco delivers maximum 4x4 go-anywhere, anytime capability and confidence.

Backing your exploration activities and allowing you to make the most of off-road journeys is the off-road mapping and drive technologies. While it's Built Wild, durability makes for lasting performance in the harshest of conditions.

Bronco's advanced four-wheel-drive technology is at the core of its off-road capabilities and the heart of it all is Bronco's exclusive Terrain Management System with G.O.A.T. Modes that is designed to help drivers better navigate any type of terrain.

Up to seven driver-selectable modes are offered including Normal, Eco, Sport, Slippery and Sand, with Baja, Mud/Ruts and Rock Crawl for off-road driving.

Available segment-first Trail Toolbox gives Bronco owners a suite of exclusive technologies to elevate their off-road experience. This includes Trail Control

– cruise control for low-speed trail driving, while Trail Turn Assist tightens off-road turning radiiuses through torque vectoring, and the innovative Trail One-Pedal Drive acceleration/braking control makes for more precise and confident slow-mode rock crawling. Segment-leading levels of off-road capability are possible thanks to Bronco's available best-in-class 11.6-inch ground clearance, maximum 26.3-degree break over angle and 37-degree departure angle, plus best-in-class water fording capability of up to 33.5 inches.

Thanks to Bronco's legendary Baja racing DNA, each model brings forth a thrilling off-road experience and delivers it with a modern, heritage-inspired style. To deliver thrilling high-speed off-roading and overall driving performance, every Bronco comes with an independent front suspension for improved control, confidence and comfort.

Race-bred EcoBoost engines and a 10-speed automatic transmission give the all-new Bronco the optimal combination of power, torque and gear range to perform in a wide variety of terrains and uses. Best-in-class projected gasoline-powered horsepower and torque are available with the 2.7-litre EcoBoost V6 engine, which is projected to produce 310 horsepower and 400 lb.-ft. of torque, while the 2.3-litre EcoBoost is targeted to deliver best-in-class four-cylinder torque of 310 lb.-ft. with an expected 270 horsepower.

In Oman, Ford vehicles are brought to you by Arabian Car Marketing Co.

DIGITAL PAYMENT

Best payment gateway service in Oman

MUSCAT: It's hard to believe how much the world has changed, post-Covid-19. When we talk about technology alone, and its usage and applicability, the entire ecosystem has transformed, marking a dramatic shift towards digital transformation and digital adoption.

Seeing how brands and even consumers are leveraging technology right now, it's only inevitable that digital will completely take over the globe in the coming years.

For a country like Oman, where people were usually accustomed to traditional methods of transacting and shopping, there's an immense increase in the adoption of digital payments or online payments in general. The government of Oman is also pushing to drive digital transformation in the country, as seen by other countries in the Middle East.

There are a lot of payment gateway services in Oman today, and we're going to be covering the best payment gateway service in Oman for you.

Importance of payment gateways in Oman

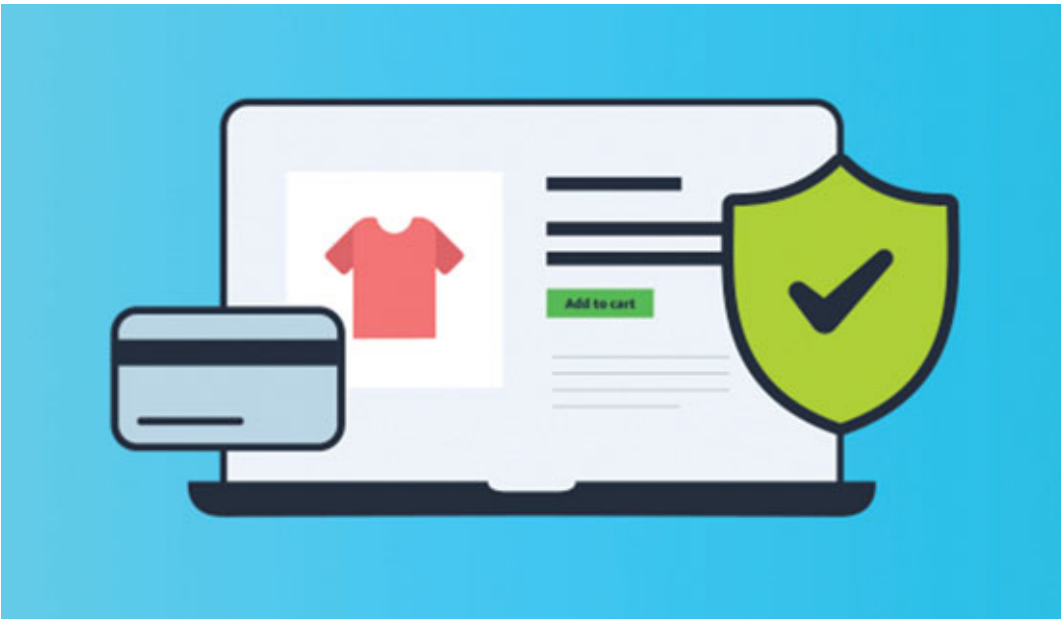
The Coronavirus pandemic was a devastating global event. However, it resulted in a shift towards online shopping, especially in countries like Oman.

This forced the customers to get accustomed to payment gateway services, to the extent that they don't prefer going back to older methods of payment.

Consumers in Oman are now accustomed to payment gateway services, whether it is for B2B or B2C purposes. Payment gateway services provide convenience to its consumers, with a safe and secure mechanism, transacted in a matter of seconds. The fact that Covid-19 was the trigger, which made consumers in Oman realize the usefulness of technology, and ease of making payments online, means that more efforts are being made by the government to promote the Fintech sector and online payment ecosystem.

Having said that, you must know the best options for payment gateways in Oman.

Amazon Payment Services (APS) - APS offers an excellent solution for the common users who look to transact through online payment gateways in Oman. It's very simple and intuitive, with mainstream adoption in Oman. The service extends an array of payment features to its partners. There are onboard convenience features coupled with a simple UI framework, with all relevant tutorials and resources to accommodate smooth payment transactions. The best feature of APS is its security protocols with compartmentalised authorisation at



every stage of the payment process, making it the most viable payment gateway option in Oman. If you're looking for a top-notch payment gateway in Oman, APS sits at the top.

APS is one of the most widely used payment gateway services in Oman, simply because of how robust its mechanism is, with easy integration with all the major platforms i.e. Shopify, BigCommerce, Opencart etc. With absolutely zero startup fees for entry-level packages, Amazon Payment Service Gateway is recognized as one of the most credible and seamless Payment solutions in the country. Even for Mid-tier accounts, E-commerce APS is, perhaps, the most viable option for large-scale merchants, as the Payment gateway service offers custom packages, based on transactional volume (per month), making it ideal for Up-scaled E-commerce Merchants.

Additionally, the Payment gateway service also offers its customers an instalment option, allowing further flexibility for merchants. What's more is that APS data analysis algorithms allow for business growth tracking, in real-time, making it the most ideal option for most medium to large-scale businesses, and even ambitious startups.

Checkout - This Payment gateway service may be considered one of the most opted for in Oman, offering a lot of flexible payment options for E-commerce merchants, of various scalability. Launched back in 2014, Checkout.com acts as a universal Payment gateway service, accommodating support of 15 languages and 87 currencies, making it the ideal choice for sending or receiving Global Payments in Oman.

Many companies i.e. Pizza Hut, THG, Curve, Farfetch coupon code etc. in Oman opt for

Checkout, due to its flexibility and custom payment options. E-merchants using Checkout Payment gateway service are only required to pay the one-time setup fee of \$500, with additional charges of 0.95% + 2 cents, and 2.9% + 20 cents per transaction, on European Cards, and Non-European Cards, respectively.

2CHECKOUT - Another quite popular and heavily acclaimed Global Payment gateway service, widely opted for, across Oman. 2Checkout has an expanded reach of E-merchants, being available in 211 countries, across the Globe. Providing full-fledged PCI Compliance, the payment gateway service supports up to 87 currencies, with support in 15 different languages.

The service also provides 'Ultimate Fraud Detection,' accommodating Address Verification, backed up 300+ CVV and rule checks. The additional transaction charges are slightly higher, given the payment gateway service's global reach, translating to roughly 4% (3.9 to be exact), + 45 cents on every transaction.

Tap: Tap is one of the most convenient and efficient online payment services across Oman. It acts as a reliable and seamless payment gateway service, leveraging technology to offer small/ medium businesses and enterprises the to execute online transactions with ease. Be it at the receiving end of the sending, Tap allows you flexibility, along with the security to make/ receive your payments within a matter of seconds, simplifying the ecosystem of sending and receiving payments.

The reason why Tap is so popular in Oman is because of its simple user interface, both through the Website and through the application. While the payment gateway service started in Kuwait in 2013, it gradually ex-

tended its roots throughout other countries in the Middle East, including Oman, where it gained immediate popularity.

Today, Tap supports more than 1000 businesses including major corporations, securing tens of thousands of online payment transactions on a daily basis.

MyFatoorah – another quite robust and credible payment gateway service in Oman, enabling businesses to send and receive online payments seamlessly. MyFatoorah offers services that fall under-invoicing, DHL, point-of-sale (POS), payment gateway, GCC cards, and KIF. The striking features of MyFatoorah, which makes it one of the best payment gateway services in Oman, include Instant Deposit (within 24 hours), mobile notifications, customisable SMS, unmatched customer support, e-commerce plugins for payment, mobile application compatibility, and environmental protection through Go Green. MyFatoorah also offers access to tracking and reporting dashboards for businesses dealing with a large customer base or clientele. Due to its onboard customisability and tailored online payment solutions for clients, MyFatoorah remains to be a popular payment gateway service across Oman.

Conclusion

The government of Oman is pushing for digital transformation in the country, as it does not want to fall behind other countries in the Middle East. This is the reason why we're witnessing growth in the Fintech sector, with more online payment gateway services popping up in the country, to allow consumers to make or receive payments with ease, while exponentially expanding and driving growth for the digital landscape of Oman.



ROUND-UP



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Foton Oman announces special offer to mark 26th Foton Global Anniversary



Foton's anniversary promotion which will go on till 15 October 2022, offers free periodic maintenance service, free insurance, free registration

MUSCAT: Gulf Great Sands, the exclusive importer of Foton vehicles in Oman, has announced a 'Celebrate with Foton' offer to mark the 26th anniversary of the global automotive legend.

Foton's anniversary promotion which will go on till 15 October, 2022, offers free periodic maintenance service, free insurance, free registration. The special offer is available on models including Foton Tunland Pickup 2.4L Single Cab, 134hp, 2WD, Foton Tunland Pickup 2.4L Double Cab, 134hp, 2WD, Foton View C2, Cargo Van Standard Van 2.7L Engine, 147hp, Foton Aumark S Light Truck (3.8L Turbo Engine, 140hp) and Foton Auman Medium Duty Truck 6.7L Engine, 245 hp.

The offer is valid on all models purchased through the Foton showroom retail offer.

Partnering with Foton Motor Group, one of the world's largest manufacturers of commercial vehicles, Gulf Great Sands (GGS) had launched a full range of commercial

vehicles in Oman. Through this exclusive distribution partnership, Gulf Great Sands LLC has commenced the supply of a range of Foton's commercial vehicles in Oman which includes Heavy Duty Trucks, Medium Duty Trucks, Light Duty Trucks, Pickups, Mini buses, Panel vans, and SUVs.

A GGS spokesperson said, "It is a great moment for us as partners to see one of the most celebrated vehicles in the world automobile history turn 26. To commemorate this landmark occasion, we are offering a special offer for our valued customers. All Foton vehicles boast highest levels of quality and design, due to its partnership with leading names like Daimler, Cummins, and others. Foton invests heavily in research, development, and state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities. This ensures all Foton vehicles are created with current as well as emerging technologies. This is a great time to buy Foton vehicles."

Free registration

All customers purchasing Tunland Pickup, View Mini Bus and View Cargo Vanduring this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle registration.

Free insurance

All customers purchasing Tunland Pickup, View Mini Bus and View Cargo Vanduring this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle Insurance (Oman & UAE) for private registration only.

Free service package (periodic maintenance service only)

Assured free service package on Foton Commercial vehicles model purchase.

No wear and tear parts covered. Customer of Foton Tunland Pickup model variants to get assured first year or 10,000 kms service. (Periodic Maintenance Service Only)

Customer of Foton View Mini-bus and Panel vans model variants to get assured second year or 20,000km service. (Periodic Maintenance Service Only)

Customer of Foton Aumark Light Duty Truck model variants to get assured first year or 20,000km service. (Periodic Maintenance Service Only)

Customer of Foton Auman Medium Duty Truck model variants to get assured first year or 20,000km service. (Periodic Maintenance Service Only)

Foton Tunland - Single cabin and Double Cabin Pickup

Foton Tunland Single and Double Cab Pickup (2WD) which is powered by a 2.4 litre engine combines an original, robust design with the power, performance and reliability of established, globally reputed brands for its major drivetrain features. It is powered by the new generation 2.4 Litre Turbo TGDI gasoline engine making it the most powerful pickup in its class. Features of the Tunland include Bosch electronics and ABS + EBD, ESC, On-Board Diagnostics (OBD, TPMS), dual airbag, Bluetooth and Parking sensors.

Foton View CS2 Mini Bus and Panel Van

Built to extend drivers and passengers an optimal blend of ride comfort and agility, the Foton View CS2 Mini Bus offers exceptional features and technologies with advanced comfort, convenience,

and safety. Devoted to innovation, Foton View CS2 Mini Bus demonstrates an air of elegance in every designing detail. The chase for perfection in space, performance, safety, and workmanship never ends with Foton View CS2 - PANEL VANS comes in two variants of narrow body standard roof and wide body high roof and provides great value and high efficiency.

Foton Aumark - Light Duty Truck

Geared to provide customers with the best experience for their customised transportation needs, the Foton Aumark - Light Duty Truck is equipped with a wide range of world-class features. The Foton Aumark - Light Duty Truck is powered by legendary Cummins fuel efficient 3.8L turbo Cummins diesel engine and generates 150hp equipped with ZF 6-speed manual transmission. The Light Duty Truck has many features including cruise control, low engine noise, reversing sensor, remote control central door-locking, ABS +EBD, air exhaust brakes, power windows among others. The Light Duty Truck, which is perfect for intra city use and city to city movements of goods, offers industry leading technology that augments the truck's driving experience while providing supreme safety.

Foton Auman - Medium and Heavy Duty Trucks

Foton Auman Medium Duty Truck boasts of a 6.7L Engine and 245 horsepower. Its Cummins ISF engine features high burst pressure and strong power, with the maximum power output at 245hp-coupled with 8 speed Manual Transmission. This 1,000,000km overhaul-free Cummins engine is

manufactured strictly in accordance with the Cummins global quality system and manufacturing standard and passed the 2,000,000km stringent road reliability and durability test. The vehicle took the lead to pass the stringent German DEKRA test, with the accumulative test mileage.

The Foton Auman EST A (Heavy Duty Truck) is equipped with 11.8L Cummins Engine, 430hp coupled with 12 Speed Automated Manual Transmission.

Value for customers

Since its foundation, Foton has aimed to create value for customers by producing reliable, affordable vehicles through innovative and high-quality products and services. Founded in 1996, Foton is an established automotive leader with a history in the manufacture of commercial vehicles and heavy-duty commercial including trucks, buses and agricultural equipment.

their longevity, performance and economy. Foton is also partnered by Getrag (Germany), Aisin (Japan) and BorgWarner (USA) for transmissions, Bosch (Germany) for electronics and Dana (USA) for axles and differentials.

Foton products and services are available in 110 countries all over the world. Foton has five major warehouses internationally, including a regional parts centre in Dubai. Foton has joined hands with several well-known worldwide enterprises such as Cummins, ZF, CEVA Logistics, Faurecia, Wabco, Continental Electron, TUV Rheinland and others to establish "Foton Global Innovating Alliance", aiming to make breakthroughs in science and technology, and produce energy-saving, environmentally friendly and intelligently interconnected automobile products.

Drive your business with Foton

No. 1 commercial vehicle brand in China for Last 13 years

Exports of commercial vehicles from china for last 6 years , 10 million vehicles sold worldwide

Present in over 110 countries

Fortune 200 company

Strategic Alliance Daimler, Cummins and ZF

World's Leading Technology Partners

Regional Parts Centre in Dubai

Strong Local Partner - Gulf Great Sands part of Bahwan International Group.

Gulf Great Sands has a state-of-art service centre in Ghala, Muscat, spread over more than 2900 square meters to provide after-sales services to customers. GGS has already tied up for Periodic Maintenance Services in key cities including Salalah and Sohar.

EASY FINANCE

Alizz Islamic Bank offers home finance at only 4.75%



MUSCAT: Alizz Islamic Bank has launched flexible finance choices for those looking to purchase or build their new home at a profit rate of 4.75% only.

Home finance, approved by the bank's Sharia Supervisory Board (SSB), offers easy, quick and flexible financing. This comes in line with the bank's vision to provide fast, safe and innovative digital solutions to carry out financial transactions for its customers.

Home finance is available for locals and residents working in the public sector with a minimum monthly salary of OMR300, or the private sector with a minimum monthly salary of OMR350 including business owners, with flexible payment options for up to 20 years and financing up to 80% of the value of the property. Alizz Islamic Bank is proud of its role in helping customers secure their dream homes while observing the provisions of Sharia. The bank has been continuously working on improving its services and product offerings through continuous engagement with customers to thoroughly understand their needs.

Alizz Islamic Bank offers various Home Finance solutions that provide customer's the option to purchase a home using a proportionate portion of their monthly income. The bank is always keen to help customers achieve their goals through a variety of solutions.

Interested customers can apply for finance by visiting any of Alizz Islamic Bank branches across the Sultanate. They can also call the customer service centre on the bank's 24-hour toll-free number 80072265 for answers to all their financing enquires.



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٣٢ بوصة عالي النقاء



NIKAI

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- 1366 x 768 Resolution
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- 30L, 5 Power Levels
- Defrost Function
- 8 Auto Menu
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- Clock Function



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من كينود

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ر.ع. OMR

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We Will Match Competitors
Price & Beat It By
10%
Of The Difference.

نطابق
أقل
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